

IPDA National Tournament Guide for Competitors

Time Zone: Please note that the tournament is being hosted in the central time zone and all times mentioned in the schedule / postings reflect central daylight time.

Before the Round

- **Chrome Browser:** Make sure you are using Google Chrome to access Yaatly.com (other browsers will not work effectively with the site)
- **Draw:** Topics are posted on the “topics” tab in the competition room. Upon agreeing on a topic, the competitors should put the chosen topic into the room chat box before leaving to prep.
 - If a competitor is 5 minutes late to draw, the competitor who is in the room may choose the topic and put the topic into the chat box (please also come to the help room and alert the tournament staff that this has happened).
- **Prep Time:** Please note that your 30 minutes of prep time begins as soon as the topics are released. The start time for the debate will be listed with the postings (and in the rare event that topics are delayed, a tournament wide announcement will be made to alert all to a revised start time). A competitor who is 5 minutes (or more) late to a round will have forfeited that round.

During the Round

- **Your Camera/Microphone:** Please keep your camera on (unless tech issues prevent you from doing so) so that your opponent and judge can see you throughout the round. Please mute your microphone except for when you are speaking.
- **Flowing the Round:** Please use paper to flow (use of computer, tablet, etc. is prohibited).
- **Use a Timer:** While your judge may be utilizing the timer in yaatly, you should also be timing yourself. Please note, this should be done utilizing a dedicated timer – not a cell phone).

Problems

- **Help Desk:** If your judge has not arrived at start time, one competitor should remain in the competition room while the other competitor goes to the help desk. For any other questions or assistance that may be needed, feel free to visit the help desk before/after rounds.
- **Audio/Video Problems:**
 - Problem seeing all participants: At times we have noticed a glitch in yaatly where if you close your browser and reopen it seems to fix this issue.
 - Pause incoming video: if you are having bandwidth issues, you may try pausing incoming video (this will not alter the experience for other participants but will make your data usage less intensive)
 - Backup Room: Each competition room includes a “backup room” that you may try as a last resort (obviously, make sure all participants are aware that the round is moving to that backup room).
- **Competitor disconnects:** If a competitor disconnects please stop the timers and attempt to reconnect immediately. Competitors will be given 5 minutes to reconnect, if they are unable to do so then the round will be forfeited. Additionally, ON THE THIRD disconnection in a single round by the same competitor, the round will be forfeit. We hope that this does not occur, but in an effort to keep the tournament on time and to avoid excessive cost for platform time we will strictly enforce this rule.