



On behalf of the University of Central Arkansas, the UCA School of Communication, and UCA Debate and Forensics, we invite you to our campus for the Sixteenth Annual End of Hi-BEAR-Nation Debate Tournament. We hope that you will be able to join us in person February 2-4, 2024, for a weekend of IPDA Debate. You will find pertinent information included with this invitation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.



Go Bears!

**UCA
FORENSICS**

Anthony L. McMullen, Director of Forensics
University of Central Arkansas
Office: (501) 852-0695
Email: AMcMullen@uca.edu

Tournament Ethics Statement: The behavior of all attending the End of Hi-BEAR-Nation Debate Tournament will be in keeping with the [NCA Policy on Anti-Harassment Code of Conduct](#). We encourage all programs to review these expectations before entering this tournament. We expect that behavior between all participants, coaches, judges, and observers be respectful and appropriate at all times. If any participant has concerns over propriety or good sportpersonship, they should discuss the matter with their coaching staff. Any coach or judge should address any concerns with the Tournament Director. As a condition of entry, all participants, coaches, judges, and guests agree that any decision issued by the Tournament Director is final.

Tournament Headquarters: The location will be headquartered in the College of Business. There should be sufficient parking, but there is a row of spaces near the building marked "Reserved 24/7." Do not park in these spaces, or you may receive a ticket. In addition, a couple of the buildings that we normally use will be unavailable for the weekend. We have added additional time between rounds, but you will want to wear comfortable shoes to get across campus.

The University of Central Arkansas is a non-smoking campus. The prohibition against smoking (including vaping and e-cigarettes) extends to all UCA property, including parking lots.

Hotel Information: There is no tournament hotel, but Conway has plenty of options, most of which are just off I-40 and near plenty of restaurants and shopping options. Contact us if you want recommendations.

Registration and Fees: Register at <https://forensicstournament.net/HiBEARNation/24>. Teams should register by Tuesday, January 30 at 8:00 p.m. Changes will be accepted until Thursday, February 1 at noon. After that point, only drops will be allowed.

Fees are as follows:

- Covered Individual IPDA: \$30.00
- Covered Team IPDA: \$50.00
- Uncovered entries: Covered fee + \$20.00
- Judge drops (without replacement) after drop deadline: \$20 plus fees for uncovered entries

One judge covers four individual entries and/or two teams. As is standard procedure at IPDA tournaments in this region, judges are obligated until one round after a team's last debater has been eliminated, and eliminated competitors may be used as out round judges.

Please make checks out to the UCA Foundation and put "UCA Debate and Forensics" in the memo line.

Tournament Notes:

1. All rules guiding IPDA debate, including division eligibility and times, will apply to this tournament. These rules can be found at ipdadebate.info.
2. UCA will only enter competitors into the tournament if necessary to help a division reach an appropriate number of competitors. If UCA enters any competitors, those debaters will not be judged by members of the UCA community.
3. Per our tradition, preliminary rounds will be themed (e.g., domestic policy, economy and finance, pop culture, etc.) Elimination rounds will not be themed.
4. To keep the tournament on time, we ask that everything (courtesies, roadmaps, arguments, etc.) be "on the clock." Judges should penalize competitors who violate this rule.
5. For Team IPDA, cross-examination is to be closed. There should be no swapping of speaker positions in rebuttal. (The speaker who gives the first constructive should be the one who gives the first rebuttal.)
6. We will not be offering partial elimination rounds. Breaks will be made strictly in accordance with the IPDA bylaws.

Awards: Awards will be given to all out round participants, the top five speakers in each division, and the top three programs in Team IPDA, IPDA, and overall. Sweepstakes will be calculated as follows:

- Team IPDA: 6 points per prelim win, 6 points for breaking (two teams max)
- IPDA: 3 points per prelim win, 3 points for breaking (three individuals per division max)
- Top five speakers in each division: 6 pts. for 1st place, 5 pts. for 2nd place, etc.

We will also present our "Big Bear" award to the program with the highest preliminary round winning percentage across all divisions of debate, regardless of team size (three entries minimum).

Tentative Schedule (times indicate the start of draw):**Friday:**

12:00 – Registration

12:30 – Team Rd. 1

2:00 – Team Rd. 2

3:30 – Team Rd. 3

5:00 – Team Rd. 4

7:00 – Team Quarterfinals

Saturday:

8:00 – Team Semifinals

9:30 – Team Finals

11:00 – IPDA Rd. 1

12:40 – IPDA Rd. 2

2:10 – Lunch Break

2:30 – IPDA Rd. 3

4:10 – IPDA Rd. 4

5:50 – IPDA Rd. 5

7:30 – IPDA Rd. 6

Sunday:

8:00 – Ballot Check

8:30 – IPDA Elim Rd. 1

10:15 – Awards

Remaining Elim Rds. ASAP