

Dear Forensics Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that the United States Air Force Academy and the Yaatly Online Debate League invite you to attend the 2024 Yaatly Debate League Championship, April 5-7. The tournament will feature outstanding competition, food and hospitality, and memorable awards. We are working hard to make your experience at the 2024 championship as enjoyable as possible. Some of the tournament features you can expect are:

- Meals and snacks provided throughout the tournament
- Regionally representative and experienced Adjudication Core
- Transportation between tournament hotel and competition
- A Dinner and Awards Ceremony with opportunity for team photos

YODL tournaments incorporate a number of approaches that are significantly different from traditional BP practice. In brief, the major differences are:

- . Each debate decides topic via a topic striking process
- . Points of privilege allowed during the round to address equity concerns in-round
- . Escalated equity issues handled by the tournament host or designee with the option of involving the host institution's equity and compliance office

We expect that every participant--debaters, judges and observers--will read, understand and abide by [the policies governing participation in YODL events](#).

For more information, do not hesitate to contact us:

Gina.Iberri@gmail.com

On behalf of the Air Force Academy and the Yaatly Online Debate League, we look forward to having you as our guests!

Sincerely,

Gina Iberri-Shea
Director of Forensics
United States Air Force Academy

***We are looking to hire judges! If you would like to be considered, please send an email to gina.iberri@gmail.com with brief qualifications and whether you would need accommodations.

Registration:

Early entries are appreciated! All entries **must be received by March 15th by 5:00 pm MST**. This deadline is necessary for the compilation of food orders and provision of an adequate number of hired judges. Entries will be taken electronically at <http://www.forensictournament.net>. In addition to your FTN entry on March 15th, please email gina.iberri-shea@afacademy.af.edu ANY and ALL dietary restrictions, all observers/coaches/attendees not entered in FTN, and any accessibility or other considerations. We need a complete list of attendees for security purposes.

On-site registration will take place at the tournament hotel Friday, April 5 from 7-8pm.

Schedule

- Friday, April 5
- 7:00 - 9:00 pm Registration| Residence Inn

- Saturday, April 6
- 7:30 am Check-in and bus departure from tournament hotel
- 8:00 Drop deadline; opening debater and judge briefings
- 9:00 Round 1
- 11:00 Round 2
- 1:00 Lunch provided
- 2:00 Round 3
- 4:00 Round 4
- Dinner on your own

- Sunday, April 8
- 7:30 am Check-in and bus departure from tournament hotel
- 8:00 Drop deadline/Draw
- 8:15 Round 5
- 10:15 Round 6
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Break Announcement
- 1:00 Quarterfinals
- 3:00 Semifinals & Novice Finals
- 4:45 Transit to Arnold Hall or Location TBD
- 5:00 Dinner
- 6:00 Final Round
- 8:00 Awards

Hotel:

The room block was announced in our save the date and unfortunately all rooms for the night of the 7th are now booked. This may work well for local schools or those driving, but if you are an institution flying out on Monday who has not yet booked rooms, there are a limited number of rooms that have been re-released (another group's block expired) at the holiday inn express and suites-AFA Northgate (9856 Federal Drive) which is within walking distance to the tournament hotel.

If you choose to book in other areas, please be mindful that you will be responsible for getting to the bus by departure times. We are doing tournament check in upon entry TO THE BUS. ***If you have a unique situation (e.g. you are commuting from the local area) please contact us to make special arrangements.

Fees:

Please note that we do not make any profit from this tournament and are in fact heavily subsidizing costs. We will be providing all meals and snacks during the competition and will provide transportation to and from the tournament. All fees will go directly to meals and judges. Registration fees may be made in cash, and additional payment methods are being finalized and will be announced as soon as possible.

We are implementing the following flat fees:

\$70 per person, competitor, judge, observer.

Judging:

Judges cover N-1, with a request that each attending institution brings at least 1 chair level judge. All judges are obligated through the completion of the tournament. Uncovered judging fees will be \$200 per uncovered team, which will go directly to the hired judge. We are hiring several judges, but if uncovered teams exceed the number of hired judges, we reserve the right to convert uncovered to judge. We are happy to hire qualified judges and pay you generously. Please send an email if you have additional judges who would like to be hired for judging or if you are bringing excess judges and would like this applied to a reduction in fees.

**The tournament reserves the right to make any adjustments necessary for the smooth running of the championship tournament.

Cadet Point of Contact: Jasmine Jacob

Tab Director: Will Silberman, PhD.

Adjudication Core:

Miranda Zigler (she/her) is the current Director of Debate at Lewis and Clark College. She is (incomprehensibly) entering her 8th year involved with British Parliamentary debate. Since 2021 she has been happily traveling the PNW and beyond with her lovely students who have brought home multiple breaks and awards in that time. Miranda debated for the University of Vermont Lawrence Debate Union from 2016-2020, and then coached the team through the fun and normal year of 2020-2021. She had success debating online her senior year as Semifinalist and top speaker of the Battle of the Bandwidth IV. Prior, she was finalist and 8th speaker of the Cornell IV 2019, quarterfinalist and 5th speaker at the Budapest Open 2018, and Semifinalist at the Ljubljana IV in 2017, among other speaking achievements. She has served on the adjudication and organization core for numerous tournaments on the East and West Coasts, including the Western States Debating Championships, North American Womens and Gender Minorities Debating Championships, the Steve Hunt Classic, and the Huber Debates. She has also judged multiple high level outrounds, including the final round of USUDC 2022, and many YODL in and outrounds. She is proud and excited to have this role at the YODL Championship!

Will Reid Hello Everyone! My name is Will Reid and I am the current assistant BP coach for Clemson University. At Clemson, I study Communication with an emphasis on social media and deliberative democracy. This season marks my 10th year with the debate community. In that time, I have broken at USUDC as both a competitor (2020 Octofinalist) and a judge (2022). Additionally, my partner Thomas and I were the top ranked team for the 2021/2022 YODL Championship season. I have CA'd the YODL Championship tournament (2023) and most recently the Vanderbilt IV Tournament (2024). I have a deep passion for debate and its community. Let's have a fantastic tournament!

Parker Davidson has served on the coaching staff of the Seattle University Debating Union since the fall of 2020. Throughout their coaching/judging career, they have served on several adjudication cores around the U.S. and Canada at multiple tournaments including the Berkeley IV, Calgary Open, and Seattle IV, and they have chaired or paneled on over 120 outrounds, including the very first open final round in YODL history. As a BP debater, they obtained breaks and speaker awards all over the Western US and Canada, including UBC IV and Seattle IV. In their spare time, you'll find them flying planes and singing with their punk band.

Harmoni Blackstock is a graduate student at the Air Force Institute of Technology, pursuing a Master's degree in Operations Research. She was the Air Force team captain in 2023, actively coaching and judging at several tournaments. As a debater, she won multiple tournaments, ranked as the top YODL team, and broke to the final round of the YODL 2023 championship. She has also had success in civic debate and individual forensics events, and was a finalist at the Oregon Prison Debates.

