



2/5/2021

Dear Colleague,

Plans are nearing completion for the 75th National Debate Tournament hosted by Harvard Debate. The NDT Committee has worked hard throughout the year to bring you a top-quality online national tournament experience. Several rule changes will be in effect at this year's tournament, including a number of rules specific to an online NDT. Therefore, please review this document carefully. Rule changes are highlighted in both the table of contents and in the body of the letter.

The Harvard Debate Council, as our virtual host, will provide NDT-branded Classrooms. Cloud debate spaces and will ship a personal memento to each participant. Gary Larson will continue to tab the tournament. We are working to find several alumni volunteers to help with logistics, including starting rounds. If you know of an appropriate volunteer, please have them email me (partsara@isu.edu).

Registration for the tournament will take place on Thursday March 25. Competition will take place Friday, March 26 through Tuesday March 30, 2021. This document provides information on the tournament location, qualifying processes, eligibility certification, and entry for the tournament. A complete set of rules and procedures may be found at <https://nationaldebatetournament.org/about/standing-rules/>.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the NDT in March!

Best,

Sarah T. Partlow Lefevre, Ph.D.
Director, National Debate Tournament
Professor, Director of Debate, Department of Communication, Media and Persuasion, Idaho State University

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I. Tournament Location: Classrooms.Cloud

All participants and observers must be registered on tabroom.com.

II. Important Rule clarifications for the 2021 NDT

1. AFA Membership Requirement (Rule II A)

- THE NDT and AFA govern all debates. Fee payment for both organizations is required to qualify.

2. Fee Payment (Rule II A1i)

- Schools and individuals must have paid fees and/or assessments associated with past national debate tournaments in order to participate at the NDT.

3. Required Minimum Number of Rounds For 2021

- For the 2020-2021 season, the required minimum number of rounds for team members and/or individuals is reduced to 12 (at a minimum of two tournaments) and to 24 (at a minimum of three tournaments) if satisfied by one member of the team. (See text and details in the Summary of 2020 Rule Changes)

4. Second Round At Large Process

- Unless a school has received two bids in the First Round At-Large process, participation in the district process shall be a prerequisite for receipt of a Second Round At-Large selection. Participation in the district process is defined as: [Note: Participation in a district tournament is defined as any one—not all—of the following:]
 - a. both members of a team debating in at least 50% of the preliminary rounds at a tournament component;
 - b. in districts that allow a limited-number of teams from each school participating in the tournament component, submission to rankings as part of the district process that determines district-eligible teams and being ranked as ineligible;
 - c. receiving one of the allocated district bid slots as determined by the district.

5. Judge Requirements For 2021 (See details in the Summary of 2020 Rule Changes)

- Judges must confirm their conflicts of interests by email to the tournament director (See text and details in the Summary of 2020 Rule Changes)
- For the 2020-2021 season, the required minimum number of rounds judged on the current topic is reduced to 9. (See text and details in the Summary of 2020 Rule Changes)
- Effective with the 2007 NDT, teams qualifying for the tournament must provide 13 rounds of judging.

6. Technology Time

- Because we are using an online platform, each team shall be allotted up to fifteen total minutes of “Tech Time” exclusively for resolving uniquely online tech-related problems and should not be used as additional standard prep time. (See text and details in the Summary of 2020 Rule Changes)

7. Announcement of Pairings

- Because we are using an online platform, the Tournament Director will orally announce the pairings for the first preliminary round and the last preliminary round. (See text and details in the Summary of 2020 Rule Changes)

8. Scouting & Providing Evidence

- Because the NDT is online this year, scouting, “room” and “debate room” should be understood to include the virtual meeting space to which a particular debate is assigned, and “provide” providing the scout with access to the email thread used by the debaters and judges to share evidence during the debate. (See text and details in the Summary of 2020 Rule Changes)

9. Recording

- As in the past, electronic recording of debates is allowed by official participants and observers affiliated with a school attending the NDT and by other individuals authorized by the NDT Committee or the tournament host. Because the NDT is online this year, I will direct the platform host to record all debates. These recordings will be deleted within a reasonable timeframe after the conclusion of the tournament. Access to any recording should be restricted as per the Standing Rules. (See text and details in the Summary of 2020 Rule Changes)

10. Evidence Integrity Challenges

- In 2016, new evidence integrity rules and guidelines were established
 - 1. Standards governing evidence use shall be those of the AFA Debate Program and Debate Tournament Standards with the following additional stipulations/interpretations:
 - All evidence should include full source citation of original sources, either in a master file available in the round, or on individual cards. The source citation should be sufficient to permit others to locate the original source. It should include, at a minimum, the author's name (if given in the original), name of the published source (journal, magazine, book, newspaper, or government document), full date, and page number.
 - All paraphrases of evidence must be indicated both on the evidence artifact and orally in the round. All quotations should include ellipses when appropriate, according to MLA standards.
 - Other MLA standards are considered advisory.
 - Examples of misrepresentation may include:
 - stopping before the end of quoted section without indicating the words read.
 - repeatedly skipping words or lines of words through the content of the quoted section without indication.
 - speaking without sufficient clarity for participants to determine which parts of the quoted evidence was read with the intent to gain competitive advantage
 - distributing evidence artifacts to other participants after speech time that do not accurately indicate the portion of quotation or paraphrase communicated during speech time.
 - Examples that do not meet the standard of misrepresentation:
 - skipping words or parts of words due to mitigating circumstances or unintentional actions.

-brief lack of clarity due to mitigating circumstances or without an attempt to inform the participant that clarity is insufficient.

III. 2021 Key Dates

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ELIGIBILITY DOCUMENTS | |
| February 8 | All teams attempting to qualify for the NDT |
| FIRST-ROUND AT-LARGE BIDS | |
| February 9 | The committee must receive First-Round At-Large Bids. Payment must be received by the application deadline or the bid application will not be considered by the committee. |
| February 11-14 | Committee votes |
| February 15 | Director Announces |
| DISTRICT PROCEDURES | |
| February 16 | Declaration of intent to attend districts due. |
| February 17 | Announcement of preliminary district bid allocations. |
| 2/20 & 2/27 | District Weekends |
| SECOND-ROUND AT-LARGE BIDS | |
| March 2 | Must be received by Committee Members |
| March 4-7 | Committee votes |
| March 8 | Director announces |

NDT Dates: Thursday March 25- Tuesday March 30, 2021

IV. NDT Eligibility Documentation Process – 2021

Rules Language

Pre-NDT eligibility verification is due February 8th:

- To be an eligible debater for the National Debate Tournament, a student must provide, by February 8th to the NDT committee chair, an official document from appropriate university officials **verifying that the student is registered as an undergraduate, degree-seeking student, and is in good standing at the school for which the student is participating.** The document should be dated any date starting January 21 through February 8 immediately preceding the NDT in which the student wishes to participate. **The degree-seeking requirement does not apply to any student enrolled in a junior college or a community college.** The Chair of the NDT Committee shall promptly notify the applying program director of any application that does not meet the above criteria. The program director may then appeal the eligibility of the debaters by contacting, and submitting all relevant documentation to, the NDT Committee Chair not later than one week from the date of notification. The appeal will then be forwarded to the Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee may conduct the appeal by means of telephone calls, email or conference calls. The Appeals Committee may grant an exemption when the student's school provides written documentation explaining why a student may be officially enrolled but may not be in good standing, for example, if the university/college defines "in good standing" by criteria other than satisfactory academic performance. [Standing Rules, II.A.1.g]
- The bolded information above is critical – each component needs to be evident in the documentation.

Eligibility Document Submission Process

Instructions & Deadline

- All eligibility documents need to be received by the NDT Committee Chair by February 8.
- Documents need to be dated to reflect currently in good standing, with a date between Jan 21-Feb 8.
- All documents should have some verifiable university/school source. The rules say “from appropriate university officials” – so for example, name/contact info, letterhead with such info, etc. would be very helpful here.
- If anyone has questions, please contact Adrienne Brovero (adri.debate@gmail.com).
- There are two options for submitting documents to the Chair - online or mail:

Online process

- This process will open on January 21. It will close at 12:00 am, February 9.
- All documents should be submitted in PDF form. You may send a combined PDF (with multiple students) or separate PDFs.
- **Please be mindful of your school’s privacy policies.** Redact information as necessary. However, if the result is that your document looks like a classified memo, please consider using the mail-in process.
- All documents should have some *verifiable* university/school source. The rules say “from appropriate university officials” – so for example, name/contact info, letterhead with such info, etc. would be very helpful here.
- To submit online, please be prepared with PDF(s) to upload, and complete this form:
 - <https://forms.gle/hwZZxFB92jcaaGtdA>

Mail-in process

- Please send originals to the address below.
- Please also include a note/cover sheet with the Director/Coach name, email, and school.
- All documents should have some *verifiable* university/school source. The rules say “from appropriate university officials” – so for example, name/contact info, letterhead with such info, etc. would be very helpful here.

V. At Large Application Process:

The Standing Rules permit “a maximum of seventy-eight (78) teams (to) qualify for participation in the National Debate Tournament - sixteen (16) through the First-Round-At-Large selection, forty-six (46) teams through the District process, and the remaining teams through the Second-Round-At-Large process,”

All teams selected through the Second-Round At-Large process, must have a 50% or greater preliminary win-loss record in rounds on the fall CEDA topic or its NDT parallel immediately prior to the District tournament or at the time of submission of second round bids. Those subscribing schools that wish to nominate their teams for At-Large considerations must submit copies of their completed electronic Official NDT At-Large Application (without cover letters or supplemental materials).

Applications must be received by the dates listed at the end of this letter.

The application is a two-step process. First, schools submitting At-Large applications must pay \$100.00 to the treasurer of the NDT Board of Trustees. Payment for first rounds should be made at <https://nationaldebatetournament.org/members/at-large-bid-payments/>. Payment for second rounds should be made at <https://nationaldebatetournament.org/members/at-large-bid-payments/>. In the case that you are unable to pay online, the treasurer will accept a check or money order made out to the NDT and RECEIVED BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. You may send checks to the following address:

Sherry Hall
324 Franklin St.
Cambridge, MA 02139

Second, applications for First- and Second-Round-At-Large bids should be made at www.tabroom.com. To apply for an At-Large bid, simply register for the NDT tournament. You will be placed on the waitlist. The application becomes official when the fee for the application is received; teams receiving bids will be moved off the waitlist and into tournament registration. Teams registered on the waitlist who do not pay the fees on time will be removed from the waitlist. Please review your team’s bid sheet at www.tabroom.com and report any anomalies to jbruschke@gmail.com. The sooner you can report any issues, the better.

Due to Third team limits and the 50% Win-Loss rule, there are scenarios where there may not be sixteen (16) teams that are eligible to qualify via the Second Round At Large process. The Committee seeks to provide guidance to the Director in advance of these contingencies.

For these contingencies, the Committee offers the following guidance to the Director *for the 2021 NDT*:

- An odd number of entries should be avoided.
- In scenarios where 77 or fewer teams are eligible to qualify, the Director should strive to field a National Debate Tournament with **78 entries**.
- In the process of securing additional entries, the Director should be permitted to consider teams that are in violation of the 50% Win-Loss Rule. First priority would be given to teams from schools that have not already qualified (or otherwise attained entry for) any teams to the NDT. This priority would extend to only one team from a school that needs relief from the 50% rule (namely, a school that failed to qualify could not have two teams which fell below 50% team receive priority over non-first teams).
- Any team that falls short of the 50% Win-Loss Rule but still seeks to qualify for the NDT must still:
 - Apply for a Second-Round At-Large Bid;
 - Have participated in the district qualification process.

In scenarios, where there are multiple “first teams” that fail to meet the 50% requirement, the Director should select entries by defaulting to the Second-Round rankings.

VI. Entering the Tournament

Entering the tournament is a two-step process.

- First, all teams must register for tournament logistics (participant details/payment/meals etc.) through the link that will be made available on nationaldebatetournament.org.
- Second, debate team and judging details will be accepted using the www.tabroom.com website. When entering the NDT, simply register for the tournament. Teams will be put on the waitlist and removed from the waitlist by the tournament director.
- Please enter as soon as your team qualifies. ***ALL Entries are due Friday March 12, 2021.***

Judging Philosophies:

- All judges must post judging philosophies to www.tabroom.com no later than March 15, 2021. The NDT may impose a \$50 fine on institutions whose judges have not supplied judging philosophies by March 20, 2021. The NDT may impose an additional \$50 fee if judging philosophies are not available at the time of registration.

Fees:

- The Harvard Debate Council will cover the fees for this tournament. There will be no charge for participants or observers. Schools may request a Classrooms.Cloud room to use for team prep during the tournament. The cost for that room will be the responsibility of the school requesting it. While there is no charge for observers, all observers at the tournament must be registered. If you have the money in your budget and would like to pay your fees, email Sherry and she will send you an invoice for your fees.

VII. Summary of 2020 Changes to NDT Standing Rules

Rule II: PARTICIPANT QUALIFICATION. In compliance with Article VI, Sections E and F of the NDT Charter:

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS. [1.g Revised, April 2020]

g. To be an eligible debater for the National Debate Tournament, a student must provide, by February 8th to the NDT committee chair, an official document from appropriate university officials verifying that the student is registered as an undergraduate, degree-seeking student, and is in good standing at the school for which the student is participating. The document should be dated any date starting January 21 through February 8 immediately preceding the NDT in which the student wishes to participate. The degree-seeking requirement does not apply to any student enrolled in a junior college or a community college. The Chair of the NDT Committee shall promptly notify the applying program director of any application which does not meet the above criteria. The program director may then appeal the eligibility of the debaters by contacting, and submitting all relevant documentation to, the NDT Committee Chair not later than one week from the date of notification. The appeal will then be forwarded to the Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee may conduct the appeal by means of telephone calls, email or conference calls. The Appeals Committee may grant an exemption when the student's school provides written documentation explaining why a student may be officially enrolled but may not be in good standing, for example, if the university/college defines "in good standing" by criteria other than satisfactory academic performance.

B. DISTRICT QUALIFICATION. [1b. Revised for 20-21 season, December 2020, 1.b Revised to 4/four preliminary rounds, November 2019]

1. The 46 district bids will be allocated to districts according to a proportional system:

a. Each district will receive the same percentage of the total pool of bids (number of slots available divided by the number of eligible teams), but the actual number of bids each district receives will depend on the number of eligible teams.

b. Eligible teams: To submit for the bid allocation process, a team must have paid their NDT subscription fee and have either (1) a minimum of 18 intercollegiate preliminary rounds on the fall CEDA topic or its NDT topic parallel either both as individuals or as a team of varsity or open debate in at least three tournaments, each consisting of a minimum of 4 preliminary rounds with at least 6 teams from at least four different schools in varsity or open division, or (2) one member of the team with a minimum of 32 intercollegiate preliminary rounds on the fall CEDA topic or its NDT topic parallel in at least four tournaments, each consisting of a minimum of four preliminary rounds, with at least six teams from at least four different schools in varsity or open division (i.e., if one member of the team has at least 32 rounds satisfying the above requirements, no minimum number of rounds is required of the partner in order for the team to be eligible for the bid allocation process). For the 2020-2021 season, the required minimum number of rounds for team members and/or individuals is reduced to 12 (at a minimum of two tournaments) and to 24 (at a minimum of three tournaments) if satisfied by one member of the team.

(1) These bids must be received by the district chair within one week of the first round bid submission deadline.

(2) The number of eligible teams from each school shall be no greater than the number of teams that school can qualify through the district process.

(3) The names of all submitting teams from each district will immediately be forwarded by the district chair to the chair of the bid allocation committee.

(4) The chair of the bid allocation committee will enter any teams submitted for a First Round At-Large bid but not receiving a First Round At-Large bid into the pool of eligible teams.

- (5) Teams awarded First Round At-Large bids will not be counted for purposes of allocating district bids.

RULE III. NATIONAL TOURNAMENT JUDGES.

A. Qualifications. [5 & 7 Revised, December 20]

To be eligible to judge at the NDT a judge must:

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree, or have no eligibility for future NDTs, or waive such eligibility, and
2. Have judged at least 12 rounds on the current topic, and
3. Not have competed on the current topic, and
4. Have an appropriately published judge philosophy, and
5. Confirm their conflicts of interests by email to the tournament director, and
6. Be available for assignment to any and all debates through the octafinal round, at the discretion of the Director, plus one debate beyond the elimination of the school for which the person is judging.
7. For the 2020-2021 season, the required minimum number of rounds judged on the current topic is reduced to 9.

Rule IV: GENERAL TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES.

A. Timing Regulations. [3 Added, December 20]

1. Speech format. The following speaking format shall be employed in all debates:

- Up to 9 minute first affirmative constructive
- Up to 3 minute either negative speaker cross-examines first affirmative
- Up to 9 minute first negative constructive
- Up to 3 minute either affirmative speaker cross-examines first negative
- Up to 9 minute second affirmative constructive
- Up to 3 minute other negative speaker cross-examines second affirmative
- Up to 9 minute second negative constructive
- Up to 3 minute other affirmative speaker cross-examines second negative
- Up to 6 minute first negative rebuttal by a negative speaker
- Up to 6 minute rebuttal by an affirmative speaker
- Up to 6 minute second negative rebuttal by other negative speaker
- Up to 6 minute rebuttal by other affirmative speaker

2. Preparation Time. Each team shall have a cumulative total of ten minutes of preparation time in a round. This time includes: amount of time elapsed between the announced time for starting the round (see Standing Rule IV.C) and when the team is ready to debate, organizational time, and any other time for preparation. Upon exhaustion of the allotted preparation time, any additional preparation time shall be deducted from subsequent speeches.

3. Tech Time – If debates occur utilizing an online platform, each team shall be allotted up to fifteen total minutes of “Tech Time”. This time is exclusively for resolving uniquely online tech-related problems (e.g. internet connection, audio/video issues). Tech time should not be used as additional standard prep time. If the time elapses before the team can resolve the issue within the official tournament platform, they will forfeit the debate. In the event a speech needs to be redelivered entirely or in part, the time for that should count as tech time for the team experiencing the problem, if their tech time runs out while giving the speech, the remaining time should be deducted from prep time.

B. Announcement of Round Pairings. [Revised, December 20]

The Tournament Director shall orally announce the pairings before each round. Written copies of the pairings shall be provided as soon as possible.

If debates occur utilizing an online platform, the Tournament Director should orally announce the pairings for the first preliminary round and the last preliminary round. In all instances, electronic pairings should be provided as soon as possible.

C. Beginning Rounds. [3 & 4 Added, December 20]

1. At the announcement of pairings, the Director shall announce a designated starting time for the round.
2. At the designated time, the timekeeper will begin compiling and announcing alternative use time for either or both teams not in place and prepared to debate the round.
3. If debates occur utilizing an online platform, the Tournament Director should designate a check-in time (shortly after pairing) and report time (shortly before the start time) by which competitors and judges need to check-in and report to their online room. Judges are potentially subject to failure to appear fines (Rule III.B.1) if they do not appear at those times.
4. If debates occur utilizing an online platform, at the designated starting time, the timekeeper will begin compiling and announcing alternative use time for either or both teams not in place and prepared to debate the round in the official tournament platform.

D. Decision Time for Preliminary Rounds. [3 Added, December 20]

1. Judges' decisions, which must be on the prescribed ballot form and must specify either the affirmative or the negative as the sole winner of the debate, must be turned in to the Director by 2 hours and 45 minutes after the official starting time for each preliminary round of debate.
2. After the expired time, the Tournament Director will notify the judge that a coin toss will determine the outcome of the round. The coin toss will become the permanent result of the debate for that judge.
3. If debates occur utilizing an online platform, the Tournament Director has the discretion to extend decision time in the event that Tech Time is utilized by any of the debaters or if a judge has a tech issue in a given debate. In the event that a team invokes tech time, or a judge has tech difficulties, the judge or other members of the panel should communicate the issue to the tab room immediately in order to minimize delays in the tournament schedule.

F. Miscellaneous Regulations. [6.e Added, 1, 8 & 9 Revised, December 20]

1. Electronic recording of debates is allowed by official participants and observers affiliated with a school attending the NDT and by other individuals authorized by the NDT Committee or the tournament host. In the event that the National Debate Tournament is held via an online platform, the Tournament Director will direct the platform host to record all debates. These recordings should be deleted within a reasonable timeframe after the conclusion of the tournament. Access to any recording should be restricted to cases where said recording is a) needed to resolve a formal ethics challenge or harassment complaint or b) where a debater or assigned judge missed a portion of the debate because of technical issues. Recording is also permitted by debate participants (debaters, assigned judges [a coach of one of the teams participating in the debate]). Distributing participant-generated recordings without the consent of the participating debaters and judges is not permitted. Tournament Administration and affiliated Program Directors are permitted to receive and review any recordings. Requests from groups or individuals wishing to provide media coverage of the National Debate Tournament must be submitted to the NDT committee on Media Coverage. This committee shall make an initial evaluation of the

request and submit a recommendation to the NDT Committee for its consideration. The committee on Media Coverage shall be composed of five members appointed by the chair of the NDT Committee to two year terms.

6. Tournament Disclosure and Scouting.

a. Prior to the announcement of the decision, one of the judges will request that the Affirmative disclose a 1ac and the Negative a 1nc on the college caselist.

b. Information Disclosure. Disclosure will take place in two steps:

(1) Shortly after arriving to their debate room, if the affirmative teams chooses to disclose, they should make sure that an outline or thorough description of their affirmative is available on the college caselist, or state "new affirmative."

(2) At an appropriate time during or after the debate, one of the judges should make sure that relevant information about the debate is uploaded to the college caselist.

c. Scouting Guidelines.

(1) Prior to the announcement of the decision in the debate, scouts should make sure that a description of the debate and relevant citations are uploaded.

(2) Observers should not interrupt pre-round preparation by asking questions of either team.

(3) Observers should not intrude during the debate. This includes the cross-examination periods.

(4) Observers should not interrupt post-debate discussions.

(5) After the post-round discussion the observers should expect no more than a ten minute period in which they can inspect evidence for citations from the debate. Neither scouts nor observers should copy entire pieces of evidence, either by hand or electronically.

d. The NDT committee shall appoint scouting co-directors (who are released from judging requirements), who shall continuously make available to the tournament participants the information gathered, and train and direct official scouts who shall:

(1) complete pre-tournament scouting training and abide by the rules and guidelines established for scouts

(2) deliver to the scouting directors the information gathered immediately after the round

(3) Have the authority to gather information in ways that do not disrupt the debate process as directed by the scouting directors

(4) Debaters are required to provide evidence they have read only to judges, opponents, and official scouts who request it.

(5) Scouting directors should prioritize gathering information on teams that have the least amount of information on their caselist –

i. all teams attending the NDT should provide information on the 1ac including a description of the central thesis, plan text, and advantage(s).

ii. all teams attending the NDT should provide a description of past 1nc's

iii. prior to the start of Round 1, the scouting directors should identify the teams that do not meet the minimum standards and prioritize gathering scouting information on those teams.

iv. before the start of Round 3, 1ac and 1nc information should be available on the caselist for all teams in attendance.

e. In the event that the National Debate Tournament is held via an online platform, for the purposes of tournament disclosure and scouting, “room” and “debate room” should be understood to include the virtual meeting space to which a particular debate is assigned, and “provide” in the context of scout access to evidence used in a debate should be understood to include providing the scout with access to the email thread used by the debaters and judges to share evidence during the debate.

7. Programs should not encourage nor expect high school guests to engage in the process of producing or distributing research, or to engage in the tournament disclosure and scouting effort.

8. Once the debate has begun, a team may not receive assistance, suggestions, or coaching from anyone while the round is in progress. This does not prevent debate partners from helping one another, but does prevent outside persons from helping a team during the course of a debate. Debaters MAY receive outside assistance in the event of a technical issue directly related to online competition, which threatens to substantially delay or end the debate, such as: audio-video issues, connection issues, or Zoom/platform related issues. In the event that outside assistance is needed, debaters should be transparent and notify the judges and opponents of the nature of the issue, who is assisting them, and how it is being resolved.

9. NDT Workers: Individuals in attendance at the National Debate Tournament who provide significant coaching to, or argument production for, any team participating in the NDT should be required to enter the judging pool on a supplemental strike sheet for at least four debates or, if it is more appropriate, provide a significant equivalent contribution to the tournament as defined by the tournament host or director. Access to tournament spaces may be restricted to debaters, judges, and registered observers.

For the 2020-2021 season, individuals who provide significant coaching to, or argument production for, any team during the NDT should be required to enter the judging pool on a supplemental strike sheet for at least four debates or, if it is more appropriate, provide a significant equivalent contribution to the tournament as defined by the tournament host or director.

VIII. Quick Tournament Schedule (See detailed for more information):

Thursday, March 25 Quick

| | PDT | MDT | CDT | EDT |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| NDT Board of Trustees Meeting | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | 12:00 PM |
| NDT Committee Meeting | 11:00 AM | 12:00 PM | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM |
| Registration | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM |
| Reception & Pre-Tournament Awards | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM |

Friday, March 26 - Quick

| | PDT | MDT | CDT | EDT |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Tournament Check-In | 6:30 AM | 7:30 AM | 8:30 AM | 9:30 AM |
| Round 1 Announcement | 6:45 AM | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM |
| Start | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM |
| Round 2 Pairing | 11:15 AM | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM |
| Start | 12:00 PM | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM |
| Round 3 Pairing | 3:30 PM | 4:30 PM | 5:30 PM | 6:30 PM |
| Start | 4:15 PM | 5:15 PM | 6:15 PM | 7:15 PM |

Saturday, March 27 - Quick

| | PDT | MDT | CDT | EDT |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Tournament Check-In | 6:45 AM | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM |
| Round 4 Pairing | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM |
| Start | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM |
| Round 5 Pairing | 11:15 AM | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM |
| Start | 12:00 PM | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM |
| Round 6 Pairing | 3:30 PM | 4:30 PM | 5:30 PM | 6:30 PM |
| Start | 4:15 PM | 5:15 PM | 6:15 PM | 7:15 PM |

Sunday, March 28 - Quick

| | PDT | MDT | CDT | EDT |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Tournament Check-In | 6:45 AM | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM |
| Round 7 Pairing | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM |
| Start | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM |
| Round 8 Announcement | 11:15 AM | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM |
| Start | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM | 3:15 PM |
| Awards Ceremony | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM |

Monday, March 29 - Quick

| | PDT | MDT | CDT | EDT |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Tournament Check-In | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM |
| Double Octafinal Pairing | 7:15 AM | 8:15 AM | 9:15 AM | 10:15 AM |
| Start | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM |

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| Octafinal Pairing | 11:30 AM | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM | 2:30 PM |
| Start | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM | 2:30 PM | 3:30 PM |
| Quarterfinals Pairing | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM |
| Start | 4:45 PM | 5:45 PM | 6:45 PM | 7:45 PM |

Tuesday, March 30 - Quick

| | PDT | MDT | CDT | EDT |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Drawing of Judges for Semis | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM | 11:45 AM |
| Semifinal Pairing | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | 12:00 PM |
| Start | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM | 11:45 AM | 12:45 PM |
| Finals Pairing | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM | 3:15 PM | 4:15 PM |
| Start | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM |

IX. Detailed Tournament Schedule (All Time Zones)

| 2021 NDT SCHEDULE | Day | Pacific | Mountain | Central | Eastern |
|--|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Thursday, March 25 | | | | | |
| NDT Board of Trustees Meeting | Thursday | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | 12:00 PM |
| NDT Committee Meeting | Thursday | 11:00 AM | 12:00 PM | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM |
| Registration | Thursday | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM |
| Reception and Pre-Tournament Awards | Thursday | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM |
| | | | | | |
| Friday, March 26 | | | | | |
| Verify your participants are assembled and ready to debate | Friday | 6:30 AM | 7:30 AM | 8:30 AM | 9:30 AM |
| Round 1 Announcement of Pairing | Friday | 6:45 AM | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM |
| Round 1 Pairing Release. Prompt disclosure, please. | Friday | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM |
| Round 1 Check-in Deadline | Friday | 7:10 AM | 8:10 AM | 9:10 AM | 10:10 AM |
| Round 1 Report Time | Friday | 7:35 AM | 8:35 AM | 9:35 AM | 10:35 AM |
| Round 1 Start Time | Friday | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM |
| Round 1 Decision Time | Friday | 10:30 AM | 11:30 AM | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM |
| Round 2 Pairing. Prompt disclosure, please. | Friday | 11:15 AM | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM |
| Round 2 Check-in Deadline | Friday | 11:25 AM | 12:25 PM | 1:25 PM | 2:25 PM |
| Round 2 Report Time | Friday | 11:50 AM | 12:50 PM | 1:50 PM | 2:50 PM |
| Round 2 Start Time | Friday | 12:00 PM | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM |
| Round 2 Decision Time | Friday | 2:45 PM | 3:45 PM | 4:45 PM | 5:45 PM |
| Round 3 Pairing. Prompt disclosure, please. | Friday | 3:30 PM | 4:30 PM | 5:30 PM | 6:30 PM |
| Round 3 Check-in Deadline | Friday | 3:40 PM | 4:40 PM | 5:40 PM | 6:40 PM |
| Round 3 Report Time | Friday | 4:05 PM | 5:05 PM | 6:05 PM | 7:05 PM |
| Round 3 Start Time | Friday | 4:15 PM | 5:15 PM | 6:15 PM | 7:15 PM |
| Round 3 Decision Time | Friday | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 10:00 PM |
| | | | | | |
| Saturday, March 27 | | | | | |
| Verify your participants are assembled and ready to debate | Saturday | 6:45 AM | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM |
| Round 4 Pairing. Prompt disclosure, please. | Saturday | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM |
| Round 4 Check-in Deadline | Saturday | 7:10 AM | 8:10 AM | 9:10 AM | 10:10 AM |
| Round 4 Report Time | Saturday | 7:35 AM | 8:35 AM | 9:35 AM | 10:35 AM |
| Round 4 Start Time | Saturday | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Round 4 Decision Time | Saturday | 10:30 AM | 11:30 AM | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM |
| Round 5 Pairings. Prompt disclosure, please | Saturday | 11:15 AM | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM |
| Round 5 Check-in Deadline | Saturday | 11:25 AM | 12:25 PM | 1:25 PM | 2:25 PM |
| Round 5 Report Time | Saturday | 11:50 AM | 12:50 PM | 1:50 PM | 2:50 PM |
| Round 5 Start Time | Saturday | 12:00 PM | 1:00 PM | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM |
| Round 5 Decision Time | Saturday | 2:45 PM | 3:45 PM | 4:45 PM | 5:45 PM |
| Round 6 Pairings. Prompt disclosure, please | Saturday | 3:30 PM | 4:30 PM | 5:30 PM | 6:30 PM |
| Round 6 Check-in Deadline | Saturday | 3:40 PM | 4:40 PM | 5:40 PM | 6:40 PM |
| Round 6 Report Time | Saturday | 4:05 PM | 5:05 PM | 6:05 PM | 7:05 PM |
| Round 6 Start Time | Saturday | 4:15 PM | 5:15 PM | 6:15 PM | 7:15 PM |
| Round 6 Decision Time | Saturday | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | 9:00 PM | 10:00 PM |
| Sunday, March 28 | | | | | |
| Verify your participants are assembled and ready to debate | Sunday | 6:45 AM | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM |
| Round 7 Pairing. Prompt disclosure, please. | Sunday | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM |
| Round 7 Check-in Deadline | Sunday | 7:10 AM | 8:10 AM | 9:10 AM | 10:10 AM |
| Round 7 Report Time | Sunday | 7:35 AM | 8:35 AM | 9:35 AM | 10:35 AM |
| Round 7 Start Time | Sunday | 7:45 AM | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM |
| Round 7 Decision Time | Sunday | 10:30 AM | 11:30 AM | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM |
| Round 8 Announcement of Pairing | Sunday | 11:15 AM | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM |
| Round 8 pairings. Prompt disclosure, please | Sunday | 11:30 AM | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM | 2:30 PM |
| Round 8 Check-in Deadline | Sunday | 11:40 AM | 12:40 PM | 1:40 PM | 2:40 PM |
| Round 8 Report Time | Sunday | 12:05 PM | 1:05 PM | 2:05 PM | 3:05 PM |
| Round 8 Start Time | Sunday | 12:15 PM | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM | 3:15 PM |
| Round 8 Decision Time | Sunday | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM |
| Awards Ceremony | Sunday | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM |
| Monday, March 29 | | | | | |
| Verify your participants are assembled and ready to debate | Monday | 7:00 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM |
| Double Octafinal Pairings. Prompt disclosure, please | Monday | 7:15 AM | 8:15 AM | 9:15 AM | 10:15 AM |
| Double Octafinal Check-in Deadline and Coin Flip | Monday | 7:20 AM | 8:20 AM | 9:20 AM | 10:20 AM |
| Double Octafinal Report Time | Monday | 7:50 AM | 8:50 AM | 9:50 AM | 10:50 AM |
| Double Octafinal Start Time | Monday | 8:00 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM |

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Drawing of Judges for Octafinals | Monday | | | | |
| Open Octafinals Pairing. Prompt disclosure, please. | Monday | 11:30 AM | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM | 2:30 PM |
| Open Octafinals Check-in Deadline and Coin Flip | Monday | 11:35 AM | 12:35 PM | 1:35 PM | 2:35 PM |
| Open Octafinals Report Time | Monday | 12:20 PM | 1:20 PM | 2:20 PM | 3:20 PM |
| Open Octafinals Start Time | Monday | 12:30 PM | 1:30 PM | 2:30 PM | 3:30 PM |
| Drawing of Judges for Quarterfinals | Monday | | | | |
| Open Quarterfinals Pairing. Prompt disclosure, please. | Monday | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM |
| Open Quarterfinals Check-in Deadline and Coin Flip | Monday | 4:05 PM | 5:05 PM | 6:05 PM | 7:05 PM |
| Open Quarterfinals Report Time | Monday | 4:35 PM | 5:35 PM | 6:35 PM | 7:35 PM |
| Open Quarterfinals Start Time | Monday | 4:45 PM | 5:45 PM | 6:45 PM | 7:45 PM |
| Tuesday, March 30 | | | | | |
| Drawing of Judges for Semifinals | Tuesday | 8:45 AM | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM | 11:45 AM |
| Open Semifinals Pairing. Prompt disclosure, please. | Tuesday | 9:00 AM | 10:00 AM | 11:00 AM | 12:00 PM |
| Open Semifinals Check-in Deadline and Coin Flip | Tuesday | 9:05 AM | 10:05 AM | 11:05 AM | 12:05 PM |
| Open Semifinals Report Time | Tuesday | 9:35 AM | 10:35 AM | 11:35 AM | 12:35 PM |
| Open Semifinals Start Time | Tuesday | 9:45 AM | 10:45 AM | 11:45 AM | 12:45 PM |
| Drawing of Judges for Finals | Tuesday | | | | |
| Open Finals Pairing. Prompt disclosure, please. | Tuesday | 1:15 PM | 2:15 PM | 3:15 PM | 4:15 PM |
| Open Finals Check-in Deadline and Coin Flip | Tuesday | 1:20 PM | 2:20 PM | 3:20 PM | 4:20 PM |
| Open Finals Report Time | Tuesday | 1:50 PM | 2:50 PM | 3:50 PM | 4:50 PM |
| Open Finals Start Time | Tuesday | 2:00 PM | 3:00 PM | 4:00 PM | 5:00 PM |