Dear Colleagues,
The University of Southern Mississippi cordially invites you to the 7rd Annual Hub City Swing[1] to be held virtually January 23-24. You will find all of the pertinent information in this invitation. Questions should be directed to both Paul Strait (l.strait@usm.edu) and Abbey Barnes (abigail.m.barnes@usm.edu). *Entries should be submitted via the tabroom website at hubcityswing.tabroom.com no later than Wednesday, January 20 by 5 pm central.*

As mentioned before, the advent of virtual tournaments necessitates that ALL entries be covered without exception (for this tournament, 1 judge covers 2 debaters). Judges must be able to judge the entire time, though we will do our best to give judges some rounds off. Judges are required to stay in the judging pool throughout the elimination rounds, even if their teams are eliminated.

All entries must be received by Wed., January 20, 2021, at 5:00 pm CST in Tabroom. Changes will be accepted until Thu., January 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. CST. As this is a "free" tournament, we ask that changes after the deadline be made only if absolutely necessary. For any changes after the deadline, please send changes to both Paul Strait (l.strait@usm.edu) and Abbey Barnes (abigail.m.barnes@usm.edu).

We look forward to seeing you for a weekend of fun and forensic competition!

L. Paul Strait, DOF
The University of Southern Mississippi

Abigail Barnes, Assistant DOF
The University of Southern Mississippi

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[1] Not actually a "swing" this year.

VIRTUAL ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION:

User guides for coaches and students, including instructional videos for Yaatly, can be found on the IPDA Website at:

http://www.ipdadebate.info/virtual-debate-resources.html

ENTRIES & FEES: (There are no fees for this tournament)

For registration and tabulation we will utilize Tabroom.com. If you do not have a team profile in Tabroom, you will need to create one and invite your team members (competitors and judges). All members must verify their email addresses before they can be entered in the tournament. For judges you must set their ballot preference to "email" since this is a virtual tournament. Please do this before the start of the tournament. Once you have your team set up you can find the registration for our tournament at: hubcityswing.tabroom.com

Entry confirmations will be emailed to all coaches on Thursday, January 21 by 8:00 p.m.

JUDGES:

All entries must be covered. One judge during debate rounds covers two (2) IPDA debaters. As is commonplace in IPDA, once eliminated from competition, IPDA competitors may be used to judge IPDA elimination rounds. All judges are obligated to judge for the entirety of the tournament. We will reserve the power to limit entries to make certain we can provide sufficient judging pools needed to keep clean rounds throughout the tournament.

Your Judges and Competitors MUST provide email addresses (Tabroom.com) to receive their ballots, and providing cell phone numbers is STRONGLY encouraged. Judges must also have linked accounts on Tabroom.

VIRTUAL DEBATE INFORMATION:

In addition to entering the tournament via ForensicsTournament.net, coaches should create the appropriate team Yaatly accounts several days prior to the tournament. Yaatly must be accessed through a Chrome browser. You will find instructions for this at http://www.ipdadebate.info/virtual-debate-resources.html

Before the tournament:

- Familiarize your team with Yaatly: Accessing the platform prior to the start of the tournament will be especially useful to confirm cameras and mics are working well. Use your Team Room for this.
- Familiarize yourself with Yaatly: There will be a "Tab Room" and "Coaches/Judges Lounge". Make plans to connect with other coaches in that area
- Look at the schedule, timing, etc and be familiar with the Event Chat.

During the tournament:

All competitors and judges should be in their competition room 5 minutes before the start of the round. Cameras and mics can be off but individuals should be in the rooms. Rounds will start at the set times but this allows for troubleshooting of audio and video. It also allows time to remedy other issues so the rounds can start on time. Schools will be given 1 warning, then the offending judges and the competitors they are covering will be removed from the tournament. If the school has another issue with judges the entire entry may be removed

- If a competitor or judge is not present in the room by the start of the round please contact Paul Strait through Yaatly chat or the tab room immediately.
- If a competitor is more than 5 minutes late to draw, their opponent will choose the topic and put it in chat in the competition room.
- Coaches should confirm that all team judges have their ballots five minutes prior to the beginning of each round. All ballots will be delivered electronically via the email addresses the team's coach has provided.
- Competitors should mute their audio during opponent's speeches; only during cross-ex should both microphones be turned on. It is useful to use headphones during the round to help ensure everyone can hear you properly. Judges should also mute their microphones once the round has started.
- Competitors and judge webcams must be activated the entire debate round, and they should not change their backgrounds.
- Judges should be in a stable environment. This means seated and watching the round. Not walking, driving or doing any other things that would be a distraction to the competitors.

- Judges should activate the in-round timer function appropriate for each debate segment BUT competitors are expected to be timing themselves as well.
- TECH ISSUES - If a competitor's internet drops in the middle of a round, the judge should freeze the timer and the competitor should try to re-enter the competition room
- If a competitor drops connection, the competitor will have a maximum of five minutes to reconnect before the round is forfeit. Rounds will not be re-run, due to timing.
- If a competitor re-enters within the 5 minutes, but loses connection a second time in a single round, the round is forfeit. The judge may assign speaker point on performance to that point.
- If a competitor has more than 3 disconnections in a tournament, they forfeit remaining rounds. o If a judge drops connection, the competitors should immediately pause their timers and contact the tournament directors through Yaatly chat or the Tab Room after two minutes have elapsed.

General information

1. No minimum number of entries is required for schools to count toward sweepstakes awards.
2. The tab room will be available to coaches in Yaatly.

IPDA Considerations

1. Please adhere to all rules expressed in the Bylaws and Constitution of the IPDA.
2. In order to keep the tournament running on time, please remind your competitors that they should activate their timers when draw begins, not after the strike process ends.
3. Please remind your judges that electronic devices are NOT permitted for anyone in a round other than for accessing the Yaatly platform or ballots, including the judge.
4. Please remind your judges that oral critiques are not permitted after the round.

Tournament Ethics Statement

1. The behavior of all attending the Hub City Swing will be in keeping with the NCA Policy on Anti-Harassment Code of Conduct. We

encourage all programs to review these expectations prior to entering this tournament.

2. The Hub City Swing expects that behavior between all participants, coaches, judges, and guests be respectful and appropriate at all times. If any participant has concerns over propriety or good sportspersonship, they should discuss the matter with their coaching staff. Any coach, judge, or guests should address any concerns with the Tournament Director exclusively.

3. As a condition of entry, all participants, coaches, judges, and guests agree that any decision issued by the Tournament Director is binding and final.

SCHEDULE:

Due to the constraints of online competition, we'll be starting at 10:00 am to reduce the impact on any West Coast competitors. Additionally, all rounds will be single flighted in order to encourage an on-time schedule.

Saturday, Jan. 23

10:00 Tournament Assembly

10:30 IPDA Round 1

12:00 IPDA Round 2

1:30 IPDA Round 3

3:00 Lunch Break

3:30 IPDA Round 4

5:00 IPDA Round 5

6:30 IPDA Round 6

AWARDS:

Sunday, Jan. 24

10:00 Awards

10:30 IPDA Elim 1

12:00 IPDA Elim 2

1:30 IPDA Elim 3

3:00 IPDA Elim 4 (if needed)

Certificates will be presented to all elimination round participants in all events (via emailed files). Awards shall be presented to the top five speakers in each debate division. The three top programs and the top community/junior college shall receive awards for Sweepstakes.

DIVISIONS & POINTS FORMULA:

The tournament reserves the right to limit entries if necessary. We will host all four divisions (Nov, JV, Var, Pro) of IPDA competition. The top three debaters in each division will count towards Sweepstakes calculations.

All IPDA debate rounds shall follow the 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 time format with 30 minutes preparation time. 6 preliminary rounds and the appropriate number of elimination rounds will be offered.

Debate points will be awarded according to the following formula:

   3 points for each preliminary round win
   3 points for breaking to elimination rounds
   5 points for 1st speaker
   4 points for 2nd speaker
   3 points for 3rd speaker
   2 points for 4th speaker
   1 point for 5th speaker
   TIEBREAKER FORMULA:
   Debate: For determining competitors advancing to elimination rounds in individual debate we will look first to the number of wins, second to high/low adjusted speaker points and third to the number of total speaker points. For determining speaker awards in individual debate, we will look first to high/low adjusted speaker points and second to total speaker points.

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If you have any questions about entries, please send them by email to both Paul Strait (l.strait@usm.edu) and Abbey Barnes (abigail.m.barnes@usm.edu).