



# ST. SEBASTIAN'S SCHOOL

1191 Greendale Avenue • Needham, MA 02492 • 781-449-5200 • 781-449-5630 (fax) • [www.stsebs.org](http://www.stsebs.org)

September 16, 2015

Dear Fellow Debaters:

The St. Sebastian's Debate Team cordially invites you to participate in our tenth **NOVICE** (Grades 7-9) Parliamentary Extemporaneous Debate Tournament on Sunday, October 11, 2015. The tournament will consist of three rounds of Parliamentary debate. We will be debating **straight resolutions** and using only **points of information** (no points of order, personal privilege or heckling). Each school may register **one or two four-person novice teams** (teams should include a judge as well; St. Sebastian's will *not* provide judges). Schools may register by e-mail to: [michael\\_nerbonne@stsebs.org](mailto:michael_nerbonne@stsebs.org). Please respond by Friday, October 2. Fees for the debate are \$60 per four-person team and \$15 per observer. Checks should be made payable to St. Sebastian's School. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us at 617-462-3651. **We also request that you call us at 617-462-3651 on the morning of the tournament, between the hours of 8:00 and 10:00, to report any changes in your final registration.**

The schedule for the day is as follows:

- 10:00 - 11:00 am Registration in the front foyer of the Birmingham Academic Building
- 10:00 - 11:30 am Brunch served in Ward Hall. Dinner will be available after 3:00 pm
- 11:30 - 12 noon Judges' and Debaters' Meeting in Ward Hall
- 12:00 - 1:00 pm Round One
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm Round Two
- 2:00 - 3:00 pm Round Three
- 3:00 - 4:15 pm Dinner in Ward Hall
- 4:15 - 4:30 pm Presentation of Awards in Ward Hall

The maximum length and order of speeches are as follows:

Prime Minister	5 minutes
First Opposition Speaker	8 minutes
Minister of the Crown	8 minutes
Leader of the Opposition	8 minutes
Prime Minister's Rebuttal	3 minutes

A 30-second grace period will be allowed for each debater, after which the speech will be terminated. The Government will be given 2 minutes to define the terms in the room with the Opposition and the judge, followed by a 10-minute preparation time for both teams. The Government Team should repair to the hallway for the preparation period. Debaters are strictly forbidden from consulting any reference materials during the preparation

period or during the debate. Violation of this rule will warrant disqualification from the tournament.

Directions to St. Sebastian's can be found on our website: [www.stsebs.org](http://www.stsebs.org); please note that the last turn in the directions will be a LEFT into the parking lot of the Birmingham Academic Building.

Information on rules, scoring, points of information, etc. can be found in the rules section of our league website at [www.daneis.org](http://www.daneis.org). Please see the five PDFs under the heading "DANEIS Parliamentary Debate with POIs." We ask that your debaters and judges be thoroughly familiar with all of this information prior to the tournament as we will have just a short time for the judges' and debaters' briefing on the day of the debate. There are also a couple of helpful videos in the members' section of the website.

We look forward to seeing you on October 11, and express our appreciation for your participation. Please see the enclosed form for registration information.

Michael P. Nerbonne  
Debate Coach