



# ST. SEBASTIAN'S SCHOOL

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

January 14, 2016

Dear Fellow Debaters:

The St. Sebastian's Debate Team cordially invites you to participate in our seventeenth annual Parliamentary Extemporaneous Debate Tournament on Sunday, February 14, 2016. The tournament will consist of three rounds of Parliamentary debate, in both novice and advanced divisions. 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 four-person novice team** and **one four-person advanced team** (teams should include a judge as well; St. Sebastian's will *not* provide judges). Schools should register by e-mail to: [michael\\_nerbonne@stsebs.org](mailto:michael_nerbonne@stsebs.org). Please reply by Friday, February 5. Fees for the debate are \$70 per 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 - 4:30 pm Dinner in Ward Hall
- 4:30 - 4:45 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 School are available on our website: <http://www.stsebs.org/directions>; 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 February 14, and want to express our appreciation for your participation.

Michael P. Nerbonne  
Debate Coach