



ST. SEBASTIAN'S SCHOOL

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September 20, 2021

Dear Fellow Debaters:

The St. Sebastian's Debate Team cordially invites you to participate in our sixteenth **NOVICE** Parliamentary Extemporaneous **VIRTUAL** Debate Tournament on Sunday, October 10, 2021. The tournament will consist of three rounds of Parliamentary debate conducted entirely on Zoom. 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. Please respond by Friday, October 1. There will not be any fee for this debate, but we will be sending out awards (emailed certificates suitable for framing). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 462-3651.

The preliminary schedule for the day will be as follows:

9:00 am	Confirmation of Registration (coaches email me)
9:30 am	Judges' and Debaters' Codes sent out
10:30 am	Judges and Debaters Log-in to Main Zoom Meeting Room
11:00 am	Judges' and Debaters' Briefing
11:30 am	Round One in Zoom Breakout Rooms
12:30 pm	Break in Main Zoom Meeting Room
12:45 pm	Round Two in Zoom Breakout Rooms
1:45 pm	Break in Main Zoom Meeting Room
2:00 pm	Round Three in Zoom Breakout Rooms

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. 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.

Information on rules, scoring, points of information, etc. can be found in the rules section of our league website at 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.

The purpose of this letter is to invite schools to indicate their preliminary registration for the Tournament. We will be providing more information with all of the Zoom details in the coming weeks.

We look forward to “seeing” you on October 10 and express our appreciation for your participation.

Michael P. Nerbonne
Debate Coach