



# ST. SEBASTIAN'S SCHOOL

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

September 8, 2023

Dear Fellow Debaters:

The St. Sebastian's Debate Team cordially invites you to participate in our eighteenth **NOVICE** Parliamentary Extemporaneous Debate Tournament on Sunday, October 8, 2023. 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, September 29. The fee for this Tournament will be \$80 per four-person team and \$20 per observer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 462-3651. **I also request that you call me at that number on the morning of the Tournament, between the hours of 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., to report any changes to your final registration.**

The preliminary schedule for the day will be as follows:

10:00-11:00 am	Registration in the Front Foyer of the Academic Building
10:00-11:30 am	Brunch served in Ward Hall. Dinner will be available after 3:00 pm.
11:30-12:00 pm	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/about/contact-directions](http://www.stsebs.org/about/contact-directions) . Please note that registration, meals, and all of the debates will take place in the 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 8 and express our appreciation for your participation.

Michael P. Nerbonne  
Debate Coach