



## 2021 Great Salt Lake Invitational & UTEP Individual Events Classic

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the University of Utah and The University of Texas at El Paso, we invite you to join us digitally for the Great Salt Lake Invitational/UTEP IE Classic held via the [forensicstournament.net/8x8](https://forensicstournament.net/8x8) video conferencing platform. The tournaments will be held on January 15-17, 2021. The tournament will utilize the following format:

- **Friday, Jan. 15 - UTEP Classic**
  - Synchronous IPDA Tournament
  - Asynchronous IE Tournament
- **Saturday, Jan. 16 - Great Salt Lake Invitational**
  - Synchronous IE Tournament
  - Synchronous IPDA Tournament
  - Synchronous NFA-LD Tournament (with double elims)
  - Synchronous BP Debate Tournament
- **Sunday, Jan. 17 - Great Salt Lake Invitational**
  - Synchronous NFA-LD Tournament continued
  - Synchronous BP Debate Tournament continued
- Both tournaments will utilize [forensicstournament.net](https://forensicstournament.net) for tournament registration and administration, as well as the 8x8/jitsi video-conferencing platform.
  - Online Tournament Guide:  
<https://forensicstournament.net/online>

These tournaments will offer a single, open division of NFA-IE events, Open and Junior divisions in NFA-LD and IPDA Debate, and an open division of BP with recognition for top novices. Additionally, the Open division of NFA-LD will feature a double elimination format in outrounds. In addition to a tournament that we hope will support a broad range of competitive interests and formats, we also look forward to supporting everyone's efforts to navigate forensics in this difficult environment. Accordingly, **for this year, we will institute a flat fee of \$10 per person (per swing) regardless of number of events entered (within entry/cross-entry restrictions)**. However, all participants will receive a commemorative tournament facemask, all elimination round participants will receive recognition awards, and we plan to offer high-quality awards for tournament champions in all events and divisions. All awards will be mailed to participating schools for distribution to students.

Please *carefully* review the full tournament details below. We look forward to seeing you in January and wish everyone the best of luck and safety for the remainder of the competitive season.

Warmest regards,

*Michael Middleton, Ph.D.*  
Director of Forensics  
University of Utah

*Carlos Tarin, Ph.D.*  
Director of Forensics  
The University of Texas at El Paso

## PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

### **Tournament Procedures & Facilitation**

Unless otherwise specified, NFA (IEs), NFA (LD), IPDA, and BP tournament guidelines will govern the tournament's operating procedures. The tournament directors reserve the right to make any decisions necessary to facilitate the timely and accurate completion of the tournament.

### **Eligibility & Entries**

Tournaments are open to any regularly enrolled undergraduate in a two-year or four-year college or university in good standing with the school's debate team/club. As the weekend will offer several tournaments that run back-to-back, students may (and are encouraged to) participate in a range of competitive events. Organizational (e.g., NFA, IPDA, etc.) eligibility requirements also apply.

All entries should be submitted via the [forensicstournament.net](http://forensicstournament.net) website. Please make sure that you ***enter both halves*** of the tournament, if that is your choice. **Entries are due by Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM (MOUNTAIN TIME)**. This early entry deadline is necessary for making arrangements for the various elements of the tournament, including curating asynchronous videos, etc.

### **Double Entry**

***UTEP CLASSIC:*** Because the IE portion of this tournament is asynchronous, students may participate in both the IE portion of the UTEP Classic and the synchronous IPDA tournament on Friday, Feb. 15. IE students may enter up to three events per pattern.

***Great Salt Lake Invitational:*** Because all events will be held synchronously, no cross entry is permitted at the GSL portion of the tournament, i.e., student may only participate in one format of forensics from those offered on Saturday and Sunday: NFA-IEs, NFA-LD, IPDA Debate, BP Debate. IE students may enter up to three events per pattern.

## PART II: INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

### **Events Offered**

Students may not enter in more than 3 events per pattern. It is the sole responsibility of the competitors to complete all events in the time given. Failure to do so will result in a no-show score for the round. We will offer the following events:

Pattern A – Extemp, Informative, After Dinner Speaking, Prose, and Poetry

Pattern B – Impromptu, Persuasive, Communication Analysis, Duo, Dramatic, and POI

### **Divisions**

We plan to offer a single, OPEN division.

### **Elimination Rounds**

Any event with 7 contestants or fewer will not have a final round. For events with more than 7 competitors, a final round will be held. Any event with more than 36 entries will advance to semifinals.

### **Advancing to Elimination Rounds**

No more than half of the field will be advanced to finals. Students will be rank ordered first by cumulative rankings, then by the highest speaker points. All attempts will be made to make a clean break (by cumulative rankings).

### **Placement in Elimination Rounds**

Students will be rank ordered first by cumulative rankings (with exception for majority first place rankings), then by judge's preference, followed by the highest reciprocal score (decimal conversion), and finally by the highest cumulative ratings.

**Synchronous Tournament Rules:** Most aspects of the tournament administration will remain unchanged by the online format:

- **General Rules**

- Only one camera and microphone can be used when performing
- Students in DUO may not be in the same room when recording
- No additional digital or technical enhancements may be utilized in recordings. Visual Aids should be limited to traditional visual aids or links provided in the tournament chat. To limit potential connectivity/stability issues, students will not be allowed to utilize visual aids that require screen-sharing.
- Judges should disregard differences in filming location, lighting quality, etc., that are incidental to the students' performances

- **Limited Preparation Rules**

- EXT topics will be released in a common draw room like an in-person tournament.
- IMP topics will be released by each judge.

**Asynchronous Tournament Rules:** Most aspects of the tournament administration will remain unchanged by the asynchronous format. Students will submit a single recording of their event. It will be judged twice in prelims by two different judges; finalists' videos will then be judged again by 3 judges.

- **General Rules**

- To avoid permissions issues, all video links uploaded must be YouTube links set to "public" or "unlisted." Do not use Google Drive. Students/Coaches are responsible for verifying link functionality; non-working links will be treated as no-shows.
- Only one camera and microphone can be used when recording
- Videos must be submitted "as recorded" with no additional editing, filters, etc.
- Students in DUO may not be in the same room when recording
- No additional digital or technical enhancements may be utilized in recordings
- Judges should disregard differences in filming location, lighting quality, etc., that are incidental to the students' performances

- **Limited Preparation Rules**

- Topics will be released at 12:00PM/Noon (Mountain) on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Videos will be due at the same time as other events (5:00PM Mountain, Monday, Jan. 11).
- Limited preparation students will observe regular competitive rules regarding preparation time and resources.
- IMP competitors will be expected to film their prep time; EXT competitors will not.

## **PART III: LD DEBATE**

### **Divisions**

We plan to offer two divisions: OPEN and JUNIOR (entries permitting).

### **Procedural Issues**

NFA L/D Debate is a communication event that is debated in a stock issues paradigm. In deference to the intent of the event, we ask that all competitors and critics are mindful of these rules. Complete rules can be found at <http://www.nationalforensics.org>. MPJ and judge strikes will not be offered; judges will be randomly assigned. Judge constraints should be submitted in advance of the tournament.

### **Tournament Format**

The NFA-LD tournament will feature 5 preliminary rounds of debate with all winning records advancing. In junior, standard single-elimination outrounds will occur. In Open (or in the event divisions collapse), teams will advance to a double elimination outround format.

### **Disclosure**

Following the return of the ballot, critics may disclose as much or as little information as they see fit so long as it does not interfere with the tournament schedule. Delays caused by coaches/judges may, at the tournament director's discretion, result in penalties to that school's teams including removal from the tournament. We don't want to do it, so don't put us in a position where we would want to do it. NOTE TO JUDGES: All rounds must have one winner and one loser.

### **Preliminary Rounds**

The computer will randomly match Round One. Subsequent rounds will be power-matched high-low. If necessary, the tournament will use lagged power-matching to maintain the tournament schedule.

### **Advancing to Elimination Rounds**

At the end of the preliminary rounds, team seeding in elimination rounds will be first based on win/loss record, then adjusted speaker points, then total speaker points, then judge variance. In the double elimination format, the first elimination round will be a partial, single-elimination round to establish a field of 8, 16, or 32 teams. All teams in the first full out-round will then debate in a double elimination format until a tournament champion is determined. In elimination rounds, brackets WILL NOT be broken.

## **PART IV: IPDA DEBATE**

### **Divisions**

We plan to offer two divisions: OPEN and JUNIOR (entries permitting).

### **Procedural Issues**

IPDA Debate is a forum designed to enhance education through the laboratory of productive "real world" competitive debate experiences. IPDA debates are intended to provide rhetorically sound models of communicative debate and interaction. We ask that competitors and critics defer to this intent and the rules which govern the activity that can be found at: <http://www.ipdadebate.info>. Judges will be randomly assigned and, consistent with IPDA rules, may include "lay judges."

## Disclosure

Following the return of the ballot, critics may disclose as much or as little information as they see fit so long as it does not interfere with the tournament schedule. Delays caused by coaches/judges may, at the tournament director's discretion, result in penalties to that school's teams including removal from the tournament. We don't want to do it, so don't put us in a position where we would want to do it. NOTE TO JUDGES: All rounds must have one winner and one loser.

## Topic Draw and Prep

Topic draw will be conducted at a central location and will begin once all debaters are present. Debaters who are not present at the scheduled draw time may forfeit their ability to participate in topic strikes. Debaters assigned to the negative will be given first strike. Each debater will have 30 minutes of prep time. There will not be pre-assigned prep rooms; debaters and coaches are asked to respect other tournament events that may be running concurrently with IPDA.

## Preliminary Rounds

The computer will randomly match Round One. Subsequent rounds will be power-matched high-low.

## Elimination Rounds

The number of elimination rounds will be determined by the size of the field. Advancement to and seeding in elimination rounds will be first based upon wins, followed by total speaker points, followed by opposition record, then adjusted speaker points, and finally by ZScore. In elimination rounds, brackets will NOT be broken.

# PART V: BP DEBATE

A single OPEN British Parliamentary division will be run in compliance with the WUDC guidelines. We will feature six preliminary rounds as well as several elimination rounds. The number of elimination rounds will be dependent on the total number of teams present within the division. Thus, the schedule is subject to change. For instance, if we do not need a fourth elimination round, we will adjust the schedule by either moving a preliminary round from Saturday to Sunday, or round six will begin later in the day on Sunday morning. Any and all changes to the schedule will be communicated to the contingent in a timely and efficient manner. E-ballots will be used during preliminary rounds and will be distributed after a motion has been announced.

## Registration

Registration will take place on forensicstournament.net. Novice designations will be requested separately by the tab director. *As noted in Part I, registration will be open online until January 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:00PM (Mountain). Please help us by registering prior to that deadline!*

A tournament briefing will take place prior to the first preliminary round, which will cover any other logistics not listed on this invitation.

We will run six preliminary rounds. The computer will randomly match the first round. Subsequent matches will be power-matched. **All preliminary rounds will feature open adjudication**, in which participants will hear their results from their respective adjudication panels within 15 minutes of the debate round ending.

After the six preliminary rounds, we will offer a number of elimination rounds dependent on the total number of teams present within the division. These rounds will be paired in accordance with the WUDC

structure of power-protected out-rounds. The top two teams from each round will advance to the next out-round, up until the final round.

### **Novice Debate**

We encourage institutions to bring their novice debaters to participate in this tournament. In compliance with WUDC (and USUDC) guidelines, novices can be paired with either seasoned debaters or other novices. In the instance where we have an acceptable number of novice teams, we will offer a novice break for the top novice *teams* (dependent on attendance).

A novice is one who has been participating in collegiate debate within the past 12 months, regardless of current class standing. For instance, a senior college student can be classified as a novice if this student had begun debating less than 12 months ago. A novice team is comprised of two novice speakers. Novice teams are eligible for the novice break. Furthermore, if a novice break is offered, and a novice team is one of the top teams for the open break, the team will participate within the OPEN out-rounds (rather than the novice out-rounds). A team comprised of a novice speaker and an open speaker is *not* eligible for the novice break.

### **Prep Time**

In accordance with WUDC guidelines, teams are given a maximum of 15 minutes to prepare after a motion is released. Teams are to prepare by themselves, without their coaches or the Internet. Teams are allowed to refer to written/hardcopy materials during prep time but are not allowed to bring them up to the podium when it comes time to speak.

## **PART VI: AWARDS**

- All tournament participants (judges and competitors) will receive a tournament facemask via the director/point of contact for their program.
- All participants in elimination rounds in debate and individual events will receive recognition awards.
- Tournament Champions in each event (debate and individual events) will receive high-quality awards in recognition of their top performance.
- Special Awards:
  - NFA-LD Tournament Champion will receive the Malcolm O. Sillars Tournament Champion Trophy
  - BP Top Speaker will receive the Richard Rieke Top Speaker Award
  - Both awards recognize emeriti faculty and former national championship debate coaches at the University of Utah
- Debate Sweeps: For team sweepstakes, debate formats will be equalized.
  - This equalization is achieved by the use of percentiles. All sweepstakes points earned by all debate teams/entries per format are summed. The points earned by each squad are divided by the total number of points earned in each debate format in order to determine what percentage of all points in that format were earned by the team.
  - The two percentile scores for a school (BP and LD) are added together in order to determine an equalized aggregate sweepstakes score. Assuming a school earned all of the possible sweepstakes points in the tournament (a mathematical impossibility), the maximum score they could earn would be 300 points (100% for LD, and 100% for BP, and 100% for IPDA).
- Individual Events Sweeps: Sweepstakes awards will be offered to the top two schools at each tournament. The top three schools competing in the IE/LD/IPDA swing will receive sweepstakes trophies.

- Sweepstakes points will be issued to all participants in semifinals and finals based on the following scale. No points will be given for preliminary rounds.

- **Individual Events**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Finalist	Semifinalist
10 pts.	7 pts.	5 pts.	3 pts.	1 pt.

- **IPDA -**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Semifinalist	Quarterfinalists
15 pts.	9 pts.	6 pts.	3 pts.

- For swing sweepstakes, points from both tournaments are pooled to determine the winners.

- **Individual Competitor Sweeps:** In addition, the Utah portion of the IE swing will once again award the prestigious Royal L. Garff Speaker of the Year Trophy. This award was created in 1997 in memory of Prof. Royal Garff, a lifetime supporter of public speaking, forensics, and public debate. The trophy has been awarded at every GSL since 1997 and continues to honor the achievements of students who compete in short prep, platforms and interpretation events. The winner of the Garff Award will be determined based off the highest total accumulated in up to six events using the following scale: 1<sup>st</sup> place = 10 pts, 2<sup>nd</sup> place = 7 pts, 3<sup>rd</sup> place = 5 pts, Finalist = 3 pts. Please note: Only students who compete in all three genres (interp, platform, and short prep) are eligible for the Garff Award.

## PART VII: FEES & JUDGING

### Fees & Amenities

Fees are meant to create the lowest barrier to entry possible given the uncertainty faced by many programs. If these fees present a challenge, please contact us about a waiver or reduction. Fees will be assessed at the entry deadline. Drop and/or "No Show" fees will be assessed after this deadline.

### Judging Obligations

It's cliché, but we would rather have your judges than your money. The tournament directors reserve the right to refuse entry to teams uncovered by a critic. If you have extra judges attending the tournament, please contact the tournament directors, as we may be able to hire them at a healthy stipend.

Judging requirements are as follows:

Individual Events	1 judge for every six entries
BP Debate	N-1 judges (where N is number of teams entered)
LD Debate	1 judge for every two entries
IPDA Debate	1 judge for every two entries

Restrictions on Judge Coverage:

- UTEP CLASSIC
  - Judges may cover BOTH IEs and IPDA
- GREAT SALT LAKE
  - Judges must choose between: IE/IPDA, LD, or BP.

Additionally, all debate judges (LD, BP, IPDA) are committed through the second full elimination round and/or one round past the elimination of their teams whichever is greater. IE judges are committed through the final round.

ENTRY FEES*	DROP & UNCOVERED FEES
Per Competitor Fee - \$10	Uncovered Debate Team (BP) - Entry Fee + \$75/team Uncovered LD Entry - Entry Fee + \$75/team Uncovered IPDA Entry - Entry Fee + \$20/entry Uncovered IE Entry - Entry Fee + \$10/entry IE Drop Fee - \$20/entry Debate Drop Fee - \$40/entry for any format of debate "No Show" Fee - \$60/entry for any event

\*Fees are assessed per half of the swing.

***Community College Fee Reduction***

The University of Utah and The University of Texas at El Paso support the involvement of community colleges in competitive forensics both through our recruitment efforts and our outreach. Consistent with those efforts, all community college teams that cover their judging commitment will receive a 20% fee reduction from their total fees (excluding uncovered judging fees).

**Payment**

Fees may be paid by check. Checks should be made payable to "University of Utah" for all fees. We cannot accept other forms of payment.

Mail checks to:

John R. Park Debate Society  
 255 S. Central Campus Dr., LNCO 2400  
 Salt Lake City, UT 84112



## PART VIII: IE/IPDA SCHEDULE (all times Mountain)

### UTEP Classic

**IES: Asynchronous**

**Saturday, January 9th**

Limited Prep Topics Released 12:00PM/Noon MST

**Monday, January 11th**

All Videos Due 5:00PM MST

Preliminary Ballots Released 10:00PM MST

**Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**

Preliminary Ballots Due 5:00PM MST

Finals Ballots Released 10:00PM MST

**Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

Finals Ballots Due 9:00AM MST

**IPDA (Synchronous) - Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

Round 1 9:00AM

Round 2 10:30AM

Round 3 12:00PM

Round 4 2:00PM

Elim 1 3:30PM

Elim 2 5:00PM

Elim 3 6:30PM

**Awards** IE & IPDA 8:00PM

### Great Salt Lake IE Classic

**Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

Check-In 8:00AM

Extemp Draw 9:00AM  
RD 1A 9:30-10:45AM

IPDA Round 1

RD 1B 11:00AM-12:15PM  
IPDA Round 2

RD 2B 12:30-1:45PM  
IPDA Round 3

Extemp Draw 2:00PM  
RD 2A 2:30-3:45PM  
IPDA Round 4

Finals B 4:00-5:15PM  
Debate Elim 1

Extemp Draw 5:30PM  
Finals A 6:00-7:30PM  
Debate Elim 2

Awards 8:00PM  
Debate Elims (as needed)

## **PART IX: LD/BP SCHEDULE (all times Mountain)**

### **LD DEBATE**

#### **Friday, January 15**

6:00-7:00PM – Round 0

#### **Saturday, Jan. 16**

8:00 – Round 1

9:30 – Round 2

11:00 – Round 3

1:30 – Round 4

3:30 – Round 5

5:30 – Elim 1

#### **Sunday, Jan. 17**

8:00 – Elim 2

10:00 – Elim 3

12:00 – Elim 4

2:00 – Elim 5

4:00 – Elim 6

6:00 – Elim 7

Awards ASAP

### **BP DEBATE**

#### **Friday, January 15**

6:00-7:00PM – Round 0

#### **Saturday, Jan. 16**

8:00 – Tournament Briefing

9:00 – Round 1 Topic

11:00 – Round 2 Topic

2:00 – Round 3 Topic

4:00 – Round 4 Topic

#### **Sunday, Jan. 17**

8:30 – Tournament Briefing

9:00 – Round 5 Topic

11:00 – Round 6 Topic

2:00 – Elim 1 Topic

4:00 – Elim 2 Topic

6:00 – Elim 3 Topic

Awards ASAP

## **PART X: ACCESSIBILITY & NON-DISCRIMINATION**

The University of Utah does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (which includes prohibiting acts of sexual harassment or acts of sexual misconduct), age, status as a disabled individual, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, genetic information or protected veteran's status, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. In addition, University policy and state and federal law, prohibit retaliation against a person who participates in the discrimination complaint process. Employees, students, and persons who participate in University programs are required to comply with the University non-discrimination policies.

### **Disability Accommodations**

The University endeavors to provide reasonable accommodations and to ensure equal access to qualified persons with disabilities. Reasonable notice is required.

For inquiries concerning discrimination, sexual harassment, the University's complaint process or to request a disability accommodation, please contact the University of Utah's Director of Forensics. If required, or if you wish, you may also contact the University's Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator:

Sherrie Hayashi  
Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action  
201 South Presidents Circle, Rm.135  
Salt Lake City, UT, 84112  
801-581-8365 (voice/tdd)  
801-585-5746 (fax)  
[www.oeo.utah.edu](http://www.oeo.utah.edu).