

# 2017 GEORGIA B. BOWMAN TOURNAMENT INVITE

**Entry Deadline:** *Monday September 11 by 1 PM CST, Tabroom.com*

**Judge Philosophy Requirements:** *All judges covering team entries must be submitted by Monday September 11 at 1:00 PM CST— late submission of judging philosophies incurs a \$100 nuisance fee per judge. No exceptions.*

**Cost:** *\$75.00 per person—this includes judges, coaches, and observers. You will be billed via email on Wednesday September 13.*

**Tournament Updates:** Tabroom.com, NPDA/NPTE Facebook Page

Colleagues,

We cordially invite you and your squad to the Georgia B. Bowman Invitational September 15-17, 2017. After careful consideration, we have elected to keep our 2017 tournament as a three-day, eight-round tournament with a wellness-inspired schedule. The tournament will feature open parliamentary debate. We will provide *plenty* of hospitality and some excellent competition.

**We have carefully constructed a tournament schedule featuring the following:**

- An affirmative commitment to curating a diverse, qualified judging pool
- 7 preliminary rounds, 5 elimination rounds—all 4-3 records will advance to elimination rounds
- Relaxed, three-day schedule with all meals provided
- No more than three rounds without time to decompress, socialize, eat and recharge
- No debate begins before 9:00 AM
- 120-minute allotment for each debate—virtually guaranteeing on-time scheduling (twenty minutes of preparation time, on-time start + one hour and forty minutes for the debate, decision, balloting, judge feedback, and preparation for subsequent topic announcement)
- Healthy snacks constantly available throughout the tournament (Gano Assembly or other location announced at registration)
- Coaches gathering Friday evening with food provided
- Chili Dinner Friday Evening, BBQ dinner and Community Gathering time on Saturday evening
- Brackets will be broken in elimination rounds
- Limited judge strikes available
- Student-led topic committee (Google Doc Forthcoming), Final Topics Determined by Tournament Director—placing an emphasis on pre-tournament student input for 2017
- Sweepstakes award for top three schools (records of a school's best four teams in preliminary rounds will be considered)
- High Quality awards for Quarterfinalists and beyond, all advancing teams recognized
- Awards for Top 10 Individual Speakers
- Awards for Top 5 First-Year Speakers
- High Quality Award for the Top First-Year Speaker
- Recognition for the top "two-year" college team
- High quality awards for Tournament Finalists, Tournament Top Speaker, and "Coach of the Year" Recognition

Sincerely,

Kyle Dennis  
Director of Debate  
William Jewell College

Gina Lane, Ph.D  
Chair, Department of Communication and Theatre  
William Jewell College

## GEORGIA B. BOWMAN INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

### Friday, September 15

- 2:00-3:00 PM** Registration (Upper Level of Yates-Gill Student Union)
- 3:00 PM** Pairings Released, Round 1-2
- 3:15 PM** Opening Assembly and Announcements (Everyone Attend, Please)  
Tournament Topic Announce, Gano Chapel  
Preparation Rooms available at conclusion of our F Block Classes (1:45-2:50)
- 3:30 PM** Topic Announcement Round 1 and 2 (Preset, 45 minutes of prep)
- 4:30-5:30 PM** Round 1
- 5:30-6:30 PM** Round 2

*Chili/Taco Dinner (Gano Assembly) immediately following the conclusion of your Round 2 debates.*

- 7:30 PM** Topic Announce Round 3

*We invite coaches to join us for time to decompress and gather on Friday evening (Rock & Rub Brewery/Pub, 110 E. Kansas Street, Liberty, Missouri 64068).*

### Saturday, September 16

*Breakfast available in Gano Assembly beginning at 8:00 AM.*

- 9:00 AM** Topic Announce Round 4
- 11:00 AM** Topic Announce Round 5

*Brunch (Yates-Gill Dining Hall) immediately following the conclusion of Round 5 debates (Meal Ticket Required)*

- 1:30 PM** Topic Announce Round 6
- 3:30 PM** Topic Announce Round 7

*We invite you to join us for a BBQ dinner and community gathering/activity time/Foursquare on the quad and in Yates College Union immediately following the conclusion of Round 7 debates. We will provide the list of judges/teams needed for the doubles (or partial doubles) debate ASAP*

- 7:00 PM** Topic Announce Doubles

**Sunday, September 17**

**9:00 AM**            Breakfast (Gano Assembly)

**9:30 AM**            Pairings for Octos

**10:00 AM**          Topic Announce, Octofinals

*Community Ice Cream Social immediately following conclusion of Octofinals in Yates Union (Upstairs)*

**12:30 PM**          Awards

*Lunch provided to all quarterfinal round participants at the conclusion of awards—you will be given ample time to eat and review quarterfinal pairings before topic announce for quarters.*

**2:00 PM**            Quarters, Semis and Finals to follow ASAP.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### ANTI-HARASSMENT

As a guest on our campus, we ask that you respect our anti-harassment policy. William Jewell College is committed to being an inclusive community that values the worth of each individual while respecting and accepting differences. Harassment is generally defined as verbal, written, or physical conduct based on or motivated by an individual's protected status that unreasonably interferes with an individual's work or academic performance or creates a hostile work or educational environment by interfering with or limiting a person's ability to participate in William Jewell's educational programs and activities. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling, as well as nonverbal behavior, such as graphic and written statements, or conduct that is physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. Should we become aware of any harassment occurring during the tournament, we will report it immediately to William Jewell's Vice-President for Social Responsibility and Engagement who serves as the Anti-Harassment Coordinator for William Jewell College, Andy Pratt. You may also contact Andy yourself:

Dr. Andy Pratt  
200 Gano Chapel  
816-415-7557  
pratta@william.jewell.edu

We also understand the reality of hosting a debate tournament over the course of the weekend when administrative offices might not be immediately responsive. William Jewell College is a private campus. You are here as a guest of the students who participate in our debate program, the Director of Debate, and the Department of Communication and Theatre. Please report behavior that is not in line with our stated anti-harassment policy. If, at any point in time, behavior is reported that is antithetical to a positive learning environment for any other tournament participants, we will ask you to leave without discussion or delay. Unlike the NPDA National Tournament, we do not have a prescribed process for investigating harassment during the tournament; it will be reported to appropriate officials on our campus and properly documented to NPDA. However, if we hear that anyone has been harassed, offending parties will be asked to leave our campus immediately. We are happy to host our guests, but you do not have a *right* to compete at a tournament hosted on our campus.

We also cannot know the history of every judge or competitor, nor should we. In the past, there have been troubling histories of judges and/or competitors that have been known to many members of our community, but are often not known to administrative tournament staff. If you believe that there is a person that, in the course of regular events, will attend this tournament who we should not welcome onto our campus (or might interfere with your feeling safe attending the tournament) please let us know as soon as possible—contact Kyle Dennis ([dennisk@william.jewell.edu](mailto:dennisk@william.jewell.edu)) or, if you feel more comfortable, Gina Lane ([laneg@william.jewell.edu](mailto:laneg@william.jewell.edu)).

Directors, please remember, you are *responsible* for the people that you bring to our campus. If you bring a person to our campus (student, judge or coach) that is known to harass other participants in any way (during the course of debates, at the tournament hotel, during RFD's, etc.), we will do our best to hold *you* accountable for that person. We promise that we will take every single avenue available to us to report any activity that we believe to be harassment to the immediate supervisor of your program and administration at your college or university. Do not bring coaches or competitors to our campus that would not receive the appropriate clearance to attend the NPDA national tournament.

## ELIMINATION ROUND PROCEDURES

**We will use the National Round Robin format for all out-rounds in 2017.** We strongly believe in this experiment to the point that it should no longer be considered an experiment. We believe that students should have the ability to propose resolutions and flip for side/topic choice. Prior to each elimination debate, after viewing pairings and judging panels and having a chance to review judging philosophies, matched teams will be asked to offer one possible resolution for the debate. Before teams are able to view *both* resolutions, participants will flip a coin with the winner choosing the right to select (a) the resolution for the debate among the 2 resolution choices offered by the 2 matched teams or (b) the ability to assign the sides for the debate. *After that decision is made, both teams will view the resolutions for two minutes.* At the conclusion of that time period, the team choosing the resolution will do so; then, the team selecting the sides for the debate will have one minute to determine the side. Submitted resolutions should be debatable and educational as well as non-harassing and non-hostile. Teams are, otherwise, encouraged to be innovative in the construction of their resolutions. The tournament director reserves the right to refuse a submitted resolution due to violation of campus policy (i.e. the resolution language constitutes harassment of an individual participant, protected group, is discriminatory, etc.). In the unlikely situation that must occur, the submitting team will simply be asked to revise or re-submit another resolution. In the event that matched teams submit the exact same resolution, matched teams will flip only for sides.

## DEBATE FORMAT

The 2017 Bowman Invitational will also utilize the National Round Robin debating format. Defined, binding cross-examination time following all constructive speeches (meaning: use the time or lose the time after every constructive; it may not be used without asking questions). No points of information during speeches. Defined preparation time for every debate (4 min per team used in increments as they choose).

Prime Minister Constructive- 7 MIN

Cross-Examination- 3 MIN

Leader of Opposition Constructive- 8 MIN

Cross-Examination- 3 MIN

Member of Government Constructive- 8 MIN

Cross-Examination- 3 MIN

Member of Opposition Constructive- 8 MIN

Cross-Examination- 3 MIN

Leader of Opposition Rebuttal- 4 MIN

Prime Minister Rebuttal- 5 MIN

## TOURNAMENT LOCATION

William Jewell College is located north of downtown Kansas City on I-35. Take I-35 north to the Liberty/Kansas Ave. (HWY 152) exit. Follow Kansas east thru the Liberty square to Franklin. Turn right on Franklin and drive 2 blocks to Mill St. Turn left on Mill, look for the entrance to the College after approx. 3 blocks and turn left. **Tournament headquarters will be in the upper level of the Yates College Union.** Parking on Saturday and Sunday will be in the White Science lot.

## SMOKING POLICY

On Aug. 1, 2015 William Jewell joined more than 1,000 campuses nationwide to become smoke and tobacco free. The policy supports the College's commitment to a healthy, comfortable and productive learning and work environment for students, faculty and staff and applies to anyone in Jewell facilities or on its property. In 2015 there were tobacco-use zone has been designated by signage near the residence halls, though no one at the tournament used this area since it is not located in the proximity of any of the competition rooms. Read the policy and more information at <http://www.jewell.edu/smokeandtobaccofree>. We will make every effort to accommodate guests by guiding you to an off-street smoking spot on N. Jewell Street (about a 1 minute walk down the hill on the west side of Jewell Hall). **As contentious as this rule may be, we ask that you respect this rule on our campus. If we have to ask you more than once, we will ask you to leave—very simply and politely.**

## INTERNET

**Please do not utilize personal, portable WiFi access points on campus (MiFi/Hotspot Devices)—these devices interfere with campus wireless rather predictably.** We have worked diligently with our Information Services staff to ensure that wireless access is not a problem. You will connect using the Guest-Open network. The wireless seemed to work flawlessly during the September 2017 Bowman Tournament. Internet will not delay the tournament, if Guest-Open does not operate correctly, we have backup plans in place.

### JUDGING/RELATED ISSUES:

All judges fulfilling a school commitment are committed through Octofinals (Sunday Morning) – and then one round after the elimination of your team. We ask all critics to adjudicate rounds in a fair and open-minded manner, awarding a win and a loss and speaker points appropriate to the quality of the teams. Critics are asked to forfeit teams not ready to debate 25 minutes after the topic is announced. We will announce the forfeit time at topic announce. Given the relaxed schedule of the tournament, we ask that you submit your ballot ASAP and take advantage of the *ample* opportunity to discuss the round with the debaters. If a ballot is returned to the tab room without a decision and the critic is unwilling to make a decision, then the tab room will flip a coin on behalf of the teams in the round. If all parties in the debate agree to an alternative, non-competitive experience and the tab room is informed in advance, the tab room will be happy to facilitate this by removing both teams from the competition during that round. We ask that judges constrain themselves from judging former squad members and debaters with whom the critic has a close intimate relationship, romantic or otherwise, that might compromise the critic's ability to be objective. We also ask that competitors only request constraints in these obvious cases, or in cases of harassment or similar extreme situations. Having an occasional disagreement with a critic, concerns about whether the critic will vote for you, or a belief that the critic will fail to adapt to your style of debate, is not a reason for a constraint and should instead be a strike. We ask that you respect this policy as a means of helping us create the best judging pool for the entire tournament. If you have a question about whether or not a particular critic should judge a certain team, you should make that objection before the tournament. We do not have a *formal* process for "challenges" to round results made by competitors, judges, or coaches. Should these circumstances arise, depending on severity, they will be dealt with expeditiously without delaying the tournament.

### DIVERSITY OF JUDGING POOL

We would like everyone to be mindful of the whether or not the judges that you bring to cover your entries reflect the desired diversity of your squad and of our community. We are committed to increasing the diversity of the judging pool even if it means that we will hire more judges than necessary.

### HOSPITALITY FEES

**The cost of attending the tournament is a flat \$75 per person—judge/coach (covering entries or not), competitor, or observer.** We prefer to think of it as a "hospitality fee" rather than an entry fee. These fees are determined using a simple formula—the total cost of our hospitality provided on campus/per person (including our campus cleaning fees, food at the coaches reception, one meal Friday, three meals Saturday, breakfast Sunday, lunch for quarterfinals participants, having healthy snacks readily available throughout the tournament, ice cream social, nominal compensation for tabulation staff, supplies, reduction of fees for student-run programs, committing to attracting a qualified and diverse judging pool and high-quality awards).

One judge covers two teams for competition. **Uncovered teams are an additional \$200 fee per team. As usual, we would rather have your judges than your money.** You can pay by cash or check (Payable to: William Jewell College with Debate in memo line). If you are able to pay by credit card, we will send out invoices on Wednesday September 13.

Attached to the invoice will be a credit card payment form. If you fill out the credit card form by Thursday morning (8 AM CST on 9/14), the Business Office can run your Credit Card on Thursday September 14 and we will provide you a receipt when you register on Friday. We are happy to hire judges beyond their commitment at the rate of \$20 per round.

### STUDENT-RUN PROGRAM HOSPITALITY FEES

In an effort to increase participation by schools that historically do not have institutional support, please contact Kyle Dennis ([dennis.k@william.jewell.edu](mailto:dennis.k@william.jewell.edu) or 816-522-8775) to discuss discounted fees.

**ENTRY DEADLINE:**

All entries must be submitted via *tabroom.com* no later than 1:00 PM on Monday, September 11. All changes must be made before noon on Wednesday, September 13. Fees will be calculated at that time. All judge philosophies should be accessible on Tabroom.com by Monday September 11 at 1:00 PM as well. For 2017, we will be placing a premium on judging philosophies being available to students a full five-days before the start of the tournament. Squads with judging philosophies *not* available on Monday September 11 at 1:00 PM will incur a \$100 nuance fee per judge. Questions? Email or call Kyle Dennis at 816-522-8775 (cell) or [dennisk@william.jewell.edu](mailto:dennisk@william.jewell.edu).

**LODGING:**

All of these hotels are at I-35 and Hwy 152 (Kansas Ave.). We have *not* negotiated room blocks to allow for you to have flexibility in choosing your hotel. Most hotels are surrounded by a number of chain restaurants, including Chipotle, Panera, Buffalo Wild Wings, Panda Express, Chili's, Longhorn Steakhouse, as well as number of fast food places, and all-night places like Steak and Shake and Waffle House. Wal-Mart and Target are also nearby. Suggestions for better KC food available if you would like them—better yet, you probably have Yelp on your phone.

**Fairfield Inn by Marriott**

8101 N Church Road (access road to I-35)  
I-35 North and Kansas Ave, Liberty  
(816) 792-4000

**Hampton Inn**

8551 N Church Rd (access road to I-35)  
I-35 North and Kansas Ave., Liberty  
(816) 415-9600

**Holiday Inn Express**

8230 N. Church Road (access road to I-35)  
I-35 North and Kansas Ave., Liberty  
(816) 781-5555

**Comfort Inn and Suites**

8200 N Church Rd (access road to I-35)  
I-35 North and Kansas Ave., Liberty  
(816) 781-7273

Most hotels in Liberty have a rate for events at William Jewell College. Just ask. It will *almost always* be lower than their Priceline or Hotel.com rate. CSU-Pueblo had a *very* bad experience at the Days Inn (209 N. 291 Highway) last year. We would recommend that you avoid this location and the Super 8.

**FINAL ITEMS:**

**We had a great time with our equity and inclusion workshops in the fall of 2016.** However, since folks involved in these areas do not work for free, we have opted not to include these opportunities for the tournament in 2017. Many competitors took a lot from the dedicated meeting time that we planned in 2016, but many members of our community opted not to attend these events. This does not mean that our commitment to equity and inclusion has wavered in any way—simply that budgetary realities for this academic year will not allow us to run this tournament at a \$3-4K loss like we did in 2016. For William Jewell College to continue to be able to be a part of the parliamentary debate community, we have to run this tournament without taking a loss. We hope that this will change in the future as budgetary realities improve.

**We have also opted to move to a 7-round tournament schedule.** In 2016, the field for elimination rounds was set at the conclusion of the first 7 debates. This move allows us to further relax the tournament schedule, prioritizing wellness, and move the doubles debate to Saturday night with Octos and beyond on Sunday. Please make travel accommodations for your squad as you see fit, but this means that teams will generally be able to leave Sunday evening.

**Per 2016 feedback, we will also ask students to participate in topic writing/selection process for the 2017 tournament.** Information on this will be posted on the NPTE/NPDA Facebook Page. Please participate.