

Connecticut Debate Association
Novice Scrimmage
St. Luke's School and Xavier High School
September 28, 2013

The CDA's fourth annual Novice Scrimmage will be held on September 28, 2013, at St. Luke's School in New Canaan and Xavier High School in Middletown. It will consist of a demonstration debate between experienced CDA Varsity teams, a preparation period, and two rounds of debate. The preparation period will be split, with time before the demonstration round to review the resolution and read the packet, and time after the demonstration round to complete case preparation. The two rounds of debate will permit each Novice team to debate once as Affirmative and once as Negative. The detailed schedule is at the end of this note. We expect to finish by 3:30PM, about two hours earlier than a regular tournament.

We will be collecting registrations through Tabroom.Com (www.tabroom.com) as with our regular tournaments. This is the same system used for registration at major national tournaments like the Yale Invitational. Tabroom is pretty easy to use, but we provide some instructions to guide you through the process. If you have problems, you should email us for help.

We have set up three divisions: Novice for novices who will debate; Observer for students who will simply observe; and Varsity for varsity debaters who will judge. Do not enter your Varsity debaters who will judge as judges, because they will not be eligible to judge for the rest of the year. We will provide copies of the packet for all students who attend, so if you want your student to get a packet, they need to be registered either as Novices or as Observers.

Debaters cannot attend individually. Each school's students must be accompanied by a responsible adult and follow their own school's rules regarding attendance at interscholastic events. Tabroom will require you to enter that person's name and cell phone number (cell phone numbers will not be used other than in an emergency on the tournament day). The coach/adult must have emergency contact information for all students on the team, including students judging or observing.

Eligibility: Only students starting debate in the CDA this year will be eligible to debate in the Novice Scrimmage. Second year novices may observe but not debate. Seniors, even if they are new to debate, are not eligible to debate in the Novice Scrimmage, though they may attend as observers.

Judges: Schools must bring one judge for every four debaters, plus one extra. ***For this scrimmage, experienced Varsity debaters may serve as judges.*** Student-judges should have debated at the Varsity level during the 2011-12 season. Since we expect all judges will be students, the Judges Workshop will be oriented toward teaching the Varsity debaters about judging. In order to make sure all Varsity debaters who attend get a chance to judge, we may in some cases assign multiple judges per round if we have more judges than required. So feel free to bring extra Varsity debaters if they would like to attend.

Awards: We will be scoring the debates and returning ballots, but we will not be awarding trophies.

Food: There will be donuts, juice and coffee at registration. Students may purchase food and soft drinks for lunch.

Novice Scrimmage Schedule:

8:15-9 AM	Registration
9-9:20 AM	Preparation I Distribution of resolution and packet. Reading and discussion
9:20-10:50AM	Demonstration round by varsity debaters
10:50-11:30AM	Preparation II / Judges Workshop Finalize cases
11:30AM-1PM	Debate round 1
1-1:30PM	Lunch and discussion
1:30-3PM	Debate round 2
3-3:15PM	Departure