



Dear Debate Community,

On behalf of Louisiana Tech University, the School of Communication, LATech Debate Team, and Louisiana State University Debate Team, we invite you to the inaugural **Virtual Hot & Spicy Tournament, October 17-18, 2020**. The virtual competition will feature Team IPDA. We hope to offer you a fun and educational weekend of virtual debate competition. Tab will be run by the infamous Bob Alexander, Bossier Parish Community College. In the pages that follow, you will find all the details. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Sincerely,
Megan Smith and Kina Reed

For this virtual tournament you MUST cover your entries. Judges must also be able to judge the entire time, we will do our best to give judges some rounds off. Judges are required to stay in the judging pool throughout all elimination rounds, even if their team is out of competition.

Registration:

For registration and tabulation we will utilize forensicstournament.net and if you do not have a team profile in Forensics Tournament.net you will need to create one and invite your team members (competitors and judges). All members must verify their email addresses before they can be entered in the tournament. For judges you must set their ballot preference to “email” since this is a virtual tournament.

Once you have your team set up you can find the registration for our tournament at: www.forensicstournament.net/HotAndSpicyTIPDA/20

*Please make sure to check your judges ballot preference is “email” before Saturday morning before the start of the tournament.

We will utilize Yaatly for the debate rounds, prep, and draw. If you do not have a team page in Yaatly you will need to create one and invite all of your team members (competitors, judges, coaches, and volunteers). All members must verify their email addresses before they can access the tournament. Yaatly only works with the Chrome browser. The link to the tournament will be emailed out to those who have registered for the tournament.

**For resources to help with these virtual platforms visit: <http://www.ipdadebate.info/virtual-debate-resources.html>

Tournament Schedule

Saturday, October 17

9:00: Team Rooms available and Yaatly login may begin

9:30: All Competitors and Judges must be logged into Yaatly and be in the Auditorium Room

10:00: Draw TIPDA Round 1

12:00: Draw TIPDA Round 2

2:00: Break

2:30: Draw TIPDA Round 3

4:30: Draw TIPDA Round 4

Sunday, October 18

10:00: Awards Announced all Competitors and Judges must be logged into Yaatly and be in the Auditorium Room

10:30: Draw TIPDA Elim 1

12:30: Draw Elim 2

2:30: Draw Elim 3

All competitors and judges should be in their competition room 5 minutes before the start of the round and test their audio. If a competitor or judge is not present in the room by the **start of the round please contact Megan Smith through Yaatly chat immediately

***If your internet drops in the middle of a round try to re-enter the competition room first, if this does not work then please contact Megan Smith through Yaatly chat immediately

**** Competitors webcams must be on the entire debate round, and they should not change their backgrounds.

*****Competitors should mute their video during competitor speeches, only during cross-ex should both microphones be turned on. It is useful to use headphones during the round to help ensure everyone can hear you properly. Judges should mute their microphones once the round has started.

*****Oral critiques should not be offered by judges after the round, this is important for keeping the rounds on-time

Event Information

1. **Award Certificates (PDF)** shall be emailed to **all elimination round participants** and the **top five speakers**. The **top three programs** shall receive award certificates (PDF) for sweepstakes and the **top community college** will shall receive an award certificate (PDF) for overall sweepstakes. The top speaker in TIPDA will receive the Gibson Award mailed to them after the tournament (please contact Megan Smith at megan@latech.edu after the tournament with the mailing address for the competitor).
2. **Divisions:** Schools shall not be limited in entries; however, only the top 2 teams will count for sweepstakes awards
 - a. All **Team IPDA Debate** rounds shall follow the 4-2-5-2-5-2-4-2-3-4-4-3 time format with 30 minutes preparation time and follow the rules established under the International Public Debate Association. Four Preliminary rounds and the appropriate number of elimination rounds will be offered.
 - b. If LTU places competitors in the tournament, they will neither be counted toward sweepstakes nor will they be eligible for speaker awards. No LTU competitors will be judged by individuals affiliated with LTU.
3. **Points formula**
 - a. All of a school's top two teams will count toward sweepstakes totals.
 - b. Points will be awarded according to the following formula:
 - i. 6 points for each preliminary round win
 - ii. 6 points for breaking to elimination rounds
 - iii. 5 points for 1st speaker
 - iv. 4 points for 2nd speaker
 - v. 3 points for 3rd speaker
 - vi. 2 points for 4th speaker
 - vii. 1 points for 5th speaker
 - c. **Tiebreakers:**
 - i. **Debate:** For determining competitors advancing to elimination rounds we will look first to the number of wins, second to total speaker points and third to the number of total high/low adjusted speaker points. For determining speaker awards, we will look first to total speaker points and second to high/low adjusted speaker points.
 - ii. **Sweepstakes:** In the event of a sweepstakes tie, we will look first to the number of competitors advancing to elimination rounds, second to prelim round win percentage.
4. **Judges:** Teams MUST cover all of their entries. There are no exceptions. One judge covers up to 2 team entries. **All judges are obligated to judge the entire tournament.** If you team is out of the competition all judges must remain in the judging pool till the end of the tournament. This is to help provide a diverse judging pool through elimination rounds. If judges leave the tournament it will be treated as a withdrawal of your team, and drop fees shall apply

5. **Fees:** TIPDA entries are \$30 each and \$5 for participants who are not judging or competing (one coach per team is free). Changes will be accepted without charge until 12:00 noon, Thursday, October 15, 2020. Any drops or changes after that date until the start of registration will be charged a processing fee of \$15.00 per alteration; only drops will be accepted beginning at 8:00am on Saturday, October 17 and any drop occurring after that time will be charged a processing fee of \$15.00 per alteration.
6. **Entry Deadline:** All entries must be received by Tuesday, October 13, 2020 by 5:00 pm. They must be entered in ForensicsTournament.net, changes will be accepted without charge until 12:00 noon, Thursday, October 15, 2020. Any changes to entries will close on Friday, October 16 at 5:00 pm on TournamentForensics.net. Any changes after October 16 at 5:00 pm should be emailed to Megan Smith at megan@latech.edu
7. **Entry Confirmation:** Entry confirmation will be sent Tuesday evening, October 13, 2020. If you have sent an entry and do not receive a confirmation Tuesday evening please call Megan Smith at 318-843-4214. Complete entry verifications and relevant tournament information will be sent via email by the afternoon of Thursday, October 15, 2020.

Entry Form

All Entries should be submitted at: www.forensicstournament.net/HotAndSpicyTIPDA/20 by Tuesday, October 13, 2020 by 5:00 pm.

All changes to entries after October 16 at 5:00 pm should also be emailed to: megan@latech.edu

****You MUST cover your entries****

Teams	

Judges	

TIPDA Entries

_____ Teams @ \$30.00/team	\$	_____
_____ Participants* @\$5.00/person	\$	_____
_____ Late Fees @\$15/change	\$	_____
	Total \$	_____

*Each program may have one coach at no charge, all other participants that are not competing or judging will be \$5.00 per person

We can only accept checks sent via mail or money transfers via Cash App or Venmo

Checks can be mailed to:
Megan Smith
Louisiana Tech University
205 Mayfield Ave
Ruston, LA 71272

*Please make checks out to Louisiana Tech Debate Team

For Venmo or Cash App information please contact me at megan@latech.edu
Please contact Megan Smith for W-9 at megan@latech.edu

A digital receipt will be available on ForensicsTournament.net

A PDF receipt will be emailed once payment is received

