



CROSS-EXAMINATION DEBATE WINNER'S INFORMATION

To: CX Debate Coaches

From: Jana Riggins, State Speech & Debate Director
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Congratulations to you and your debaters for qualifying for UIL's 108th state debate meet. We look forward to seeing you in Austin and wish you the best! The state documents should answer many of your questions. Official programs will be available at registration and should be followed at the meet. Additional information is posted online.

Required Certification Form

In districts with only one school entered in the district meet, first place advances to State only if the high school principal certifies that the team has competed in a minimum of eight competitive interschool debate rounds prior to the certification deadline. If your district had fewer than 8 teams competing, the 2nd place team advances to State only if the high school principal certifies that the team has competed in a minimum of 8 competitive interschool debate rounds prior to the certification deadline. The certification form **must be filled out online through the UIL website: www.uiltexas.org/speech**, no later than February 15, 2018.

Required Judges

For the CX Debate State Meet, the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules* requires that each school participating provide an experienced judge for each team that qualifies. Failure to meet these judging requirements can result in disqualification. If you qualify 2 teams, you should contact Jana Riggins immediately following district competition.

Required Judging Forms

Judging Forms must be filled out online through the UIL website: www.uiltexas.org/speech. Online registration is efficient and allows us to accurately track each form when it is submitted. The *Qualifiers Required Judging and Philosophy Information* form indicates the judge(s) you will provide for State Meet, including contact information. We prefer trained educators in state meet rounds, so we encourage you as the coach to serve as judge if you have judged multiple rounds this season on the current topic.

The information from the Philosophy Section of the form is made available to debaters so they have an opportunity to adapt their presentational style to individual judges. We include the judge philosophy section exactly as you submit it so think carefully what you write! **Submit the online form within 10 calendar days following your district meet. Schools with 2 judges should submit paperwork on both judges within this deadline. February 15 is the final deadline to avoid being subject to a \$100 late fee or disqualification.** Thank you for your attention to this deadline. It helps guarantee qualified judges for all the State Meet debaters. Call if you have questions.

Judges in conferences A, AA, and AAA should pick up assignments and ballots beginning on Monday, March 12, at 8:30 a.m. See tentative schedule posted online for location. Judges for conferences AAAA, AAAAA and AAAAAA should pick up assignments and ballots beginning on Friday, March 16, at 8:30 a.m. See tentative schedule for location.

Alternates and Penalties for No-Shows

The *Contest Rules* requires that a coach notify the state contest director if a team cannot compete. **Notify both your district director and Jana Riggins at UIL** as soon as possible. An academic coach who fails to notify the state contest director that a team will not compete is in violation of the Academic Contest Ethics Code and the school shall be disqualified from team debate for the current academic competition and such violations may be grounds for suspension from team debate for the following year. (See *Contest Rules*)

If you have questions, please call or email me at the League office. Have a safe trip to Austin, and best of luck at State!



For Alternates Only

Third place teams are alternates. Here are answers to questions you may have about your role as alternate to the UIL Cross-Examination Debate State Meet.

How soon will I know if I can compete?

This is a difficult question to answer. Most qualifiers who cannot attend will call the District Director as soon as they know they will not compete at State. In case of emergencies, however, your school may be notified closer to the date of competition. There are penalties for failure to notify the state contest director that a team will not compete. Our advice is to be prepared and keep hoping!

Who will call me?

Your District Director or Jana Riggins, State Director, will contact your principal. If you get the message through informal channels, have your principal call your District Director and the other school to confirm. The District Director will contact Jana Riggins at the League office with the change.

Am I eligible to fill any vacant slot in the contest?

No. You may only compete if a qualifier from your district and conference is unable to attend the CX State Meet. In the event a qualifier from your district and conference is unable to attend State, you must be able to provide the League with the completed certification form found online and in your coach's packet, if applicable to your district.

Should I attend State Meet anyway?

It's up to you, your parents, your academic coach, and your principal. If your school is sending contestants and your attendance is not an undue financial burden, State Meet is full of opportunities for enrichment through the competition and at the museums, exhibits, and activities on campus and in the city of Austin.

May I watch debates if I come?

Yes, and you are welcome to serve as a timekeeper if you are capable and willing. Debate is open to the public and audiences are welcome. However, you should read carefully the rules for CX debate that prohibit spectators from taking notes except in the final rounds. The League discourages students from listening to rounds in their own conference if other debaters from their school are competing in the State Meet.

Are alternates eligible to apply for TILF scholarships?

No, not unless they are substituted for an absent competitor and actually compete in the State Meet. Only those debaters who advance to the elimination rounds are eligible to apply for a TILF scholarship. Brochures from the TILF office will be available at the meet.

We hope that your competitive debate experience has been worthwhile and that you can reflect on your year with pride and pleasure.