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 111th state debate meet. Due to the pandemic, the State Championship will be a virtual meet. Continue to check the CX Debate State Tournament webpage for updates.

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. Consult the CX Debate State Tournament page for additional information concerning qualifier requirements. The certification form must be filled out online through the UIL website: www.uiltexas.org/speech/debate, no later than February 18, 2021.

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/debate. 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. We encourage you as the coach to serve as judge.

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 18 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.

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.

CX Winner's Info 2021
CROSS-EXAMINATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Judges

We encourage coaches to serve as the required judge. However, if you have secured someone other than yourself to fulfill a judging obligation for your school, please see that they complete the required judging forms by the deadline and that they are provided with a tentative schedule and the current UIL rules for CX debate. If the individual covering your school’s judging obligation judges on other debate tournament circuits, it is imperative that you orient them to specific UIL CX rules which differ from those circuits. Participants and coaches at UIL State expect the standards specified in the Constitution and Contest Rules. Please take the responsibility of informing your judge of these important particulars. If you have questions concerning judging qualifications or requirements, please call. The expertise and maturity of the judging pool is critical to the quality of your state meet.

Judging Paradigm

Judging a debate is subjective and opinions about how to evaluate a debate are numerous. However, like any public speaker, debaters must analyze and adapt to their audience. For the State Meet, a summary spreadsheet listing each judges’ preferences as indicated on their CX Debate Judge Questionnaire will be posted online for state qualifiers to access. Your careful completion of this questionnaire will allow debate teams the opportunity to be aware of and adapt to your judging preferences.

A judging paradigm is a way of examining a debate. The most widely used debate judging paradigms include:

- **Policy making:** the judge acts as a legislator who must vote for the best policy offered in the debate, focusing on the affirmative plan
- **Stock issues:** the judge acts as a juror who evaluates whether or not the affirmative has satisfied the stock issues in the debate
- **Tabula rasa:** the judge acts as a “blank slate” with no preconceived opinions, leaving it to the debaters to demonstrate which is the better voting paradigm

The descriptions listed provide only a brief summary of these leading theories. Most debate textbooks and online resources explore these judging paradigms in greater depth.

The state judging form includes a scale for registering your preferences concerning delivery, quantity of arguments, counterplans, etc. There is also a comment box. We ask that you use this comment space to specifically address your judging paradigm, rather than discussing only presentation style.

Virtual Platform

The tournament management system and video platform will be posted on the State Tournament webpage prior to the tournament. Continue to check for information and updates.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: UIL State Cross-Examination Debate Meet
Contact:
Date:

DATELINE________________________ has qualified ____________________________
(Your school name) (number)
students for the 2020-21 University Interscholastic League State Cross-Examination Debate Meet

Qualifiers include:
(LIST STUDENT AND PLACE WON AT DISTRICT CROSS-EXAMINATION MEET)

“UIL debate competition motivates students and provides them with practical application for the skills they are developing,” said Jana Riggins, UIL State Debate Director. “This year’s debate topic prompted students to research and form their own thoughts and opinions on the real-world issue our government is challenged with: Resolved: The United States federal government should enact substantial criminal justice reform in the United States in one or more of the following: forensic science, policing, sentencing.”

Through participation at the UIL Cross-Examination State Meet, students who advance to the debate elimination rounds qualify for Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarships. Since its inception in 1959, the TILF has provided more than $33 million to more than 21,000 students. Amounts of scholarships range from $500 for one year to $20,000 over four years. This year TILF will disperse more than $1 million to more than 600 students. The TILF has over $11 million in endowed funds and receives direct scholarship grants each year of more than $800,000 from foundations, individuals and corporate sponsors throughout the state.

For more information, contact _______________________
(Local School Administrator)

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