







BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY DEBATE SOCIETY Listen. THINK. Argue.



GUIDELINES FOR BHSDC PARTICIPANTS

REGISTRATION FOR THE TOURNAMENT

- The tournament registration will be divided into three phases: Phase 1 for pre-registration,
 Phase 2 for settlement of payments and confirmation of participation, and Phase 3 for arrangement of final considerations.
- Phase 1 will begin on December 12, 2022, and end at December 31, 2022. At this stage, publicity materials will be uploaded via the organization's official Facebook page. Attached will be the link for the registration form. The participants will register as teams under the name of their respective institutions. Consequently, communication will be done with the participants and their institution representatives (advisers/trainers).
- Phase 2 will begin on January 2, 2023 and end on February 3, 2023. The registration fee must be paid within this period through the provided payment method by the organization. An invoice will be e-mailed to the participants and institution representatives who registered during Phase 1. Failure to settle the fees within this period will result to the forfeiture of the slot.
- Phase 3 will begin on February 6, 2023 and end on February 17, 2023. During this period, concerns (e.g. internet connection, declaration of conflict with adjudicators) must be forwarded to the organizational committee for resolution.
- Debate rounds shall be conducted face-to-face at Bulacan State University. Room assignments
 for each round shall be given during match up announcements. More detailed instructions
 regarding the tournament flow shall be announced on the day of the tournament.

Ratified by:

SAMUEL TRISTAN UY

President, BSUDS

TYRONE GABRIELLE G. ARENAS
Tournament Director, BHSDC 2023

Noted by:

MR. MASAHIRO KOBAYASHI Adviser, BSUDS MR. DANNY ZAPATA Adviser, BSUDS







Mechanics for the Bulacan High School Debate Championship

Sec. 1. Name of the Tournament. — This tournament shall be dubbed the Bulacan High School Debate Championship.

Sec. 2. Calendar of the Tournament. – This tournament shall take place annually, with the first day of the tournament taking place in the final Saturday of the month of February.

Sec. 3. Participants. – The tournament shall be open to all debaters enrolled at any high school institutions situated in Bulacan.

Swing Team – In case the number of participating teams should be an odd number, a swing team shall be assembled composing of volunteer debaters from participating schools, of volunteer debaters from the observers, of members of the host debate society, and or from members of the organizing committee; with priority given to volunteers in that order.

Ironman – In cases where a member of any participating team will not be able to participate in any round, his/her teammates shall be given the option to forfeit the round or to have one debater take on two or three speakership roles.

In the latter case, the debater taking on more than one speakership role shall be given the choice to decide which speech to be tabulated as the speaker's individual score for that round. The rest of the speeches covered shall be graded with a floor score of 69 only in the final tabulation. Ironpersoning shall not warrant an automatic loss for any given preliminary round.

Sec. 4. Technical Difficulties – In case a participant disconnects from the match during their speech, the timer shall be paused and the disconnected participant shall be given a maximum of five (5) minutes to reconnect to the match to continue. If the participant fails to reconnect, one debater from the team will take their part. The speakers will still be graded according to the rules set by Section 3.

In case a participant disconnects during someone else's speech, their teammates shall inform the adjudicator immediately. The participant shall be given a maximum of three (3) minutes to reconnect to the match; the debater speaking in that period will pause, as well as the timer, and wait for the disconnected participant to reconnect within the allotted waiting period. If the participant fails to reconnect, it is their teammates' burden to take notes and inform the participant of what occurred during the disconnection.

In case the chief adjudicator disconnects from the match, the adjudicator must inform the organizing committee right away. The tech team shall then relay the information to the participants and wait for a maximum of five (5) minutes for the adjudicator to reconnect. If the chief adjudicator fails to reconnect within the allotted waiting time, the organizing committee will assign a new chair, and the round must restart for fairness of judgment. To limit these instances, chief adjudicators with unstable internet connection shall be accompanied by a panelist.





Sec. 5. Format of the Debate Rounds. — Debate rounds, both for the preliminary and break rounds shall subscribe to the Asian Parliamentary format of debate.

For the purposes of this document, the Asian Parliamentary format shall be defined as one participated in by a Government side composing of the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Government Whip; and an Opposition composing of the Leader of the Opposition, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the Opposition Whip.

Each of these speakers shall be entitled to a seven (7)-minute speech, with the Prime Minister speaking first to open the debate, the Leader of the Opposition going second, then the Deputy Prime Minister; the Deputy Leader of the Opposition; the Government Whip and finally, the Opposition Whip.

Each debate round shall be concluded with four (4)-minute Reply Speeches coming from one of the first two speakers of the respective sides, with the opposition side presenting their reply first and the government second.

Sec. 6. Points of Information – Points of information may also be raised during each 7-minute speech of the opposing party, between after the first minute and before the last minute.

Points of Information shall last no longer than fifteen (15) seconds and be offered at least one (1) minute in between.

Points of Information may also be rejected by an ongoing speaker, and if so, no subsequent points of information may be raised until after at least fifteen (15) seconds from such rejection.

Sec. 7. Scoring of Debaters. — Debaters shall be graded, with score ranging between sixty-seven (69) and eighty-three (81), in accordance to the following standards:

Score		Interpretation
Above Average	81	Plausibly one of the best debating speeches ever given, flawless and astonishingly compelling in every regard. It is incredibly difficult to think up satisfactory responses to any of the arguments made.
	79-80	Brilliant arguments successfully engage with the main issues in the round. Arguments are very well-explained, always central to the case being advocated, and demand extremely sophisticated responses. The speech is very clear and incredibly compelling. Structure and role fulfillment were executed flawlessly.
	78	Very good, central arguments engage well with the most important issues on the table and are highly compelling; sophisticated responses would be required to refute them. Delivery is clear and very persuasive. Role fulfillment and structure probably flawless.
	77	Relevant and pertinent arguments address key issues in the round with sufficient explanation. The speech is clear in almost its entirety, and holds



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one's attention persuasively. Role is well-fulfilled and structure is unlikely to be problematic.

Slightly Above Average

Arguments are almost exclusively relevant, and frequently persuasive. Occasionally, but not often, the speaker may slip into: i) deficits in explanation, ii) simplistic argumentation vulnerable to competent responses or iii) peripheral or irrelevant arguments. The speaker holds one's attention, provides clear structure, and successfully fulfills their basic role.

75 Average

Slightly Below Average

Arguments are generally relevant, and some explanation of them given, but there may be obvious gaps in logic, multiple points of peripheral or irrelevant material and simplistic argumentation. The speaker mostly holds the audience's attention and is usually clear, but rarely compelling, and may sometimes be difficult to follow. There is a decent but incomplete attempt to fulfill one's role on, and structure may be imperfectly delivered.

Below Average

Relevant arguments are frequently made but with very rudimentary explanation. The speaker is clear enough to be understood the vast majority of the time, but this may be difficult and/or unrewarding. Structure poor; poor attempt to fulfill role.

- The speaker is often relevant, but rarely makes full arguments. Frequently unclear and confusing; really problematic structure/lack thereof; some awareness of role.
- 71 The speech rarely makes relevant claims, only occasionally formulated as arguments. Hard to follow, little/no structure; no evident awareness of role.
- 69-70 Content is almost never relevant, and is both confusing and confused. No structure or fulfillment of role is, in any meaningful sense, provided.

Sec. 8. Preliminary Rounds — The Preliminary Rounds of the Tournament shall consist of 5 debate rounds.

Match-ups shall be decided in the following manner:

- a) For the first round, random; and
- b) For the succeeding rounds, based on number of wins and aggregate team scores.

Sec. 9. The Quarter-Finals – By the end of the preliminary rounds, the 8 highest ranking teams will enter the Quarter Finals.

Team ranks shall be decided initially by the number of elimination rounds won by each team. Should there be a tie in the number of rounds won by each team, the conflict shall be resolved in favor of the team with the higher total cumulative individual scores during the preliminary rounds.







Should there be teams with equal number of team scores and cumulative individual scores, the conflict shall be decided with a tie breaker round.

Match-ups shall be decided according to these rules:

- a) Teams ranking in odd numbers shall take the government side and those ranked in even numbers shall take the opposition side;
- b) Match ups shall be folded, that is, the first breaking team shall be put against the eighth breaking team, the second breaking team against the seventh breaking team, and so on.

Sec. 10. The Semi-finals — Four (4) Teams, winning in the Quarter-Finals, shall ascend to the Semi-finals, with rankings and match-ups to be decided in the manner as that in the Quarter-Finals.

Sec. 11. The Championship. - Two (2) Teams, winning in the Semi-Finals, shall ascend to the Championship.

Sec. 11. Balagtas Cup — In addition to the Open Cup, a separate break category shall be dubbed as the Balagtas Cup. The Balagtas Cup shall be participated in by four teams from non-open breaking institutions. Qualifiers for the Balagtas Cup shall break straight to semi-finals. The organizing committee reserves the right to adjust the break cap depending on the total number of participating institutions and the composition of Open Breaks.

Sec. 12. Motions for the Tournament – Motions for the tournament shall be formulated by the Organizing Committee.

Sec. 13, Veto

- a) For the Elimination Rounds, the Quarter Finals and the Semifinals Three (3) motions shall be flashed prior to the debate rounds, to be ranked by each team from 1 to 3 the latter being the lowest. Motions receiving the highest rank are to be debated for the immediate round. In case of a tie, the conflict shall be decided in favor of the Government side.
- b) For the Championship No veto shall be made; and the motion shall be decided by the Organizing Committee.

Sec. 14. Awards. - The following awards shall be given to participants, provided they accomplished the corresponding requirements.

Awards	Requirement
Champion	The debate team winning the Championship Round
Finalist	The debate team making it to the Championship Round, without winning said round.
Semi-Finalist	Two (2) teams making it to the Semi-final Round without making it past said round.





Quarterfinalist

Four (4) teams making it to the Quarterfinals round without making it past

said round.

Finals Best Debater

The debater, deemed by the Championship Round Adjudicators, to have

presented the best case.

Finals Best Speaker

The debater attaining the highest individual score average in the

Championship Round.

The individual score average shall be determine by adding scores given by the Championship Round Adjudicators then dividing the total score by

the number of said adjudicators.

Preliminary Rounds

1st - 10th Best Speaker in the Ten (10) non-breaking debaters attaining the highest cumulative individual

score in the preliminary rounds.

Ratified by:

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