



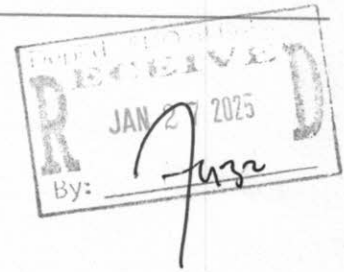
**BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY
DEBATE SOCIETY**
Listen. Think. Argue
A.Y. 2023 - 2024



January 24, 2025

NORMA P. ESTEBAN, Ed.D., CESO V

Schools Division Superintendent- DepEd Malolos I



Greetings,


The **Bulacan State University Debate Society (BSUDS)** – pioneer debate organization in Bulacan and recognized by the Office of Student Organization (OSO) as one of the Outstanding Organizations within Bulacan State University (BulSU) – is an organization that aims to raise socio-political awareness and to spread critical thinking culture through debate and argumentation. Part of its legacy is to provide an avenue for students to develop their ability in reasonable judgment and speaking skills, gearing them up to be heard.

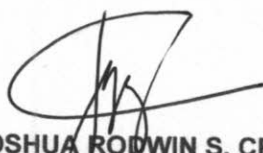
As we constantly reach beyond greater heights and hone young Bulakenyo debaters, BSUDS aims to conduct the **16th Bulacan High School Debate Championship (BHSDC)** this year, embracing the theme **"Liberty in Thought."** The tournament, if so allowed, shall take place on **March 22–23, 2025** on the premises of **Bulacan State University - Main Campus**, welcoming aspiring debaters from various high schools within Bulacan. This friendly competition aims to promote debate culture in Bulacan by providing an avenue for students to speak up about a range of societal issues.

This letter is to humbly ask your good office to **endorse** such a tournament to different schools within the Province of Bulacan.

Your support to the Bulacan State University Debate Society in its endeavor to strengthen our society's thinking culture is highly appreciated. Thank you.


Respectfully yours,


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Schools Division Office of Bulacan	
ADVISORY	
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For information,	
NORMA P. ESTEBAN, EdD, CESO V	
Schools Division Superintendent	
Office of the School Division Superintendent	



Bulacan State University Debate Society

Recognition No. 01-015

Mechanics for the Bulacan High School Debate Championship

Section 1. Name of the Tournament. – This tournament shall be referred to as the Bulacan High School Debate Championship.

Sec. 2. Calendar of the Tournament. – This tournament shall take place on March 22-23, 2025.

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

Sec. 3.1. Swing Team – In case the number of participating teams should be an odd number, a swing team shall be assemble composing of volunteer debaters from participating schools, from volunteer debaters from the observers, from members of the host universities debate society, and or from members of the organizing committee; with priority given to volunteers in that order.

Sec. 3.2. Iron Person Policy – 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 iron person's highest score in all of his/her speakership roles shall be recorded as his individual score for the immediate round and the rest of the speakership roles shall be recorded as the floor score of 69.

Sec. 4. Venue of the Tournament – This tournament shall be held in Bulacan State University Main Campus.

Sec. 4.1. The tournament shall convene in E-Library Amphitheater for Day 1, and Valencia Hall for Day 2. All important announcements shall be disseminated in the said venue.

Sec. 4.2. The debate rounds shall be conducted on available rooms in Mendoza Hall.

Sec. 5. Format of the Debate Rounds. – Debate rounds, be it for the eliminations, quarter-finals, semifinals, or championships, will subscribe to the **Asian Parliamentary** format of debate.

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

Each of these speakers will be entitled to a **seven (7) minute** speech, with the Prime Minister speaking first to opening the debate, the Leader of the Opposition to speak after

him, then the Deputy Prime Minister; the Deputy Leader of the Opposition; the Government Whip and finally, the Opposition Whip.

Each Debater Round shall be concluded with **four (4) minute** replies coming from one of the first 2 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, after the first minute but before the last minute.

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

Point of Information may also be rejected by the immediate speaker, and such 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
81-83	All of the speech was relevant to the debate, the responses were damaging to the other teams, and the substantiation was quite rigorous and concretized
77-80	All of the speech was relevant to the debate, the responses were generally strong, and the substantiation was generally rigorous and concretized
74-76	All or most of the speech was relevant to the debate, the responses were generally sound and logical, and the substantiation was generally sound and logical A score of 74 means a speaker is less persuasive. A score of 76 means a speaker is more persuasive.
70-73	All or most of the speech was relevant to the debate but the responses were generally dismissive or weak and/or the substantiation was generally illogical
67-69	All or most of the speech was irrelevant to the debate, absolutely or mostly not responsive, absolutely or mostly no substantiation

Sec. 8. Elimination Rounds – The Elimination Phase of the Tournament shall consist of 5 debate rounds. Match-ups shall be decided in the following manner:

- For the First Round, random;
- For the Second and Third Rounds, by number of previous rounds won; and
- For the Fourth and Final Rounds, by cumulative individual scores per team.

Sec. 9. The Open Quarterfinals, Young Laurel's Cup Semifinals, and Balagtas Cup Semifinals – By the end of the Elimination Phase of the Tournament, the 8 highest ranking teams will enter the Open Quarterfinals, the 4 highest ranking junior-teams will enter the Young Laurel's Cup Semifinals, and the 4 highest-ranking teams who do not qualify for Open and Young Laurel's Cup will proceed to Balagtas Cup Semifinals.

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 won by each team, the conflict shall be resolved in favor the team with the members achieving highest cumulative individual scores for the entirety of the Elimination 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 in accordance to the team ranks with the:

- a) Teams ranking in odd numbers taking government side and those with ranked in even numbers taking opposition side
- b) The first and second ranking competing with one another; the third and the fourth; and so on.

Sec. 10. The Open Semifinals, Young Laurel's Cup Finals, and Balagtas Cup Finals – the 4 winning teams in Open Quarterfinals shall ascend in Open Semifinals; the 2 winning teams in Young Laurel's Cup Semifinals shall ascend to Young Laurel's Cup Finals; and the 2 winning teams from Balagtas Cup Semifinals shall ascend to Balagtas Cup Finals.

The match-ups of Open Semifinals shall be decided in the manner as that in the Open Quarterfinals.

Sec. 11. The Championship. – The two (2) teams winning in the Open Semifinals shall ascend to the Championship.

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
Grand Champion	The debate team who won the Championship Round
Grand Finalist	The debate team who ascended but did not win the Championship Round
Open Semifinalist	The two (2) teams who ascended to the Open Semifinal Round but did not qualify to the succeeding round.
Open Quarterfinalist	The four (4) teams who ascended to the Open Quarterfinal Round but did not qualify to the succeeding rounds.

Finals Best Debater	The debater who presented the best case in the Championship Round
Finals Best Speaker	<p>The debater who attained the highest individual score average in the Championship Round</p> <p>The individual score average shall be determined by adding scores given by the Championship Round Adjudicators then dividing the total score by the number of said adjudicators.</p>
Young Laurel's Cup Champion	The debate team who won the Young Laurel's Cup Finals.
Young Laurel's Cup Finalist	The debate team who ascended but did not win the Young Laurel's Cup Finals.
Young Laurel's Cup Semifinalist	The two (2) teams who ascended to the Young Laurel's Cup Semifinal Round but did not qualify to the succeeding round.
Balagtas Cup Champion	The debate team who won the Balagtas Cup Finals.
Balagtas Cup Finalist	The debate team who ascended but did not win the Balagtas Cup Finals.
Balagtas Cup Semifinalist	The two (2) teams who ascended to the Balagtas Cup Semifinal Round but did not qualify to the succeeding round.
1st – 10th Best Speaker in the Elimination Rounds	<p>Ten (10) debaters attaining the highest cumulative individual score in the Elimination Rounds.</p> <p>Should there be a tie, the conflict shall be resolved in favor of the debater attaining the highest cumulative individual score in the Quarterfinals and the Semifinals.</p>