



# The 35th Liberty Bell Classic University of Pennsylvania

Dear Coaches and Contestants,

## **PENN FOR YOUTH DEBATE**

Penn for Youth Debate is a student organization at Penn dedicated to promoting youth debate education in the greater Philadelphia area.

Comprised of high school forensics alumni and those dedicated to high school forensics, PYD is an incredible group of students wishing to give back to the forensics community.

PYD's activities include providing volunteer debate coaches to Philadelphia public schools, hosting debate competitions in Philadelphia, and providing training programs in the Philadelphia area.

## **2010 LBC STAFF**

Alex Anderson  
*Tournament Director*

Katie Poulos  
*Tournament Director*

Ali Huberlie  
*Tournament Director*

Mike Contillo  
*Logistics Director*

Amy Wei  
*Logistics Director*

Penn for Youth Debate invites you to attend the 2010 Liberty Bell Classic, the 35<sup>th</sup> annual LBC and the *first* LBC to be held in the month of February! This year, we have moved the tournament to a new weekend, February 13-14<sup>th</sup>. We are aiming to offer an uniquely on-time, affordable, and quality competition on this weekend. We have early commitments to attend from schools from throughout the Northeast, as well as Virginia, the Carolinas, and Florida. The LBC is a great opportunity to visit our beautiful city, and to find out what our university has to offer students. Finally, all proceeds from the tournament go to promote urban high school debate programs in Philadelphia, thus staying within the high school forensics community.

The LBC offers the following categories of competition: Lincoln-Douglas Debate (both Varsity and Novice), Policy Debate, Public Forum Debate, Student Congress, Oratory, Oral Interpretation, Dramatic Performance, Extemp, Duo Interp, and Declamation. There will be four prelim rounds in individual Speech events, three prelim sessions in Congress, five prelims in Policy, and we will again be offering six prelim rounds in both divisions of Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum.

Tab will be directed for the fourth year by Chris Palmer of Newton South High School in Massachusetts. He will be joined again by Jonathan Chavez, also of Newton South, who will be directing IE Events, and for the first time by Jim Menick of Hendrick Hudson High School and Sheryl Kaczmarek of Newburgh Free Academy in New York, who direct the debate events, as well as other tabulation staff to be determined. Our tab directors run most of the other invitationals in the Northeast, and as key members of the high school community, they are particularly experienced in how to manage a predictable, familiar and high quality tournament.

We'll also be continuing our popular Cheesesteak lunch, and will continue to expand the tournament into more buildings on campus. We are also exploring providing some optional educational workshops or lectures for students and coaches during the tournament; updates will be posted on our website.

The latest updates will also be on our website at <http://upenn.tabroom.com>. If you have any questions, please email us at [penn@tabroom.com](mailto:penn@tabroom.com). If the concern is urgent, you may contact Ali Huberlie by phone at 603-321-6184.

Best,

Alex Anderson, Katie Poulos, Ali Huberlie, Mike Contillo and Amy Wei



# *The 35th Liberty Bell Classic* *University of Pennsylvania*

This year's competition will feature the events described below. Debate or congress students may not double enter, but Speech students may enter in up to three different events. Students may not use the same interp piece/source material in more than one event. Cross-entered students will be responsible for making all their rounds on time.

Breaks in the LDs and PF are usually to octos. Last year we broke Policy to quarters, but an octo isn't out of the question either. Depending on how life rolls out, the finals in some divisions might occur during/after the awards ceremony; if folks can't stay late enough, we'll award co-championships. We'll be generally more inclined to skip the final than to have a ridiculously small and probably unfair initial elim break. Debate results will be posted during the tournament on a round by round basis

## **Varsity and Novice Lincoln-Douglas Debate**

The resolution will be the January-February National Forensic League topic. Debaters will have 5 minutes of prep time. LD will feature six prelim rounds. Novice LD is for students in their first year of high school forensics only.

## **Policy Debate**

There will be a single, open division of policy debate. Teams will have ten minutes of prep time. Policy will feature five preliminary rounds.

## **Public Forum Debate**

There will be a single, open division of public forum debate. The topic will be the February NFL topic. In years past, the PF division has held an automatic Semifinals bid to the TOC; we've also qualified for an automatic quarterfinals TOC bid and hope to continue to do so this year. PF will feature six preliminary rounds.

## **Student Congress**

There will be a single, open division of Student Congress. Chambers will be comprised of no more than 25 members. Legislation must be emailed to [pennbills@tabroom.com](mailto:pennbills@tabroom.com) by **7 PM on February 3rd, 2010**. Legislation must include the name of the school and the author. Only one bill may be submitted by each student. Legislation from authors not registered for the tournament, or legislation that has not been received by the deadline cannot be included. We will publish the legislation on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup>. Congress will feature three prelim sessions.

## **Speech Events:**

IE will offer competition in DP, Duo, OI, Dec, OO and Extemp. All events will follow **National Catholic Forensic League** rules and guidelines with a few exceptions. We will use NCFL requirements for published material in IEs. The grace period will be 30 seconds for all speech events. Any IE participant who exceeds the grace may not receive a rank of 1 in the round; any further penalty will be at the discretion of the judge. A participant may only be penalized for a time violation if the judge has used a precise timing device and notes the penalty on the ballot.

IE students competing in the wrong competition room will receive the last place rank in the round they competed in. The other students in the room will have their scores adjusted upwards to correct for the student who went into the wrong room. Speech tabbing will be cumulative throughout the tournament, dropping the lowest



# *The 35th Liberty Bell Classic* *University of Pennsylvania*

prelim score after the first break round. The Extemp final round will feature cross-examination in accordance with NFL rules. Extemp topic areas will be on our website around January 1<sup>st</sup>. Extempers are responsible for the accuracy of their citations, and must be prepared to present the sources they used to their judges or the tournament.

*All rules are subject to change. The tournament will make you aware of any changes at registration.*

**The Brotherly Love Award** will be given out to the team that travels the farthest distance to the LBC as a thank you for showing such dedication to forensics and the LBC. This will be determined by multiplying the distance between the high school address and Houston Hall's address as determined by Google with the number of competitors (teams count as two competitors).

**The University of Pennsylvania Dedicated Service to Forensics Award** will be awarded to prominent individuals who have dedicated themselves to the forensics community. This award may be given to active or retired coaches, parents who have judged at tournaments long after their children have graduated, or philanthropists who have generously given back to the forensics community. There are many individuals in our community who have given so much to transform students' lives. Penn for Youth Debate will recognize individuals every year with this award. To nominate an individual for this award, please email [pfyd@perspectivesdebate.org](mailto:pfyd@perspectivesdebate.org) with the subject "Dedicated Service to Forensics Award" and include the nominee's:

1. Name
2. Email address
3. Phone number
4. An explanation of their dedication to forensics and why they deserve the award

## **CHEESESTEAKS!**

We love Philadelphia. We love bright, flashy lights. And we love greasy food. But tournaments are busy times, and chances are you won't necessarily have time to go get a cheesesteak of your own. So we'll be taking your orders for cheesesteaks through registration, and we'll head down to one of Philadelphia's finest cheesesteak outlets and deliver them to you at lunchtime on Saturday. And we're not taking a cut; the cost you'll pay is the cost of the cheesesteak itself, nothing more.

## **Judging Requirements**

Teams should bring one qualified judge for every 3 LDers or PF teams, every 2 Policy teams, and every 5 Speech entries, rounded up in the case of fractional obligations. Teams with Congress entries must bring 1 Congress judge. You may not cover VLD entries with Novice-only judges. Congress judges may be swapped into another judging pool; please indicate which other pool a Congress judge would like to judge if we cannot use him/her in Congress when registering. Likewise, qualified Speech judges may also be asked to judge Congress. Judges in all divisions are obligated to stay and judge one round past any round in which their students are actively competing. We will assume judges are staying past their obligation unless we hear otherwise: let us know if you are leaving.



## *The 35th Liberty Bell Classic* *University of Pennsylvania*

Keep in mind that a “qualified judge” understands the activity, speaks English, and is either experienced sitting in the back of the room with a ballot or flow pad as the case may be, or else has been carefully trained by the team he or she is accompanying. A qualified judge knows how to assign ranks or wins/losses, speaker points, and knows how to fill out a ballot. If you need some instructional materials in advance for your lay judges, feel free to use ours (visit <http://upenn.tabroom.com>), but please do not try to sneak in an untrained ringer. When you provide an incompetent judge, we usually find out about it only after a number of competitors have been, in a word, shafted, while you have been basking in the glow of judging by trained or experienced judges. This does not respect us, or the community, very much at all. We’ll likely respond in kind.

We're also committed to hiring – and *using!* – a quality pool of judging across divisions. To aid us in that effort, the registration system will ask you to explicitly request judge hires. Please request early; we will not harm the quality of our tournament by oversubscribing hired judging as certain other tournaments do. You may add judges to the tournament at any time, but because of the logistical challenges involved, **judges dropped after registration is frozen on February 11th, even if you drop students to compensate, will incur a fee you will not want to pay.**

We’ll also be asking for judge cell numbers on registration, if you have them. Please collect as many as you can from your judges. Schools whose judges fail to appear for an assigned round will be fined \$25 for a prelim or \$50 for an elim. Judges fined may work it off by judging rounds beyond their assignment. We don't want your money, we want judges to show up. However, schools with unpaid fines will not be given ballots or awards, and will be prevented from registering at other Northeast tournaments until those fines are paid.

To maintain a level of usability in the Varsity LD judge pool, we ask that each varsity judge be rated by you when you pre-register online. This year we will also offer **community ratings and strikes** in Varsity LD. Any Varsity LDer with proper judge coverage (yours or hired), will be able to strike 3 judges. A complete judge list will be posted as soon as possible after the closing of registration. We will note on the list the rankings given by the submitting schools. If you say your judge is a 1, that’s what the list will say. Strikes must be in our hands by 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10th in order to be included in Round 1. Please register your strikes on tabroom.com in registration once the judge list is posted; if you’re not getting a strike option when you go into your online registration, it probably means your judging is not covered; you need to do that first.

Any LDer who has made strikes but whose own judges fail to materialize at the tournament, will forfeit their strikes. Other students will be allowed to enter strikes at the registration table on February 12th, but we can only guarantee that their strikes will go into effect by round 3. Strikes may not last through elimination rounds, but we’ll see what we can do. Usually this is not a problem.

**LD Community rankings:** In an effort to equalize the judging pool without giving any particular advantage to anyone, we use a system of ranking the judges by popular consent. Our belief is that "A" judges should be adjudicating so-called bubble rounds (down 1 or 2), as these are the debaters still in contention for elimination



# *The 35th Liberty Bell Classic* *University of Pennsylvania*

rounds. "C" judges are best placed for adjudicating where the stakes are less high. And "Bs" fit where they fit. Rather than the tab room deciding arbitrarily who's what on our own initiative, we will leave it to you. We will post a list of judges (with their 1, 2, or 3 ratings) on February 8th. Each school (not each individual) may rate each judge A, B or C. We will simply rank a judge where he or she gets the majority of votes; that is, no complicated math, just rate them as the arithmetic sees them. We set no limits; you can rank as many as you want whatever you want. Rankings are due with strikes, by Wednesday, February 10th at 9:00 p.m, and may similarly be entered on [tabroom.com](http://tabroom.com). As for elimination rounds, we will pair as equitably as possible; every round should get the same proportion of A/B/C.

Judges added to the list after 2/7 will be ranked by the tab room.

**Paradigms:** Judges may or may not publish paradigms as they see fit, although we urge them to do so, but in either case, they should be willing to indicate to competitors before a round a general sense of their vision of LD (if any) or a sense of their experience, to aid competitors in choosing how best to make their arguments. Judges publishing paradigms, however, will likely be rated somewhat higher, and see better rounds, than those who do not. Be warned.

**Ballots and Awards:** Awards will be given to all competitors reaching eliminations. Please pick them up during the awards ceremony, or arrange to have someone else do so on your behalf. **We do not mail trophies.** If we had a nickel for every time we had to repeat this, we'd all be retired right now, enjoying our very own Caribbean island. We also do not release ballots early to teams who cleared entries into elim rounds. Non-clearing teams can pick up ballots, but they won't be ready & sorted until Sunday morning after the first elim round. If you anticipate leaving early, bring a self-addressed, stamped envelope of sufficient size and postage to mail your ballots, label it with your school name, and deliver it to tab. We will put your ballots into the envelope and send it after the tournament. Please don't just staple enough money to the envelope; bring actual postage; our asking for stamps is a time/hassle thing, not a money thing.

**Registration:** All registration will be conducted online at <http://upenn.tabroom.com>. We cannot accept email or phone registrations, but are happy to help you navigate the registration website. If there are any questions concerning registration, please contact [penn@tabroom.com](mailto:penn@tabroom.com). The IE event speaker codes given to you on the online registration system will be those used in competition unless you are notified otherwise. Field reports in the debate events will also be posted in advance of the tournament.



# *The 35th Liberty Bell Classic* *University of Pennsylvania*

## **Hotels**

*\*\*Note: Because of the tournament's date-change, we have not yet blocked off rooms. Therefore, these hotels are only suggestions. Once we have blocked off rooms, we will post the block information to the tournament website.\*\**

### **Holiday Inn City Line**

(215) 477-0200 <http://www.hi-cityline.com>

4100 Presidential Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 1913

Last year's rate: \$129 per night with LBC discount

If transportation is needed, ask the hotel for information on the car rental facility that is located next door at good rates. To reserve rooms, call the hotel at 215-477-0200 and ask for reservations.

### **Penn Tower Hotel**

(215) 387-8333

Civic Center Boulevard at 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Last year's rate: \$165 per night with LBC discount

*Located very close to Penn's campus.*

## **Other Hotels**

### **University City Sheraton**

(215) 387-8000 –general line <http://www.philadelphiaSheraton.com>

3549 Chestnut St. Philadelphia, PA 19104

*Located very close to Penn's campus.*

### **Holiday Inn Express Midtown**

(215) 765-9300 <http://www.hiexpress.com>

1305-11 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

### **Best Western Center City Hotel**

(215) 568-8300 <http://www.bestwesternpa.com/philadelphia-hotels/>

501 N. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130

## **Parking**

As with any urban campus, parking is particularly difficult around Penn. We suggest that you park in the Penn Tower, Penn visitor parking near the Palestra on 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and another lot on the northwest corner of 34<sup>th</sup> and



# The 35th Liberty Bell Classic University of Pennsylvania

Chestnut. Unmetered parking is available between 40<sup>th</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> and you should remain between Spruce and Walnut if possible.

### Fees

#### **Lincoln Douglas Debate**

|                                    |      |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Each L-D Debater                   | \$35 |
| 1 Debater's worth of hired judging | \$40 |

#### **Public Forum**

|                                 |      |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Each PF team                    | \$50 |
| 1 Team's worth of hired judging | \$25 |

#### **Individual Events**

|                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Each Individual event entry      | \$15 |
| Each Duo entry                   | \$20 |
| 1 entry's worth of hired judging | \$15 |

#### **Student Congress**

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Each entry   | \$25 |
| 1 entry's worth of judging                           | \$15 |
| (max of \$60 charged per school for Congress judges) |      |

|  |      |                                 |      |
|--|------|---------------------------------|------|
| <b>Policy Debate:</b> Each policy team | \$50 | 1 Team's worth of hired judging | \$60 |
|--|------|---------------------------------|------|

**We charge for hired judges by the student, not by the whole judge.** So if you have 7 IE students entered, and only 1 judge covering 5 of those students, you owe two hired judging fees. This system is more fair because it does not require you to hire a whole judge just to cover a fractional obligation.

### Safety:

The tab room phone number is **(617) 981-2754**. Yes, this is the same number as at the Yale, Princeton and Columbia tournaments. Please make all your students and judges aware of this number, so they can contact Tab in case of a problem. This number is for on-site issues only, and will not be answered except during the tournament. Chris turns it off when he goes home, thank you very much.

The policy of the Liberty Bell Classic concerning consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors, illegal use of controlled substances, vandalism, and destructive, and other illegal or disorderly behavior shall be: (1) to disqualify involved contestants from further competition, (2) to communicate the offending incident to the contestants on-site guardians and/or parents, (3) to insist on the contestant's immediate transportation home (4) to require financial reimbursement for all damages or liabilities caused directly or indirectly by the incident, (5) to notify the legal authorities. The precise remedy or remedies selected shall remain with the discretion of the Liberty Bell Classic. The Liberty Bell Classic, its directors, staff and anyone associated with it are not legally responsible and may not be held liable for the actions of any student, coach or judge involved in the tournament.

### Adult Supervision & Independent Entries

All students must be accompanied by their own parent or legal guardian, or a school-approved guardian, such as the coach of another team. All registrants must provide a name and phone number for an adult contact responsible for their students in their online registration.

### Registration procedures and deadlines

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>Online Registration Begins</b> at <a href="http://upenn.tabroom.com">http://upenn.tabroom.com</a></li> </ul>   |
| <b>Wed, Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>Congress Legislation due.</b> Bills without authors &amp; schools will be returned for revision.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Fri, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, afternoonish</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>Congress</b> legislation released on website.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Sun, Feb 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>New entries due in all events</b> (or as events hit their caps).</li> <li>· <b>Registration fees and judge burdens are frozen.</b> At this point, rooms are paid for, trophies bought, food ordered, and judges hired. That means you owe us the money and the judges, whether or not you even come. If you do not meet your judge obligation or drop a judge after this deadline, you will be charged for a hired judge <b>and</b> a \$100 fine.</li> <li>· <b>VLD Judge Names and paradigms due.</b> Schools not entering judge names and paradigms by this deadline may not enter strikes or rankings in community preferencing of judges.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Tue, Feb 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>Congress</b> dockets and chambers released on the website.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Wed, Feb 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 PM</b>          | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LD Community Ratings and Strikes</b> due on the website.</p>   |
| <b>Thu, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>IE, PF, NLD and CON Judge names &amp; information due.</b> We will likely run out of hired judges long before this; be sure to request hired judges early.</li> <li>· <b>Drops can no longer be made online</b>, but must be emailed to <a href="mailto:penn@tabroom.com">penn@tabroom.com</a>.</li> <li>· <b>\$10 nuisance fines</b> in addition to reg fees for each drop made after this time.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Fri, Feb 12<sup>th</sup><br/>7:00-9:00 PM</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>Onsite Check-in and payment.</b> After 7 PM please do not email drops, but call them in. <b>Please do not come to registration early</b>; schools that come early hamper our setup. You can check in during this window and pay on Friday night at Houston Hall at 3417 Spruce Street. You may also call the tab line at (617) 981-2754. If you call to check in, please pay your registration fees by the end of the first round on Saturday morning.</li> </ul>  |

Some schools in the past have not reported all their drops to the tournament; this harms our ability to panel fair rounds for good competition. Schools with *unreported* drops will be assessed a fee of \$50 per drop. Please notify Tab of all your drops and changes.



# *The 35th Liberty Bell Classic* *University of Pennsylvania*

A tentative **tournament schedule** will be released on the web by the end of the summer. The tournament will run Saturday and Sunday only, so you can actually enjoy your Monday off! Awards will be over by 4PM on Sunday. Last year prelim rounds concluded in IE events on Saturday at around 5:30 PM; debate events went longer until about 8:30 PM.

## ABOUT PENN FOR YOUTH DEBATE

The 2010 University of Pennsylvania Liberty Bell Classic is organized and managed by Penn for Youth Debate.

### **What is Penn for Youth Debate?**

Penn for Youth Debate is a student organization at Penn dedicated to promoting debate in the greater Philadelphia region and encouraging former forensics competitors to give back to the activity that gave us so much. Forensics is one of the most meaningful activities that students can participate in during high school. It teaches critical thinking, persuasive speaking, along with reading and writing ability. There are many Penn students who have benefited from their involvement in forensics and wish to give that same opportunity to others. Yet there are many high schools that lack forensics teams or have limited resources available to dedicate to forensics activities. Penn for Youth Debate brings former forensics competitors together to provide opportunities to teach debate and help debate programs become immersed in the world of debate, providing an outlet for former forensics students to give back, while assisting new students enter the world of forensics.

### **What does Penn for Youth Debate do?**

Penn for Youth Debate has several activities. *Our main project is to provide volunteer debate coaches* to work in Perspectives Debate Incorporated affiliated schools to help start debate teams. Last year, Penn for Youth Debate members worked in 15 different Philadelphia public and charter schools, introducing debate to students who would otherwise never have the opportunity to participate in this incredible activity. *Penn for Youth Debate also hosts a winter debate workshop in Philadelphia* to introduce novice students to debate halfway through the season and prepare varsity competitors for the January/February LD topic. This is an opportunity available to every student interested in participating from Philadelphia and beyond. You can ask Penn for Youth Debate members about the camp at the LBC. *Finally, Penn for Youth Debate hosts debate competitions.* Beyond the LBC, Penn for Youth Debate hosts a free fall debate tournament strictly for students from Philadelphia.

### **Why does this matter?**

*First, because Penn for Youth Debate is run by former forensics students and those dedicated to forensics education, it is a guarantee to you that our tournament will be managed by qualified individuals.* You will see many high school forensics alumni assisting the tournament in judging rounds, collecting ballots and telling participants about the University of Pennsylvania as a school. This bond between those running the LBC and the high school forensics community showed itself in last year's tournament and will be even more apparent this year as the 2010 tournament directors and all others assisting in the tournament are very excited about the opportunity. *Second, all proceeds from the LBC go directly to Penn for Youth Debate and its volunteer activities.* While running the LBC is an end in itself



# *The 35th Liberty Bell Classic* *University of Pennsylvania*

for Penn for Youth Debate, any profits made from the tournament will assist the organization in providing debate education to students in the greater Philadelphia region.

## **2010 LBC Tournament Staff**

### **Tournament Directors**

**Tournament Director- Alex Anderson** graduated from Green Valley High School where he qualified to the National Forensic Tournament for three years, is a two time Nevada State Champion in debate and Extemp and placed in various outrounds throughout the Western United States including the UC Long Beach and Arizona State University Invitationals. He is also the treasurer of Penn for Youth Debate and successfully directed the 2009 LBC.

**Tournament Director- Katie Poulos** is a former TOC octo-finalist and vice president of Penn for Youth Debate. In addition to successfully coaching dozens of Philadelphia students to success, Katie has also directed the 2007-2008 Perspectives Fall Tournaments and the 2007-2008 Voices of Philadelphia tournaments.

**Tournament Director- Ali Huberlie** is a former TOC quarter-finalist and president of Penn for Youth Debate. She is also the 2007 Harvard Invitational Champion and was runner-up at the Greenhill and MBA Round Robins. Ali was a tournament adviser for the 2008 LBC, and has successfully directed three round robins at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Logistics Director-Mike Contillo** is a former LD debate who successfully competed at many tournaments and qualified for Nationals. He is also the coach of 2009 NCFL LD Champion. Mike is on the "Tournaments Team" on the Penn for Youth Debate Executive Board and has successfully directed several interscholastic tournaments for Philadelphia students.

**Logistics Director: Amy Wei** is a sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania and a former policy debater. She is a member of the Penn for Youth Debate Executive Board, and is a vital member of the program, having coached some of PFYD's most successful students. She also works to plan PFYD's interscholastic tournaments.