

Dear Coach,

On behalf of the McGill Debating Union we are pleased to invite you to our upcoming Winter Bonanza High School Tournament. Following is important information regarding this year’s tournament:

**Date**: Saturday March 9 and Sunday March 10, 2024

**Location:** Discord (Tournament) / Zoom (Seminars)

**Registration fee**: $40 per team with Seminars, $35 per team without Seminars, $5/person for Seminars alone

**Registration Open:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 12:00PM (noon) EDT.

**Registration Deadline**: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 11:59PM EDT.

**Team Cap**: 5 teams per institution (more teams will be added to the waitlist)

**Format:**

The tournament will consist of four rounds of British Parliamentary impromptu debate, three rounds on Saturday and one round on Sunday, breaking to semi-finals, junior finals, and senior finals.

**Registration:**

Registration will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. The Google Form to register for the tournament will be sent out by email on **Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 12:00PM EDT (noon). The deadline to register is February 28, 2024 at 11:59PM EDT.** Schools are permitted to register up to five teams initially, and may submit additional teams who will be placed on the waiting list.

Please inform us of the number of teams you would like to send by the registration deadline **(February 28, 2024)**. To secure your spot, please send your full registration payment via E-Transfer to mcgill.debating@gmail.com. **Teams must pay to secure their deposit within 5 days of registering, or their spots will be reallocated.** This is due to the high volume of teams reserving spots and dropping them with little notice. You will receive a confirmation email with a live spreadsheet indicating which institutions have spots, as well as their payment status. **DO NOT SEND PAYMENT BEFORE YOUR SPOTS ARE CONFIRMED.** Please specify which institution you are paying for in the description of your E-transfer, and ensure that the institution name matches your registration form in order to reduce confusion. If you cannot make payments via E-Transfer please send us an email and we will make alternate arrangements. If you cannot pay within 5 days (i.e. you must process a cheque with your school), please email us as well (mcgilldebating.highschool@gmail.com).

Teams from the waiting list may be permitted to attend if the tournament registration cap for the tournament is not met by February 28, 2024. Priority will be given to those who do not already have teams from the same institution registered.

We will try to accommodate as many teams as possible. Once again, will send you an email with a spreadsheet indicating if your requested spots are reserved or if they are waitlisted for the time being. Following this invitation, we request that you send names of the debaters attending the tournament by **Monday, March 4, 2024.** This information is to be submitted by Google Form, which we will send to registered institutions. If you need financial aid, please email us.

**Seminars:**

We will be hosting debate skills seminars, taught by two of Canada’s top debaters. The seminars will cover a range of discussion on skills and content relevant to motions set by the adjudication core. More information on this will be made available shortly.

Should there be any questions related to registration, payments, or the tournament, please do not hesitate to contact us by this email (mcgilldebating.highschool@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you (virtually) at McGill University!

Sincerely,

McGill Debating Union



**McGill Winter Bonanza High School Tournament 2024**

**Tentative Schedule:**

(All times are in EDT)

**SATURDAY, 9 MARCH**

Registration: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

HARD DROP: 10:00 AM

Briefings: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Round 1: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Lunch: 1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Seminar: 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Round 2: 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Round 3: 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

**SUNDAY, 10 MARCH**

Registration: 9:00 - 10:00 AM

HARD DROP: 10:00 AM

Round 4: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Lunch: 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM

Break Announcement: 12:30 PM – 12:45 PM

Semifinals, Junior Final: 12:45 PM – 2:30 PM

Senior Final: 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Awards and Final Announcements: 5:00 PM