

TVFL Debate State Qualifier

Qualifications:

A student must have participated in at least one Open TVFL tournament including Congress to be eligible to participate in the debate qualifier. The Novice tournament does not count.

Automatic Qualification:

If there are not enough entries from other schools to compete for all qualifying spots, a school can automatically qualify for those spots as long as the students taking those spots have competed in at least one Open TVFL tournament including Congress. The coach from the school with several entries will choose the students to fill the vacant spots.

Entries:

Each school is allowed to enter a maximum of 4 teams for Parli, PoFo, and Policy and a maximum of 7 entries in Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Judges:

Each school needs 1 qualified judge for every 2 teams in one event or fraction there of. Each school needs 1 qualified judge for every 3 LD's or fraction there of.

Judging Panel:

We will use one judge for prelims and begin using 3 judges, depending on our judging pool, when we are within 3 rounds of determining our qualifiers. If the judging pool is small, then we will begin using 3 judges once we are within 3 rounds of determining qualifiers when it is mathematically feasible.

Paneling:

We will try to follow the CHSSA rules for paneling as close as possible with few exceptions.

1. Schools will rank their entries from 1-4 for team events and 1-7 for LD. This is because we will try to power protect through the entire tournament. No 1's should be hitting each other during the 1st round.
2. For the 2nd round, each team will take the opposite side and the pairing will be based off of speaker points. The Highest Speaker on AFF will get the Lowest Speaker on Neg. If a bye were awarded to a team in the first round, then his placement in the 2nd round will be based on his school rank, 1 being considered a top speaker and 7 being considered a low speaker.
3. The 3rd round on will be separated into the winner's bracket and loser's bracket with the pairings simulating round 2. All double loses will be taken out of the pool from this point on. If the winner's bracket is uneven, the lowest speaker in the loser's bracket that fits will be put into the winner's bracket for that round. If the same thing occurs in the loser's bracket, a bye will be drawn following the CHSSA guidelines.

4. The undefeated competitor can automatically qualify if the remaining once defeated competitors can fill the other spots with one more round. If it's determined that more than one round will still be needed then the undefeated must keep debating.

Special Circumstances:

Because we are power protecting, if it is known before the paneling of a round that a school will have to debate itself, the coach will be allowed to choose which competitor must leave the pool before the paneling is laid out. Once the paneling is done and a school is debating itself, the coach must then decide which of those two will go on and there will be no repaneling. If for some reason the coach chooses not to decide which one will advance, it will be decided on speaker points. We will not assign judges to a round where 2 teams from the same school are competing against each other.

Although everything will be done to try and make it a true double elimination tournament, coaches can vote to minimize the pool based on speaker points once the tournament has surpassed 5 rounds regardless of win/loss record.