



2019-20 NATIONAL TEAM TRY-OUTS

December 15, 2018

Dear Provincial Coordinators,

Once again, we are inviting each member organization to send up to three students (chosen by whatever method you decide on) to attend the tryout tournament for selection to the 2019-20 national team. The tryouts will take place in Halifax, Nova Scotia from April 15 to 17, the 2 days after the Senior National Debating Championships, which will also be in Halifax. For those not attending the Senior National Championships, please plan to arrive by 12 noon on April 15th. All participants are expected to depart on the evening of April 17th (any flight leaving after 7PM). **If participants arrive or depart outside of these dates, the registration fee does not cover additional nights so it is your responsibility to book directly with the hotel.** At the tryouts, the Canadian World Schools Committee will select up to 8 delegates to attend a week-long summer training camp that will begin the final team selection and training for the 2020 Worlds to be held in Mexico the following summer.

In addition to the three official provincial applicants, other students from your province may apply independently for one of the very limited alternate application places at the tryouts. Please distribute the application forms to your coaches for them to share with any student that they feel should be considered. These alternate applications must be submitted by March 1st. It is not certain at this point how many places will be available for those applying through the alternate application process, but the number will be quite small. The alternate applications are for the few exceptional applicants who for some reason were not selected for as one of the 3 official delegates.

All debaters attending the tryouts will be accommodated at a hotel in Halifax, location to be determined. We will make the hotel reservations for the tryouts – delegates should not do so themselves. All competitors are expected to stay at this hotel, as the tryouts will be held in the meeting rooms of the hotel. As the interviews are conducted after the rounds of debate, it is necessary for all participants to be on-site. The registration fee for this event is comparable to previous years at **\$400 per delegate**.

Provincial delegates are required to have an adult chaperone onsite for the duration of the tryouts. If the provincial chaperone is a “World’s Qualified Judge”* then all accommodations at the tryouts hotel will be provided. If they are not able to judge then their cost will be \$400 for double occupancy, or \$600 for single occupancy, which includes all meals.

Observers are welcome but must make their own arrangements for accommodation, food and transportation.

**judges at Tryouts should be World’s Qualified i.e. having debated, coached or adjudicated at Worlds. Judges who are not World’s Qualified can be included as shadow judges but their hotel room costs will not be covered.*



The selection tournament will consist of an introductory seminar and six to eight rounds of World Style debating, one of them being prepared. Students will be given the prepared resolution by March 15th, 2019. All debaters will also have an interview with a member of the selection committee or someone designated by them. Debaters' selection will be based on a combination of their debating performance, their capacity for improvement, an interview with one of the judges, and their formal application. We will do our best to contact all students as soon as possible after the tournament to let them know the results.

We will make the final selection of the World Schools Team (a team of 5 and 2 reserves) after the training camp that will take place in the summer of 2019, location to be announced. All of those at the training camp will be invited to participate at the EurOpen Championships (space permitting) and other international events that Team Canada may take part in.

The debaters selected for the summer camp must commit themselves in writing to a number of requirements including a code of conduct. Students selected for the World Schools Championships must commit to attending preparation sessions the week immediately prior to the World Schools tournament. The coach may try to get the team together at other points during the year, but attendance at those events is not mandatory. In addition, the coach will give the team regular assignments designed to broaden their knowledge and to keep them on top of current issues, and the selected debaters are expected to do these.

In order to be eligible for the team, students must be in a high school in Canada for the 2019-20 school year (in Quebec, students who will be in their first year at a CEGEP in 2019-20 are also eligible), and they must have reached their 14th birthday but not their 19th birthday by the first day of the 2020 World Schools Championships. Students must debate for the country in which they go to school. Students do not have to be Canadian citizens in order to debate for Canada.

For more information, visit the CSDF website at www.csd-fcde.ca.

The World Schools Debating Championships (WSDC) has an excellent website at www.schoolsdebate.com. We would ask that all participants in the selection tournament go to this site and download the **Notes for Adjudicators** found in the Rules & Guides section. These notes give a very detailed explanation of Worlds style debating and in particular, the special responsibilities of each member of the team.

We would recommend that participants read this document thoroughly and bring it with them to the tryouts as we will be referring to it frequently during the briefing. Students might also read through the section on Definition Guidelines.

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Please email the names of your 3 provincial delegates as soon as possible and no later than February 20th , 2019. The students are then expected to submit their completed application form by March 1st (again earlier would be better), which is also the due date for the alternate applications.

Thank you for your help with this,

Tracey Lee, Chair
Canadian World Schools Team Committee

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