



JOHN R. PARK DEBATE SOCIETY
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

9th Annual Utah Tournament of Excellence

Saturday, April 1, 2023
@ The University of Utah

The John R. Park Debate Society is excited to announce the ninth annual **Utah Tournament of Excellence (UTE)**. The UTE aims to bring together the absolute “best of the best” from across the state for a single day of focused, high-level, academic debate. Additionally, the UTE will offer students the opportunity to compete in a “tournament of excellence” hosted on the campus of Utah’s premier research university, adjudicated by experienced, knowledgeable critics.

As indicated by the tournament information below, the tournament will be limited to the winners of each division of State competition (or the next most highly ranked competitor in state competition at each classification level). However, we hope that others from the statewide forensics community will choose to attend and watch the best that Utah debate has to offer.

We hope you are as excited about this event as we are to host it. In the meantime, we hope you are having a safe, successful, and educational 2022-2023 season.

Sincerely,

Jeannie Hunt
Director, John R. Park Debate Society

Averie Vockel
Tournament Director

Selection Process: Following the conclusion of all UHSAA State Tournaments, the John R. Park Debate Society will extend invitations to the winners of each debate event (CX, LD, PF) at the 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A tournaments, unless an event is not offered at that classification. We will, however, create a field of six teams in every event by taking wildcards from the other classifications based on performance at state, and other publicly available competitive records. Students will have 2 days from the time of invitation to accept the invitation. Following this, the invitation will go to the next highest finisher (2nd place, then 3rd, etc.) until a team/debater accepts the invitation.

Tournament Format: The tournament will be a round-robin style tournament.



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Costs & Other Requirements: THERE ARE NO COSTS FOR ATTENDANCE. All event cost will be covered by the John R. Park Debate Society, including a continental breakfast, lunch, and an evening meal for all competitors and one coach entry (other guests will need to purchase meals from available campus vendors). Refreshments will be available throughout the day. In addition there is NO ENTRY FEE, and all judging will be covered. Students need only supply a coach or parent who will supervise the team/debater during their time on campus. In other words, all that is required is attendance to participate.

Competitive Rules: Where not specified in this document, the tournament will refer to UDCA competitive rules and guidelines. Any tournament disputes not resolved by these procedures will be adjudicated by the Tournament Director.

Tab Procedure: Each preliminary round will be judged by two critics. After preliminary rounds, each team will be ranked in the following order: ballots won, win/loss record, head-to-head record, adjusted speaker points, total speaker points. If additional tie breakers are required, they will be determined by the tournament director.

Awards: The second and first place finisher, as well as the top two speakers in each debate event, will receive high-quality awards. Every participant will receive a t-shirt.

Topics: The UTE will host competitive debates on the following topics:

Lincoln-Douglas: MARCH/APRIL 2023 TOPIC

Public Forum: MARCH 2023 TOPIC

Policy: 2012-2023 TOPIC

Date: Saturday, April 1, 2023

UTE Schedule

Breakfast – 7:30 AM

Round 1 – 8:00 AM

Round 2 – 10:00 AM

Lunch – 12:00 PM

Round 3 – 12:30 PM

Round 4 – 2:30 PM

Round 5 – 4:30 PM

Evening Meal - 6:30 PM

Finals – 7:30 PM

Awards – 9:00 PM



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EVENT TIMELINE (subject to change)

Approx. Mar. 15th – Initial Invitations Released

Mar. 17th – Deadline to Accept Initial Invitations

ASAP – Additional Invitations will be sent with a 48-hour deadline

March 30th – Drop Deadline

April 31st – Final Participant List Released

April 1st – Utah Tournament of Excellence