

June 10, 2025

2025 Beehive Bonanza Highlights

1. **Central Union Location** – Reduced walks to competition areas, pool tables, air hockey, big screens, food court, bowling, competitor lounge, and more.
2. **Warm Room** - A warm room will be available for coaches that will provide postings of round-by-round results so coaches can keep up with their students' standings.
3. **Competition Opportunities** - 5 preliminary rounds for open debate competitors (a free clinic and 3 prelim rounds for novice debaters), plus the opportunity for IE entry
4. **Tournament Administration** - All tournament administration will be centrally located in the Union building.
5. **NIETOC/Speech TOC Bid Tournament** – Once again, the Beehive Bonanza will be a bid tournament for both the Speech TOC & the NIETOC. Bids will be awarded per the rules of each organization, respectively.
6. **Free Novice Clinic** – To kick off the season, we will have only 3 rounds of novice debate competition. In place of rounds 1 and 2, Friday afternoon will include a free-of-charge novice clinic for students. Novice entries will also be charged a reduced fee for entry. See the criteria for “novice” below.

June 24, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

The John R. Park Debate Society (the University of Utah forensics team) and the Department of Communication cordially invite your team to attend the 15th annual Beehive Bonanza, October 3rd and 4th, 2025, on the University of Utah Main Campus in Salt Lake City, Utah. The tournament will feature Student Congress, all three styles of NSDA debate (policy, Lincoln-Douglas, and public forum), and eight IE events (dramatic interp, humorous interp, duo interp, programmed oral interp, extemp, oratory, info, and impromptu). We will offer both novice and varsity divisions in all events (provided adequate entries). The Beehive Bonanza will also offer three \$1000 partial scholarships to top varsity finishers in the tournament in Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum (top speaker on the winning team receives a scholarship), and Policy Debate (the top speaker on the winning team receives a scholarship) when (and if) they attend the University of Utah and join the John R. Park Debate Society.

NOVICE CLINIC: On Friday afternoon during rounds 1 and 2, we will host a free-of-charge novice clinic in PF, CX, and LD debate events. Students will receive basic instruction, starter evidence/cases, and more. *NOVICE COMPETITION BEGINS ON FRIDAY NIGHT.*

NIETOC/Speech TOC Bid Tournament: Once again, the Beehive Bonanza will be a bid tournament for both the Speech TOC & the NIETOC. Bids will be awarded per the rules of each organization, respectively.

Each year, we work to make the Beehive Bonanza a little better than last year's tournament. Please read the invitation carefully to ensure that you are aware of both the particularities of the tournament and the amenities we have added to provide an exceptional tournament experience. Additionally, feel free to contact us with your feedback.

We look forward to seeing you at our coaches' meeting on Friday, October 3. If you have any additional questions about the tournament, feel free to email (forensics@utah.edu) with any questions or comments. From our team to yours, we wish you the best for the competitive season.

Best Wishes,

Averie Vockel
Assistant Director of Forensics
Public Outreach Coordinator

Tournament Information:

Rules: UDCA & UHSAA rules and regulations will be in effect unless otherwise specified in this invitation.

Competitor Eligibility: Any high-school student who is currently enrolled and in “good standing” (as determined by their school’s administration) is eligible to compete. No person who has competed more than 8 semesters or has competed in four years of national high-school speech or debate tournaments may compete. All competitors must attend with the approval and under the supervision of their high school.

Entry Procedure: The Beehive Bonanza will be using Tabroom (tabroom.com) exclusively for entries. Entries must be completed by 5:00 PM MST on Monday, September 29, 2025. Fees will be calculated at this time and drop fees will be assessed for any drops after this time. See the fee schedule below for details about drop fees. Drops and name changes (but not adds) can be entered no later than 5:00 PM MST on Wednesday, October 1, 2025. Drops after this date will be treated as “no-shows.”

***PLEASE NOTE* If you have no changes, your fees will be accurate on Thursday afternoon. HOWEVER, we will be billing schools for drops at registration and no-show judging fees AFTER the tournament concludes.**

Harassment and Discrimination: Please note that the University of Utah takes a firm stance against harassment and discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, national origin, veteran status, and bodily ability. We will use the University of Utah Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Complaint Policy to guide arbitration of instances of harassment and discrimination. For details, see <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/humanResources/5-210.html>.

Rules and Other Appeals: Prior to the beginning of the tournament, the tournament director will recruit a 3-person committee of high school coaches attending the tournament who will serve as an ad hoc committee for appeals made by coaches in attendance. This committee will hear appeals related to rules violations, tabulation disputes, etc. The tournament director will issue a decision based on consultations with the appeals committee. In the event that an appeal implicates a team associated with a coach on the committee, the coach will be asked to refrain from participating in the decision-making of the committee.

Food: There are plenty of restaurants conveniently located near campus that you can choose to visit for lunch/dinner during the tournament. As in past years, the University of Utah Student Union (aka, Tournament Central) will also provide food services for students, coaches, and judges during limited hours (average meal cost is \$10). Light snacks will be provided for judges/coaches in the wellness room. **PLEASE NOTE: Food is not included in tournament fees and will only be available for purchase unless otherwise specified here.**

Double Entry: Double entry at the Beehive Bonanza is allowed, but limited due to the, sometimes, long walks between buildings. Students may enter events in the following combinations. Students may enter 2 IE events, any debate event and 1 IE event (which

is not Extemp), or Congress and 2 IE events. Debaters may not enter Congress OR more than one IE (and may not enter Extemp as their IE). Debaters cannot enter more than one debate event.

Individual Events:

Events offered: Students may not enter more than 2 IE events (one if competing in debate events other than Congress). It is the sole responsibility of the competitors to complete all events in the given time. Failure to do so will result in a no-show (lowest rank and zero speaker points) record for the round. We will offer the following events: Dramatic Interp, Humorous Interp, Duo Interp, Programmed Oral Interp, Extemp (IX and DX will be combined), Original Oratory, Informative, and Impromptu.

Divisions: We plan to offer both Varsity and Novice divisions in all the above events. However, we will collapse divisions if there are fewer than 6 entries in a division. In such an event, the top three competitors from the Novice division will receive an award in addition to the Varsity division awards. **No competitor in the Novice division should have more than one year of forensics experience.** A year means that the student has competed in either more than three tournaments per semester OR 5 tournaments over the course of an academic year.

Elimination Rounds: Any event with less than 6 contestants will not have a final round. For events with more than 6 competitors, a final round will be held. At the Beehive Bonanza, any event with more than 30 entries will advance to semifinals.

Advancing to Elimination Rounds: No more than half of the competitive field will be advanced to finals. Students will be rank ordered first by cumulative rankings, then by reciprocals, then by points. All attempts will be made to make a clean break (by cumulative rankings).

Placement in Elimination Rounds: Students will be rank ordered first by cumulative rankings, followed by the highest reciprocal score (decimal conversion), then by judge's preference, and finally by the highest cumulative ratings.

Entry Limits: Schools are limited to no more than 15 entries per event, and no more than 10 of those entries may be in the novice division.

NIETOC/Speech TOC Bid Tournament: Once again, the Beehive Bonanza will be a bid tournament for both the Speech TOC & the NIETOC. Bids will be awarded per the rules of each organization, respectively.

Debate Events:

Topics: We will use the 2025-2026 NFL policy topic, the September/October 2025 LD topic (released Aug. 15), and the October 2025 (released Sept. 1) PF topic. The tournament will also observe novice topics in LD debate (**NOVICE LD WILL USE THE NOVICE TOPIC**) and abide by the novice argument lists in CX debate (**NOVICE CX ARGUMENT STRATEGIES ARE LIMITED**) established by the Utah Debate Coaches Association (link will be provided on tabroom.com when released). Likewise, we will use the speech times set forth by the NFL (policy: 8 minute constructive, 5 minute rebuttals, 5 minute prep time per team; LD: 6-3-7-3-4-6-3, with 4 minutes of prep time per team; PF: 4-4-3-4-4-3-2-2-3-2-2 with 2 minutes of prep time per team).

Divisions: We will offer Novice and Varsity Divisions, provided there are at least 10 entries per division. Eligibility is determined based on the partner with the most experience. No debater in the Novice division should have more than one year of debate experience. A year means that the student has competed in at least three tournaments per semester of any style of debate.

Novice Workshop: Novice competitors, unlike open competitors, will compete in a 3-round tournament. Rounds 1&2 will feature a free-of-charge novice workshop led by the staff and competitors of the John R. Park Debate Society. Students will receive starter evidence, cases, and more. Let's kick off the year right by helping new students "learn the ropes!" *NOVICE COMPETITION WILL BEGIN ON FRIDAY NIGHT!*

Disclosure: In order to keep the tournament running in a timely fashion, the tournament discourages post-round disclosure. However, we encourage students and judges to take advantage of breaks in the tournament to further discuss the round. Delays caused by coaches/judges may, at the tournament director's discretion, result in penalties to that school's teams, including removal from the tournament. We don't want to penalize feedback, so don't put us in a position where we would be forced to do it.

NOTE TO JUDGES: All rounds must have one winner and one loser. If a judge does not assign one winner and one loser, the tabulation staff will flip a coin to determine the winner and may forfeit all teams from that judge's school for the round in question.

Preliminary Rounds: The computer will randomly match Rounds 1 and 2. Additional rounds will be matched as indicated in the schedule.

Elimination Rounds: Advancement to and seeding in elimination rounds will be first based upon wins, followed by adjusted speaker points, then total speaker points, next by opposition record, and finally by judge variance. In elimination rounds, brackets **will not be** broken. If more than 32 teams in any division, the tournament will advance to a full-octafinal round. Additional elimination rounds will be held at the discretion of the tournament director and based on the availability of space.

Entry Limits: Schools are limited to no more than 15 total entries in each debate event, and no more than 10 of those entries may be in the novice divisions.

Student Congress

Sessions: Two two-hour sessions of Student Congress will be offered. We plan on having one chamber for every 20 entries. If two or more chambers of Congress are convened in a division, a final round will be held on Saturday morning.

Legislation: The docket will be emailed prior to the tournament. The tournament will use the docket established by the Utah Debate Coaches Association as a means of creating opportunities for equal participation. An agenda and docket will be made available at debate.utah.edu and www.tabroom.com on or about September 20, 2025. There will be no copies of bills made at the tournament. Kindly bring enough copies for your team. This timeline should allow students to research and understand the topics at a greater level than surface knowledge.

Divisions: Provided that there are at least 12 entries per division, we will offer Novice and Varsity Divisions. No participant in the Novice division should have more than one year of forensics experience. A year means that the student has competed in at least three tournaments per semester of any style of forensics. In the event divisions are collapsed, the top five Novice participants will be separately recognized.

Entry Limits: Schools may not enter more than 20 students in Congress, and not more than 15 in the novice division.

Financial Information

Entry Fees: We will be using the fee schedule itemized below. Please have cash or check to pay your entry fees during registration. Checks should be made payable to University of Utah-Communication. Please write "Forensics-Beehive Bonanza" in the memo line. We will be able to take credit card payments with advanced notice. Entrants unable to pay fees or provide a guarantee of payment at the time of registration will be assessed a \$50 late payment fee. Please contact us if you will be unable to pay in full at the tournament so we can help you avoid this late payment fee. Fees will be assessed at 5:00 pm MST on Monday, September 29, 2025. Final fee sheets

will be made available to coaches by NOON on Thursday, October 2, 2025. * NOTE * Fees for drops at registration or no-show judge fees will be billed to schools at the conclusion of the tournament. The fee schedule is as follows:

Description	Cost per entry**	UDCA/UHSAA Costs
OPEN DIVISION FEES:		
Policy Debate Entry Fee	\$60	\$35
PF Entry Fees	\$50	\$30
LD Entry Fees	\$50	\$30
Individual Event/Congress Entry Fee	\$15/\$18 for duo	\$8/\$12
NOVICE DIVISION FEES:		
Policy Debate Entry Fee	\$40	\$25
PF Entry Fees	\$35	\$25
LD Entry Fees	\$30	\$20
Individual Event/Congress Entry Fee	\$10/\$15 for duo	\$5/\$8
GENERAL FEES:		
School Entry Fee	\$50	\$30
Drop Fees	150% of entry costs	150% of entry costs
Day of "No Show" Fee	\$25/entry	\$25/entry
"No-Show" Judge Fee	\$25/round	\$25/round

**If these fees present a barrier to participation for particular schools or students, please contact us at your earliest convenience. While our fees represent the minimum cost of hosting on a college campus (e.g., room rental, janitorial, parking, security, etc.), we are committed to ensuring no student is denied the opportunity to participate because of the (in)ability to pay.

Judging: One judge can cover up to 6 IE slots and 2 debate teams (however, due to double-flighting, one judge may cover 3 entries in PF & LD). We will assume every entered judge is available for a full judging commitment, please provide early notification of judges with irregular availability. Because judges can cover both IE's and Debate, it is crucial that judges assist in the timely conclusion of rounds. Judges who fail to pick up their ballots in a timely fashion will incur late fees for the school with which they are affiliated. Debate judges are committed through octafinals and one round beyond their team's/debater's elimination. An I.E. judge is committed through finals. Meeting this commitment is essential in order for the tournament to run effectively.

Judge Assignments & Missed Judging Fees: Judge assignments and ballots will be distributed before each round. ALL JUDGES will be in the "reserve pool" until 15 minutes after the beginning of each round to account for "no-shows." **Judges who fail to pick up their ballots or to appear in the reserve pool will be fined \$25 per round.** Fees will be assessed to the school they represent. Coaches will be notified and invoices will be provided in the event that fees are assessed. **PLEASE ENSURE YOUR JUDGES PICK UP BALLOTS. IN PAST YEARS, OVER 80% OF BALLOTS HAVE BEEN RE-**

ASSIGNED IN SOME ROUNDS. We will be strictly enforcing this policy to ensure that participants receive a high-quality tournament experience.

Uncovered Fees: First and foremost, please, please, please, bring your judges. We only have a limited pool of available judges to hire. Please note: if you do not bring judges, the entirety of your judge fee will be used to pay hired judges, not as an instrument to earn profit. Uncovered judge fees will be assessed on the following basis:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost per judge</u>
Uncovered Policy Debate Entry	\$80/team
Uncovered LD/PF Debate Entry	\$40/team
Uncovered IE Fee	\$15/entry

Tournament Awards

Individual Events Awards: We will offer trophies for 1st-3rd place finishers in each division, medals for finalists (4th-6th) in each division, and certificates for semifinalists.

Debate Awards: We will offer awards for every team advancing to elimination rounds in each division: double-octafinalists and octafinalists will receive t-shirts, quarterfinalists will receive medals, semifinalists and finalists will receive trophies. Additionally, the top 10 speakers in each division will receive awards: first-fifth places will receive medals and sixth-tenth places will receive t-shirts. Speaker awards will be determined in the following way: adjusted points, total points, double adjusted points, judge variance (Z-score).

Student Congress: We will offer awards to the top ten participants in each division. The top five speakers will receive a trophy and 6th through 10th place will receive a t-shirt. In finals, the best chair in each division will receive a gavel.

Scholarships: We will offer \$1000 partial scholarships to the top varsity competitors in Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum (top speaker on winning team) and Policy Debate (top speaker on winning team). Please keep in mind that these scholarships can only be used by students who attend and compete at the University of Utah.

Sweepstakes: The top five schools competing in the tournament will be awarded sweepstakes trophies. We have seen the discussion about changing sweepstakes formulations in the state, and we are happy to take this opportunity to use a different calculation method than in the past for this tournament. Sweepstakes awards will be based on the following point system:

IEs

1st Place IE: 10 points

2nd Place IE: 8 points

3rd Place: 6 points

IE Finalists: 4 points

IE Semi-Finalist: 2 points

Debate

Debate sweepstakes will be awarded 5 points for each preliminary win for the top four teams/entries from any one school in each division.

Rankings in all Individual Events and Student Congress shall be based on ranks in preliminary rounds. Ties shall be broken by comparing ratings, but not by comparing individual boxes marked on ballots. Unavoidable ties shall increase the higher quartile by the number involved and decrease the lower quartile by the same number. When quartiles do not break cleanly, adjustment will be made in the direction which least skews the quartile. For example: If ten superiors are needed and the choice is between nine superiors or seventeen superiors, nine will be used since it more closely approximates the quartile. If the number is the same, regardless of direction, the greater number would be used. Rankings in Policy, Public Forum and Lincoln Douglas Debate shall be based on win-loss records in preliminary rounds. Ties shall not be broken on speaker points. Unavoidable ties shall increase the higher quartile by the number of teams involved and decrease the lower quartile by the same number.

Driving Directions

From the Airport/I-80: Out of airport, follow signs toward Park City/Cheyenne. You will pass through downtown on the freeway as it curves right and then left. When you arrive at 1300 E, exit the freeway and turn left onto 1300 E. Go north until you reach 100 S and turn right at the northwest corner of campus. Follow this street onto the U of Utah campus. The street winds around the north side of campus (it changes as it winds, ending up as North Campus Drive). Take a right following signs to Olpin Union (the Tournament HQ), the Street is Central Campus Drive (you can park in the pay lot). **If you do not want to pay an additional fee for parking, we will be providing free parking in a more distant lot that is also suitable for busses. Details will be provided prior to the tournament about where and how to access this free parking. Because of construction on campus, parking is limited this year. Parking in the lot we provide will be your best option.**

From I-15: As you come into Salt Lake City, you'll want to take the 600 S exit in downtown SLC. When you arrive at 600 S, exit the freeway and merge on to 600S. Continue traveling eastbound on 600 S until you reach State Street. Turn left on State and continue northbound until you reach 100 S, where you will make a right turn. Follow 100 S east until you reach the northwest corner of campus and continue forward. The street winds around the north side of campus (it changes as it winds, ending up as North Campus Drive). Take a right following signs to Olpin Union (the Tournament HQ), the Street is Central Campus Drive (you can park in the pay lot). **If you do not want to pay an additional fee for parking, we will be providing free**

parking in a more distant lot that is also suitable for busses. Details will be provided prior to the tournament about where and how to access this free parking. Because of construction on campus, parking is limited this year. Parking in the lot we provide will be your best option.

Parking: Your closest option is to park in the visitor pay lot on S. Central Campus Dr. As of Summer 2023, rates are approximately \$3.00/hr with a maximum \$50.00 ticket charge; however, this can be more expensive if you leave and re-enter multiple times during the day **If you do not want to pay an additional fee for parking, we will be providing free parking in a more distant lot that is also suitable for busses. Details will be provided prior to the tournament about where and how to access this free parking. Because of construction on campus, parking is limited this year. Parking in the lot we provide will be your best option.**

Tournament Schedule

(subject to change until Oct. 3, 2025)

Friday, October 3 (DEBATE & CONGRESS ONLY)

1:30-2:30	Registration
2:30-3:00	Late Registration
2:45-3:00	Student Assembly
3:00-3:15	Judge & Coaches Meeting

DEBATE		CONGRESS	
3:30-5:30	Round I, Debate (Preset)	3:30-6:00	Congress, Session 1
5:30-7:30	Round II, Debate (Preset)	6:00-6:30	Dinner Break
7:30-9:30	Round III, Debate (Lag High-Lo)	6:30-9:00	Congress, Session 2

Saturday, October 4 (ALL EVENTS)

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8:00-10:00	Round IV, Debate (High-Lo)	12:15-1:45	Round 2, IE
	Elim Congress (As needed)	1:15-3:15	Debate Elim 1
8:30-9:30	IE ONLY REGISTRATION	2:45-4:00	IE Semis & Finals
9:30-11:00	Round 1, IE	3:30-5:30	Debate Elim 2
10:45-12:45	Round V, Debate (High-Lo)	5:00-6:15	IE Finals as needed
11:00-2:00	Lunch Service in Univ. Union (for purchase at students' convenience)	6:30	Awards
		6:00-7:30	Debate Elim 3
		7:45	Debate Elim 4 (if necessary)

*As possible, the Tournament Director will work to expedite the tournament, i.e., if no debate competitors are entered in IE finals, elimination rounds will be accelerated. Look for announcements as elimination rounds progress.

** When not in competition, students should make themselves at home in the University of Utah Student Union. There they will find pool tables, air hockey, televisions, couches, bowling, and more.

Campus-Use Agreement

The Beehive Bonanza is made possible by the willingness of the University of Utah to allow us to use the campus facilities. This means campus facilities must be left in the condition they were found prior to the tournament. Students should be tidy, refrain from moving any furniture or equipment, and follow all posted campus regulations. It is the coach's responsibility to provide necessary chaperones/judges to monitor their students and to pay for any damages or additional janitorial fees.

If any participants are found vandalizing the campus they will immediately be removed from the campus, all participants from the student's school will be automatically disqualified from the tournament, and the school district and school administration will be notified. In addition, the University may take legal actions as warranted. Not only does violent or destructive behavior jeopardize the future of the Beehive Bonanza, it impinges directly upon the reputation of the University of Utah Forensics Team and its coaches. With this in mind, we are hoping that the directors of high school programs attending will help alleviate the problem. There are a number of steps we hope you will take.

- 1) Discuss with your students the ramifications of vandalism and the need to treat the campus with respect.
- 2) Bring enough chaperones to supervise the students you bring to campus.
- 3) Be conscientious about what students you bring to the tournament. If you know you can trust your students to be responsible, we can avoid the majority of problems.

Failure to abide by these guidelines will require campus-use deposits in future years. This will only increase the costs for everyone involved.

By signing, I agree that I have read and understand this document, that I have informed my students of these guidelines, and that I accept financial and ethical responsibility for any damages caused in part or whole by any member, coach, judge, or other person affiliated with the team I represent.

School Name: _____

Coach's Name: _____

Coach's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

Contact Number (during tournament): _____

***** MUST BE SUBMITTED AT TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION. Schools without a use agreement on file will not be allowed to compete.**