NEDA Virtual Debate Tournament

October 31, 2026

Dear NEDA colleagues and friends,

It is our pleasure to invite you to attend the National Educational Debate Association's National Debate Tournament on October 31st, 2026. We will offer Public Forum and IPDA divisions. This will be a synchronous virtual tournament hosted over Zoom and Tabroom.com!

-NEDA executive committee

Tournament Schedule (tentative)

Saturday, Oct 31, 2026 (all times EST)

Check-in	8:45a
Round 1	9:00-10:10a
Round 2	10:15-11:25a
Round 3	11:30-12:40p
Lunch Break	*12:45-1:15p*
Round 4	1:15-2:25p
Round 5 (Finals)	2:30-3:45p
Awards	ASAP

Entries

We will be using Tabroom.com for all entries and tabulation. This means **each judge and debater needs to make a tabroom.com account.** Here is a guide for creating a Tabroom account: https://docs.tabroom.com/Sign_Up. All **entries are due on Tabroom by Tuesday, October 27th at 11:59pm.** By the day of tournament we will NEED all judges and competitors to have a registered e-mail on Tabroom.com. Please contact jgeers1@udayton.edu for assistance if necessary.

Registration Fees (collected as part of end-of-year league dues)

There will be a **$5 fee per team** entered into the tournament.

We do ask that every school please provide judges for this 'hostless' tournament. As per usual, one judge covers two teams/entries. There will be a **$40 fee for <u>each uncovered entry</u>**. One judge covers two entries.

We will accept entries in open and novice divisions (following NEDA rules to determine eligibility—6 or less competitive tournaments to qualify for Novice) in Public Forum and Extemp formats. Overall entries will determine the feasibility of offering separate divisions.

Tournament Rules and Procedures

This tournament will follow all rules established in the NEDA constitution and other governing documents. The NEDA Fall Public Forum resolution is **"The International Criminal Court does more harm than good."**

IPDA and Public Forum will follow the time limits established by NEDA. The rules and speaking times for these events can be found at: https://nedadebate.com/debate-round-formats/.

After topic release for IPDA, there will be 30 mins of prep time (including time used by debaters agree on the topic for that round). *Students should not converse with other debaters or coaches during their prep time, but research over the internet is encouraged.* During the debate, students will be expected to cite research and use examples in their arguments.

Public Forum entries consist of two debaters, **while IPDA entries are all maverick/single entries.** Schools may sign up single debaters to compete in the Public Forum division, but are limited to one maverick entry per division per school.

Platform

This synchronous, online tournament will be hosted over Zoom and Tabroom. On Friday evening before the tournament, coaches will receive a Zoom link for themselves, their judges, and their students to use to connect to the main room.

Please update your Zoom programs to the latest version so students can join breakout rooms independently. Here's a link with instructions: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362233-Upgrade-update-to-the-latest-version