

WELCOME TO Bump!

Hi.

At many tournaments, there is an opening assembly. All sorts of information is broadcast while everyone eagerly awaits the distribution of the schematics. Inevitably during these assemblies there are people in the back of the room who haven't seen each other for at least a whole week and who are exchanging ribald tales, stock tips and the phone numbers of their analysts, and who refuse to stop jawing just because some poor schmuck in the front of the room has to make some announcements. With this in mind, and given the microphone-free setup of the Hen Hud cafeteria, combined with a tournament director's voice that has never once caused James Earl Jones to lose any sleep, any attempt by us at a meaningful opening assembly is a mug's game at best. So, while we will still hold a futile albeit short opening assembly, we are also distributing copies of our opening assembly via computer pdf and mp3. In other words, our opening assembly is what you are now reading on your computer or listening to on your iPod.

Again, welcome to Bump. We plan to break to doubles in varsity LD, partial octos in PF, and doubles or partial doubles in Novice LD. There are three prelim rounds on Friday, the rest on Saturday. There are six prelims in Varsity LD, five in both PF and Novice LD.

PF and Varsity are in the High School. Novice LD is in the grammar school. The grammar school is down the hill behind the high school. Novices will return to the high school for quarters and awards Saturday afternoon. All ballots will be distributed from the high school cafeteria for round one. For VLD and PF ballots will continue to be distributed from here; for novices, they'll be moved down to the front of tab room at the grammar school. Because we have no major league photocopier, nor a belief that we should waste as much paper as we conceivably can in as short a time as possible, schematics will be posted on walls, and not passed around by the millions.

We will start Saturday at 7:30 a.m., forfeit at 7:45, for all divisions.

Dinner Friday will be served in the high school cafeteria for all divisions. Lunch will also be served there Saturday. We have asked your housing families to provide you with some nourishment before shooing you out the doors Saturday morning, so fill up on free bagels tomorrow morning while you've got the chance.

Aside from shuttling back and forth between the high school and grammar school, no one, student or adult, should leave the building during the tournament for meals or **random gallivanting**. There is **no smoking** allowed anywhere on the grounds, nor is any behavior incongruent with the law, property rights and generally **being a mensch**. If you feel like doing something stupid, save it until you're back on the bus heading home so that the rest of us don't have to suffer through it. If you feel like doing something funny, our guess is that it is, in fact, something stupid, and the same general rule applies. Especially keep in mind:

➔ **No one, student or adult, is allowed to use, touch or even think about a teacher's desk or chair.**

➔ **No writing on any boards (especially, obviously, the smart boards).**

➔ **No cell phones: judges and students both are expected to debate, not to text their mothers/wives/valets about what's for dinner and have you heard the latest on Levi Johnston.**

➔ **No food allowed outside of the cafeteria.**

Judges are expected to make themselves available for all rounds. What else is there to do? If you are not judging, please be in the judges' lounge where we can find you. There is **one judges' lounge**, here at the high school, near the entrance to the cafeteria. Because most of the judges for novice LD are students, and students are not allowed in the teachers' lounge at the grammar school, there is no judges' lounge down there. All judges must be available to judge one round past their own school's participation in the tournament.

There are 4 minutes of **prep time** in both LD divisions. PF times are printed on the ballot; final focus is 1 minute.

Judges are asked to rate on a **speaker point scale** of: **30 = best of the day** (i.e., you are unlikely to give more than one of these a day if you are a competent judge, and understand the meaning of the word "best"); **28-29 = above average**; **26-27 = average**; **24-25 = needs work**; **22-23 = unprepared**; less than 22 = rude behavior (noted by the judge on the ballot). **Flex prep is not allowed**; cross-ex is a unique speech, and time left over will not be added to prep time. Judges are not asked to agree with this as a philosophy, but simply to enforce it as the rule of the tournament. Unless physically unable to do so, debaters will be expected to stand to deliver their speeches, with the exception of the PF rounds in the library, where it makes more sense to remain seated.

Housing assembly will be in the high school cafeteria. Signs around the room indicate where you should dump your stuff, which is where you should be Friday night following round 3.

At about 3:15 or so today we will distribute schematics and ballots. Zack Struver, one of our sterling Hen Hud debaters, will lead the march of the novices to the grammar school from the back door of the cafeteria when I give the signal.

Computer use is acceptable (although connecting to people outside the round is not).

Judges: keep in mind that there is a \$25 fine for each round missed, payable prior to elimination rounds if you wish your teams to continue in the tournament.

We are glad that you have chosen Bump as your tournament for the weekend, and hope that your stay here is a pleasant one. Now, watch the closing doors, gather your belongings, and take young children by hand. Have a magical day!