MJP

Let's make it interesting. Let's add some Mutual Judge Preferences.

MJP rounds are paired like any other, to begin with. Do your check of the settings, autopair the round, then autopair the judges. What you get looks something like this:

VARSITY LD — ROUND 1: 6:00 P — 0 not in

| Rd1 | Rd2 | Rd3 | Rd4 | Rd5 | Rd6 | Dubs | Octos | Quart | Semis | Final |

Flt	Room	Aff	Neg	Use	Judge		
2	Lerner 568		Hunter College SC	6	Wang, Honda	1	IN
1	Lerner 555	Kugnus ACTS SK	Lexington AS	2	Agerwal, Alok		IN
1	Lerner 568	Byram Hills AJ	Whippany Park MC	6	Wang, Honda	1/1	IN
1	Lerner 573	Harrison DD	Sacred Heart AT	4	Zhou, Paul	1/1	IN
2	Lerner 573	Harborfields YK	Stuyvesant MK	4	Zhou, Paul	1	IN
1	The School 1	Timothy Christian BF	Newtown SC	5	Khan, Matthew	1/1	IN
2	The School 1	Timothy Christian S.	Newtown TC	5	Khan, Matthew	1/1	IN
1	The School 10	Thomas Jefferson H	Stuyvesant SW	6	Trevett, Kyle	1/1	IN
2	The School 10	Sacred Heart HE	Stuyvesant SV	6	Trevett, Kyle	1/1	IN
1	The School 11	Lexington LW	Thomas Jefferson H	6	Katz, Max	3/1	IN
2	The School 11	Stuyvesant KW	Bronx Science DR	6	Katz, Max	2/2	IN
1	The School 12	Newark Science AF	Cary AW	6	Bugnacki, John	4/4	IN
2	The School 12	Scarsdale DR	Timothy Christian Cl	6	Bugnacki, John	3/3	IN
1	The School 13	SandHoke Early Col	Newark Science NS	3	Zaman, Shadman	1	IN
2	The School 13	Needham AR	Regis AA	4	Bikkani, Prasad	1/1	IN
1	The School 14	Bronx Science AF	Cary PA	3	Long, Marcia	2/1	IN
2	The School 14	Needham LB	Mountain Pointe EH	4	Carroll, Brendan	1/1	IN
1	The School 15	Hunter College NA	Timothy Christian JN	5	Berruti, Thomas	1	IN
2	The School 15	Byram Hills PE	Thomas Jefferson H	5	Singh, Sunpreet	2/2	IN
1	The School 16	Newtown KD	Collegiate AO	6	Kasinki, Devin	1/2	IN
2	The School 16	Collegiate DK	St. Michael's Catholi	4	Srinivasan, Divya	1	IN
1	The School 17	Regis HK	Bronx Science JS	4	Shaner, Jake	1/1	IN
2	The School 17	Harrison AG	Lexington ZA	3	Garofalo, Paul	1/3	IN

Next to the judge's name on the right is the preference of each debater. The goal of MJP is to place the most preferred judges into the most important rounds (I've discussed this at length in my Tabbing Best Practices document.) Also, assignments need to be mutual, as the name says. Looking at the page above, we wouldn't question any of the 1/1 or 2/2 assignments; also, where there's only one number, only one side preffed. The 3/3 and 4/4 assignments, on the other hand, and the non-mutual assignments, need to be looked into.

Click on the room, to get the data on the questionable rounds.

ROUND 1 DEBATE 44 OF VLD

Judges

Chair	Judge	Foll	Rate	Prefs	School	Remove	
N	John Bugnacki	0		4-4		Remove	RM & Fine

Available judges: Clean judges without assignments... ▼ Add

Judging elsewhere: Clean judges who are judging already... ▼ Add

2 Entries

Side	Record	Entry	Followers	School		
Aff	0-1	Newark Science AF Adegoke Fakorede	2	Newark Science	DD	Move
Neg	1-0	Cary AW Alexis Williams	2	Cary	AE	Move

What we want to do is see if there is anyone available better than a 4/4.

Clean judges without assignments... ▲

🔍

Prefs	Rds	School	Judge
3-2	4	FC	Prasad Bikkani
2-4	4	HIRED	Henry Curtis
3-1	3	BC	Chris Insana
3-1	4	BC	Austin Lowe
4-2	4	BU	Wendy Holmes
1-4	3	BR	Albert Han
4-1	5	BL	Noel Selegzi
1-5	3	AW	Andrew Meleta
5-1	4	AT	Divya Srinivasan

The answer is no.

Our next option is to see if a judge with an assignment already would be a better choice.
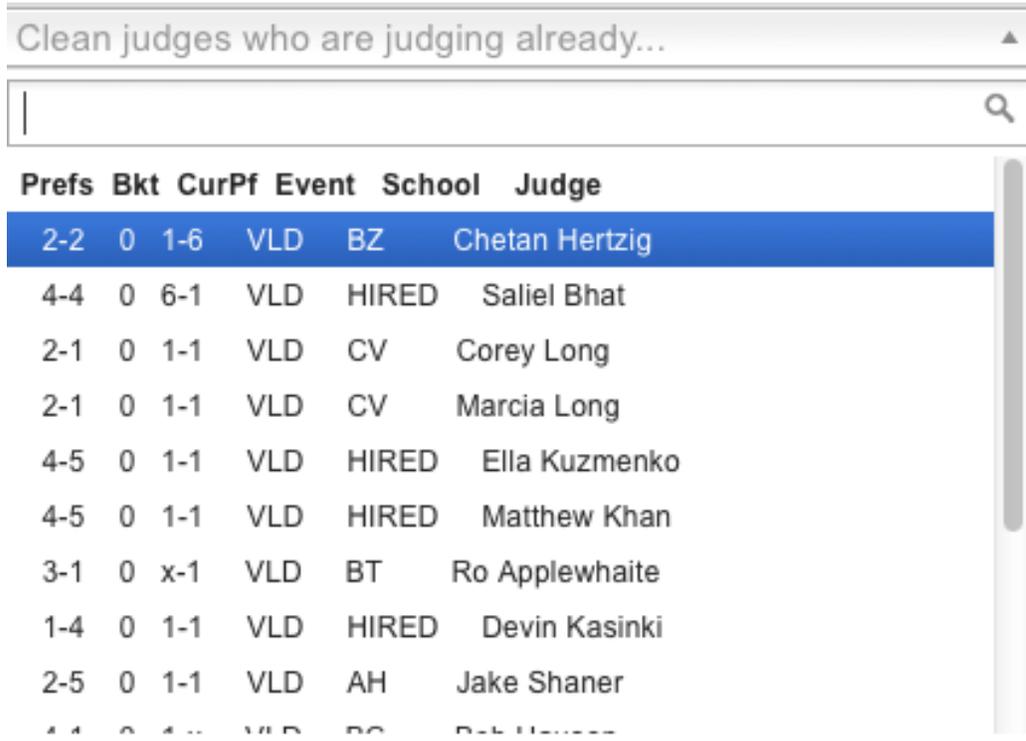
Prefs	Bkt	CurPf	Event	School	Judge
2-2	0	1-6	VLD	BZ	Chetan Hertzig
4-4	0	6-1	VLD	HIRED	Saliel Bhat
2-1	0	1-1	VLD	CV	Corey Long
2-1	0	1-1	VLD	CV	Marcia Long
4-5	0	1-1	VLD	HIRED	Ella Kuzmenko
4-5	0	1-1	VLD	HIRED	Matthew Khan
3-1	0	x-1	VLD	BT	Ro Applewhaite
1-4	0	1-1	VLD	HIRED	Devin Kasinki
2-5	0	1-1	VLD	AH	Jake Shaner
4-4	0	1-...	VLD	BC	Bob Hauser

In this case, Hertzig looks like the only possible sub who would improve. So one would follow the trail and see where Hertzig is judging, and see if we can turn over some dominos and improve things all around. As a general rule, we can't. Tabroom evaluates hundreds of possibilities in the time it takes us to do one. More often than not, the dominos have already been arranged the best way possible.

This is where the human eye comes in. This is Round 1, and if you really can't improve, you really can't improve. In Round 4, however, you will now have a down-3 bracket. If we're following the Best Practice of pairing in order of down-2, down-1, down-0 and down-3, we might indeed want to go in and see if there are judges in the down-3 bracket who could be substituted for a low or imbalanced pairing in a round still in the running to break. For that matter, you can also look to putting a judge already in an undefeated round into a bubble round, if that is better for the bubble debaters. But still, experience shows that tabroom does all of this pretty well. You might be able to polish it a bit, but don't try to redo it wholesale. The best you'll do is waste a lot of time moving everything around with no overall improvement. Computers are just better at doing this than you are.

NOTE: Sometimes you can improve things a bit by switching flights. That is, if this is a Flight A round, it's only going to look at who's available/judging in Flight A. Try making it Flight B and seeing if that helps. Be careful not to put a judge in two of the same flights, though. This is where having a second pair of eyes is helpful in tab.