

# **Western Summer HST 2026**



## Western Summer HST 2026

**Dear Debaters, Coaches, and Parents,**

On behalf of the University of Western Ontario Debate Society, we're pleased to invite you to the Western Summer High School Debate Tournament, taking place online via Discord on August 15–16, 2026.

The UWO Debate Society is one of the oldest and most established debate clubs in Canada. The Western Summer High School Tournament is considered a university-hosted major that holds a respected place on the Canadian high school debate circuit, offering students the opportunity to compete in a tournament backed by one of Canada's major debate societies.

This invitation package includes all the key details: event schedule, registration information, and eligibility guidelines.

If you have any questions at all, feel free to reach out—we're happy to help.

See you online in August!

**Ricky Zhou & Eric Li**

*Tournament Directors  
Western Summer HST 2026*

## Information

|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>When</b>               | August 15–16, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Eligibility</b>        | Open to all students currently enrolled in elementary or high school during the 2025–2026 school year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Deadlines</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Early-Bird Registration Deadline:</b> July 19th, 2026 at 11:59 pm EDT</li> <li>• <b>Registration Deadline:</b> Registration is due by July 31st, 2026 at 11:59 pm EDT</li> <li>• <b>Final Day for Payment and Refund:</b> August 7th, 2026 at 11:59 pm EDT</li> <li>• <b>Late Registration Policy:</b> Requests for late registration may be accepted at the discretion of Tournament Directors and may be subject to an additional late fee</li> </ul> <p>To register, please visit the <a href="#">Registration Form</a> to complete team, institution, or judge registration forms.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Payment</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Early Bird Registration Fee:</b> CA\$80.00 per team</li> <li>• <b>Registration Fee:</b> CA\$100.00 per team</li> </ul> <p>Payments are accepted via e-transfer or PayPal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For e-transfer send to <a href="mailto:uwods.finance@gmail.com">uwods.finance@gmail.com</a></li> <li>• For PayPal send to <a href="https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/UWODSFinance">https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/UWODSFinance</a></li> </ul> <p>*Note that we will charge a 5% fee on top of your registration for PayPal to cover transactional costs.</p> <p>Include your team <b>name</b> and <b>speakers</b> in the e-transfer and PayPal message.</p> <p><b>Deadline for Payment and refunds will be August 7th, 2026 at 11:59 pm EDT</b></p> |
| <b>Judge requirements</b> | <p>We are enforcing an n/2, 5-round, institutional judging requirement, with a penalty of CA\$20 for each missing judged round. If no judge is registered, the total missing judge fee is CA\$100 per missing judge.</p> <p>If you will be sending institutional judges please fill out the <b>Judge Registration Form:</b> <a href="https://forms.gle/LD4X3EDMcBNErLbF8">https://forms.gle/LD4X3EDMcBNErLbF8</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                | If you are applying as an IA, please fill out the <b>IA Form</b> :<br><a href="https://forms.gle/YgYVjz64whoQrQQJA">https://forms.gle/YgYVjz64whoQrQQJA</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Junior Policy</b>           | Any student can be designated for "Junior" if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The student is in grade 9 or below, <b>or</b></li> <li>2. The student is in their first year of debate.</li> </ol> <p>There will be a junior break, as well as junior speaker awards. Both speakers on a team must have junior status to be eligible for the junior break.</p>                               |
| <b>Style and Break</b>         | All rounds in this tournament will be in British Parliamentary Debate Style with 5-minute speeches. The break will tentatively proceed to Quarterfinals and Junior Semifinals.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Financial Accessibility</b> | Competitors who face financial obstacles to attending tournaments may email <a href="mailto:uwodstournament@gmail.com">uwodstournament@gmail.com</a> to explain their situation or complete the financial aid form. Decisions on the provision of financial aid will be made on a case-by-case basis, and we aim to increase accessibility and provide generous aid to the debaters who need it most. |

## Schedule

| <b>Saturday, August 15th, 2025</b> |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Check-In                           | 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM   |
| Briefings                          | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM  |
| Round 1 (Open Adjudication)        | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM |
| Lunch                              | 12:00 PM- 1:00 PM   |
| Round 2 (Open Adjudication)        | 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM    |
| Round 3 (Open Adjudication)        | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM   |
| Round 4 (Closed Adjudication)      | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM   |
| <b>Sunday, August 16th, 2025</b>   |                     |

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Check-In                     | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM  |
| Round 5 (Open Adjudication)  | 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM |
| Lunch                        | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM |
| Awards & Break Announcements | 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM  |
| Quarters & Junior Finals     | 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM  |
| Semifinals                   | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM  |
| Grand Finals                 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  |

\*All times in Eastern Daylight Time (UTC-4)

## Contacts

| Position | Ways to Contact                                                                                                   |                                                                                                    |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TD       | Ricky Zhou<br>FB Messenger: <a href="#">Ricky Zhou</a><br>Discord: michigangirl42<br>Email: rickyzhoubc@gmail.com | Eric Li<br>FB Messenger: <a href="#">Eric Li</a><br>Discord:ericli06<br>Email: ericadets@gmail.com |