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English Debating Society
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By-Law Document (May 2018)

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Tournament Selection Process By-Law

- I. The Tournament Selection Committee (TSC) is tasked with selecting from the pool of members who have applied to attend specific tournaments. The Committee is constituted of the following members:
 - a. The President of the EDS (TSC Chair)
 - b. One Member of the Society who has been elected by the membership.
 - c. One Member of the Society who has been elected by the membership. This member must not hold a position on the Executive.

- II. The VP Training is tasked with assigning specific criteria to all tournament spots for each tournament.
 - a. The VP Training must direct the TSC to allocate certain designations for tournament spots. The list of applicable designations can be found in section III of this present by-law.
 - b. The VP Training must also allocate spots for novice protection for appropriate tournaments.

- III. The following obligations are imposed on the VP training:
 - a. The VP Training must solicit input on the designations from the membership.
 - b. The designation of spots must be made considering the following:
 - i. Competitive skill
 - ii. Need for novice/other training and club commitment
 - iii. Any other criteria found to be important by the club or executive.

- IV. The following operating procedures is imposed on the TSC:
 - a. The Executive must ratify the VP Training's proposed allocation of designations.
 - b. The TSC must choose the best applicant to fill the tournament spot based exclusively on the ratified designations.
 - c. The results of TSC deliberations shall be communicated to all individuals who signed up for the respective tournaments and be posted online on the EDS Facebook page no later than one week before the tournament and announced at the meetings immediately prior to the tournaments.
 - d. The TSC must keep minutes at its meetings. These minutes, in any format, will not be freely distributed.
 - e. If prompted with a specific query, any TSC member must show the relevant minutes to the applicable EDS member.
 - f. Quorum is set at three TSC members.

- V. The VP Training and the VP Communications are tasked with ensuring the collection and the organization of the following data, for use by the TSC in making its decisions:
 - a. Attendance of club members to:
 - i. Club meetings,



- ii. Club events (EDS debate tournaments, fundraising activities, etc...)
 - iii. Previous tournaments.
 - b. Results of in-house debate rounds
- VI. In extraordinary circumstances, the TSC may order a debate-off to help determine selection. Extraordinary circumstances include major international tournaments and ties between debaters.
- VII. The following requirements are set up for TSC elections:
 - a. The election of the elected TSC members shall be held in September of each year, on a date fixed by the President.
 - b. The Chair of the Elections shall be the President.
 - c. Only Members of the Society shall be eligible to hold office.
 - d. Announcements of the election shall be made at all meetings prior to the election.
 - e. Nominations must be made in writing and shall bear the signature of the candidate, the charge, and the signatures of two nominators, who must be members of the Society.
 - f. Nominations shall be handed to the Chair of the Elections.
 - g. Nominations for each position shall close immediately before the election for each position.
 - h. The elections shall be by secret ballot.
 - i. In the event that there is only one candidate for the elected TSC position, the Membership must acclaim the candidate by a vote of at least fifty per cent of Members of the Society there present.
- VIII. The following requirements are set up for TSC resignation:
 - a. All resignations shall be made in writing and handed to the President at least three weeks prior to the abdication of the duties of his or her position, unless otherwise deemed appropriate by the Executive.
 - b. In the case of a vacancy on the TSC, an election shall be held within three meetings to fill that position.
- IX. Thee following guidelines are set up for impeachment:
 - a. In the event that a Member of the Society wishes to call for the impeachment of an elected member of the TSC, he or she must follow the same procedures as outlined in the constitution, except that the threshold for impeachment is a "yes" vote of 50%+1.
 - b. The TSC chair can be impeached from his or her TSC duties and still remain on the Executive.
 - c. In the case of the TSC chair or any other member being impeached from his or her respective executive positions, he or she must step down from the TSC.
 - d. If the TSC chair is impeached, the VP Training must call a vote for a new TSC chair and act as the Chair of the Elections.
- X. Changes to the TSC guidelines



- a. Amendments must be made following the same procedure as outlined in the Constitution.
- XI. The tournament selection committee will at their discretion, using criteria such as judging experience, club commitment and broad personal consideration to pick judges for tournaments in the events in which there are more applications than spots.

Reciprocity By-Law

- I. If a team of debaters is given significant funds, as deemed by the executive, the team must provide the following services to the club, the debater must fulfill the following criteria throughout the course of the year:
 - a. Attend one tournament as either a judge or a pro-am, with the exemption of novice members.
 - b. Attend a minimum of one training day or present content as training seminar to the club membership.
 - a. If the debater cannot attend either training day they must present either a content or training seminar to the club membership.
 - b. Regularly attend club meetings (as deemed by the TSC). Members participating in university exchanges may receive a semester exemption.
- II. For tournaments that occur in the latter part of the year, it is under the discretion of the TSC to decide whether the debater will be able to fulfill all three criteria before the end of the year, or should be considered ineligible for the tournament.

Quotas By-Law

- I. All members excluding novice members who have debated at more than three tournaments must participate in a minimum of one training partnership.
 - a. The member must partner with a novice to form a training partnership.
 - b. If the member has three or more years of university debating experience, they may form a Super-Am pairing with a second-year debater.
- II. All members must judge at one external tournament for every three tournaments they have debated in.
 - a. Being a member of the adjudication team for an external tournament fulfills this requirement.
 - b. Judging for a full weekend at a CUDS tournament fulfills this requirement.
 - c. Judging at an EDS-run tournament does not fulfill this requirement.
- III. It is the responsibility of all members to plan their schedules and strive to meet these requirements. It is the right of the TSC to enforce these requirements.



World's Selection By-Law

The following World's selection mechanism lays out the procedure for the selection of debaters and judges to represent the English Debating Society at the annual World University Debating Championships (WUDC).

- I. Debaters selected to go to WUDC will be selected primarily on the basis of competitive results and skill, with consideration also being given to the applicant's history of commitment and of service to the club.
- II. The TSC will be tasked with choosing from the pool of applicants based on the criteria in clause I.
- III. The following 'special' procedures would apply to the world's selection TSC, hereby known as WSC:
 - a. Given that the selection process will occur during the summer, in between different mandates, the TSC will be made up of the following internal EDS members:
 - i. Incoming President elected at the most recent AGM;
 - ii. Outgoing elected members for the previous academic year.
 - b. Two additional, external members will sit on the TSC and participate in the decision as advisory members. These members will be nominated and appointed by the incoming club executive. These two members should be experienced pros familiar with the EDS, able to debate and to judge at a level necessary to evaluate world's bids, and who are respected within CUSID and the EDS. These external members should be somewhat active members of the CUSID community who may either be currently affiliated with a club or debating as a 'dino.'
 - c. Any member of the WSC who has themselves bid for WUDC may not participate in the deliberations nor make use of their vote on the WSC. Should this situation arise the WSC member's spot will be filled by an election, the details of which are to be organized by the executive.