



DUDL VOLUNTEER ROLES

Ballot Table Operator or Ballot Runner

Time Commitment: 1-8 hours

Training

Orientation on-site ½ hour before your shift begins. Prior debate experience is not necessary.

Description

The role of the Ballot Table Operator and Ballot Runner is to work with the DUDL Operations Staff to conduct team and judge registration, distribute and collect judge ballots, help support meal distribution and supervision, and to otherwise help support the operational administration of the event.

Debate Judge *or* Debate Round Time Keeper *or* Impromptu/Oratory Judges

Time Commitment: 2-20 hours. Each debate round is 2 hours long. Rounds begin at 3:30pm on Friday and continue until 8:00 pm on Saturday. Judges can indicate which rounds they are available to judge. Impromptu Judges are ONLY needed from 1-4pm OR 6:30-7:30pm on Saturday.

Training

Two 60-minute training sessions will be held at the tournament site. See tournament schedule for specific times. Additional reading material will be provided for further self-directed preparation. Prior debate experience not necessary. We strongly encourage new judges to take part in a training session. Even professionals with substantial public speaking experience will find this useful, as our debate format and rules are new to most. If you have prior policy (or "C-X" or "Team") debate experience, you may make arrangements with DUDL staff to judge without attending the training session. Debate Timekeepers do not need training.

No training necessary for Impromptu Judges. Volunteers can judge both events (just not at the same time☺)

Description

Each debate round happens between two teams of two students each, thus with four students. Many debate rounds therefore happen simultaneously throughout the site, in many classrooms. Each Preliminary Round requires one judge. The judge listens to the debate, keeps time (if a timekeeper is not available), takes careful notes, then immediately after the round the judge completes an official ballot, naming a winner and assigning speaker points to each debater. The judge offers a brief oral critique, as well, to both teams, in addition to a brief written analysis of the debate.



Volunteer Registration and Check-In Procedure

Return the Volunteer Registration Form to JessicaClark@urbandebate.org. Please feel free to call me at 720.878.2776 or 303.871.6575 if you have any questions.

Please **report to the registration table ½ hour prior to your scheduled shift**. Please be sure to have your completed volunteer registration form with you, if you have not already turned it in.

If you are serving as a debate judge, it might be helpful to bring legal pads, two colors of pens, and a timer that has the ability to countdown.

Meals will be provided for all volunteers. Snacks and beverages will be available at all times in the VIP lounge. You are also always welcome to sit with the students in the cafeteria between debate rounds. This can be an excellent opportunity for informal mentoring. Evidence shows that these informal venues for imparting information about college admissions, scholarship and payment, and career advice can be more effective than formal “orientation” meetings or presentations toward achieving common objectives of “college bridge” programming aimed at youth.

It is the mission of The Denver Urban Debate League to provide opportunities for competitive debate to as many students as possible in the Denver community. DUDL emphasizes education over competition, and it is our goal to nurture and encourage a diverse population of students while building valuable academic and life skills that will ensure their future success. Our tournaments would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers. On behalf of the entire League, thank you for your support of our amazing students. By volunteering your time to serve the Denver Urban Debate League you are truly making a difference, one voice at a time.

Best regards,

Jessica Clark
Executive Director, DUDL