



Dear Coach,

On behalf of the McGill Debating Union, we are happy to announce that the 51st annual McGill High School Debate Championships will be held on **October 29 and 30, 2010**. We will be issuing a formal invitation in early September which will contain all the relevant details. No response is necessary at this point, as registration will not open until the official invitation is sent out.

In an exciting break from past practice, the tournament will be held in British Parliamentary Style. In the past few years BP has become a fixture in Canadian University Debating and is increasing in popularity at the high school level. With 4 teams to a room, we hope to be able to provide a greater depth of judging, which will improve feedback for all debaters at the tournament. BP is a challenging style, but one which we believe will be rewarding for all debaters regardless of skill level.

In order to facilitate transition to this new style we have included a preliminary style guide outlining the expectations of British Parliamentary debate. As well we hope to have available in the fall (for a cost) a training video featuring 2 rounds with judging commentary. We would also invite you to peruse the wealth of training resources available online.

Please feel free to pass this message on to other coaches in your region, or to post the tournament date on any relevant message boards or websites you may have access to. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at this address, mcgill.hs@gmail.com. We are thrilled to be directing the tournament this year, and look forward to seeing you in October!

Sincerely,

Carol St.Gelais & Kate Winbaum
Tournament Directors