

# NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

FRIDAY, March 14, 2024: 5:00PM (MST)  
University of Utah - Gardner Commons 1900

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order (Fiker)**
- II. Approval of Minutes (Fall 2023) (Steven, then Brent second)**
- III. Reports**
  - A. Executive Council (20 minutes)
    - i. President—Ashley Nuckels Cuevas, San Diego State University
      1. Super excited about the tournament. Novice is really big which is great so no collapse for it necessary. Very happy for the community to exist. Thanks for letting me be here.
      2. I (Ashley) will be leaving and Adeja is president. Elections are coming. Even if not in positions at a university employed you can give to the community and see how you can implement change for success. Be in the room where it happens. Open it up for others.
      3. Steve is asking about the novice close but it's bylaws that just has the option to breakout fully. Also, that you don't have to be a full time employee, you can be a grad student or part time employee but no tenure required. But you do need to be done with debate competition.
    - ii. Vice President—Adeja Powell, Mercer University
      1. Thanks to Ashley for her service! On the priority list:
      2. Working on a website now. Couldn't get it for nationals but the goal is to get it done ASAP and see what we can streamline for the organization in the future.
      3. Second is a tournament calendar. If you're thinking of hosting, please try to get the details finalized ASAP (as institutions allow) so we can get it on the calendar before the tournament season starts or at least as close as possible to a well advanced schedule. Very important to me.
      4. Otherwise, I (Adeja) have some plans as incoming president. These discussions are key for the vision for the future of the NPDA. Very optimistic for change and we are over the hump. As the Executive Council, we are committed to things for next season.
    - iii. Executive Secretary— Fiker Tesfaye, Mercer University
      1. If you're helping with season sweepstakes and things please help by sending results and such from NPDA sanctioned tournaments! Duplicates great too for fact checking any results or verifying information!
      2. Also, please schedule your tournaments! Please!

3. Shannon also mentions that these documents are also available for things (bylaws and such) if needed.
- iv. Treasurer—Shannon LaBove, Rice University
  1. Updated invoices for the tournament will be provided as we calculate for other fees. It will be given ASAP with the important data. If you need it itemized it can be.
  2. Once that is done, we will put out a revised budget will be put on the new website (most likely!)
  3. Judges can be hired past their commitment and can email Shannon to be paid for extra work. Also send a sheet of proof of payment, but we don't take taxes out so make sure you consider that! Let me (Shannon) know also if you need alternative payment!
  4. Come to the Rice Classic! It's late September 2024!

#### B. Committees

##### i. Nomination Committee

1. Last time there was no real committee. This time, we will accept nominations until a date and then have a full vote. We also have the ability to have options for inclusion on these committees
2. VP will be open and if someone wants to run from the EC then that position subsequently will open more options for other positions
3. All information for nominations will be incoming from the EC very soon for those wondering
4. Kyle asks when the deadline is. Ashley says it will be soon for nominations but not yet open. ASAP generally.

##### ii. Championship Tournament Committee

1. Tournament Administration Subcommittee
  - a. All American nominations are still open. EOD Friday, March 15, is when they're due. Send to Ashley ASAP to get that done. Qualifications are posted but please also refer to the bylaws (Shannon suggests the keyword search)
2. Rules and Standards Subcommittee - nothing!
3. Host & Site Development Subcommittee
  - a. We have a bid for nationals 2025. The nominations for this and the EC will be put together. It's MCKendree! Surprise (not). Also have an NPTE bid so we can have back to back nationals and relieve travel burdens on teams.
  - b. Also we will be accepting bids for 2026 after so we can hit the ground running
4. Topic Selection Subcommittee
  - a. Committee was Nadya, Matt, and Sarah
  - b. They have community topics and they made the decision separately from

##### iii. Outreach Committee - nothing!

C. Tournament Director Announcements (handled in the opening ceremony)

D. Other Reports - nothing also!

#### IV. Discussion Items

A. Discussion Item - Flowing on laptops for official tournament use (Sean Nowlan)

- i. Tabled! No show for discussion so moved to next meeting.

~~B. Discussion Item - Tournament Scheduling for 2024-2025 (Fiker Tesfaye)~~

- C. Question - Chirayu asks about recording rounds
- i. Steve and Shannon make it clear that it's bylaw ability to opt in and out. And then otherwise it's a personal choice. We can post things with permission involved. No pressure or persuasion and discussed very much in advance from round start. Have respect and understanding. Ashley also notes that if they don't want it after then we cannot post (enthusiastic consent the whole way through)
- D. Question - Kyle asks about having a hybrid option for the national tournament even if in the future.
- i. Rationale: Possibility for other schools to enter even if not able to attend or not enough institutional support.
  - ii. Shannon says this is definitely a discussion both pre and post COVID about hybrid debate, especially at nationals. If you want a discussion item, you can. But sometimes the different platforms and experiences might be a drawback to the discussion. We are open to discussion though for these topics
  - iii. Ashley notes that the remote ability to join for the fall business meeting is key too to have the discussion to have an action item to pass.
  - iv. We need to change the rules and can't be hypothetical and it can't be optional. We can talk more in detail. We want to help so it can be successful.
- E. Question - Steve asks about the McK 2025 nationals date.
- i. Adeja says it'll be close to this date, but that the date could be a week before this one. Most likely March 7-10 for competition.
  - ii. Steven is worried about full service teams having overlap with other debate tournaments and formats in other places. Spring is tough for parli and SoCal is tough for those tournaments we go to but we should consider more CC entry for students when they have options to compete. Some might have conflict to the date. Lots of people were gonna be here but it conflicted with them and so we should think about the date options.
  - iii. Adeja asks Brent if there's flexibility in the dates. Brent says not really. Weekends around it might not be best for both team and university reasons. It's spring break and all that.
  - iv. Steven just wants it to be part of the conversation. Adeja makes it clear who can host and where the conflicts lie. We will try our best, but we have a large minefield to navigate. We will put these in for the bids available.
  - v. Shannon says we would have to adjust bylaws for long term solutions, but there might be other options. Shit might get critical.
- F. Question - Brent asks about the student rep position.
- i. We can have it up for election. Arjun Surya is key and he can help with that on Saturday
- G. Question - Darren asks about the outreach committee and what can we do to have people come back in to the world
- i. He offers to do it (thank you for it in writing!) and there's lots of other parli and what can we do to get them to show up or just be more involved with the general calendar. We need to bring schools up and in and there's lots of midwest schools that have the desire to join and we have the resources. How do we help them out?

- ii. Ashley thanks him for that and that there were intentions for that outreach that got sidetracked by getting the tournament in person and a website. So once we have this, it makes it easier to outreach as a whole.
- iii. Sometimes we just need the boots on the ground post COVID and the direction is great. You have done a good job, but don't be afraid to ask others for help.
- iv. Adeja loves asking for it and delegating so they offer that there will be the option for that and we want to do that with the coming years. Time and effort can be hard, but the more people willing to do it the better we can delegate and disperse responsibilities. How can we have more community involvement? It's the outreach committee and all the other subcommittees to get them full and functioning.

## V. Adjournment

### Schools/Coaches In Attendance

- Ashley Nuckles-Cuevas - SDSU+
- Adeja Powell - Mercer +
- Shannon LaBove - Rice
- Fiker Tesfaye - Mercer +
- Darren Elliot - KCKCC +
- Brent Nicholson - McKendree
- Joe Provencher - UT Tyler
- Steven Farias - U of Pacific +
- Kyle Pyor-Landman - SDSU+
- Alan Fishman - St. Mary's\*+
- Andrea Brown - St. Mary's \*+

\*Later attendance, so might have missed details

+Attended with students or other coaches/judges

Short meeting! Thanks to a community like you! Thank you!