



2024 Primary Schools State Debating Championships

The Collaroy Centre
Homestead Ave, Collaroy Beach

Sunday 17 to Wednesday 20
November 2024

Past champions	
1996	North Coast
1997	New England
1998	Northern Sydney
1999	Northern Sydney
2000	Hunter/Central Coast
2001	Northern Sydney
2002	Sydney
2003	North Coast
2004	Hunter/Central Coast
2005	Riverina
2006	Illawarra & South East
2007	Northern Sydney
2008	Sydney
2009	Sydney
2010	Riverina
2011	North Coast
2012	Northern Sydney
2013	Sydney
2014	Western Sydney
2015	Northern Sydney
2016	Northern Sydney
2017	Sydney
2018	New England
2019	Northern Sydney
2020	Not awarded
2021	Not awarded
2022	Hunter/Central Coast
2023	Illawarra & South East



Introduction

The NSW Department of Education congratulates you on being selected as a debating representative for your region. You will now be participating in the Primary Schools State Debating Championships along with other representatives from across NSW.

In this package you will find details of organisation, information on the camp, the rules of the competition and forms for completion. Please contact your regional coordinator at any time to discuss details of the championships.

Each regional coordinator is responsible for:

- Their team's travel arrangements. Some funds are available to assist regional areas with transport costs. Please contact the Speaking Competitions Officer about this assistance.
- Ensuring that the parent/caregiver of each team member completes the student permission form which makes up the final 2 pages of this package. These forms should be scanned and emailed to Tony Davey, the 2024 chief adjudicator, as soon as possible (contact details below) and then brought along to the camp and retained by the teacher in charge of the team.
- Completing risk assessments for travel to and from the championships.
- If applicable, preparing a parent/caregiver permission to cover permission to travel to and from the camp as per each team's arrangements.

The Arts Unit will provide:

- Three relief days for each regional coordinator
- Part of the accommodation costs
- Fees and accommodation expenses for adjudicators
- Palm cards, pens and paper etc for use in all debates
- Completed risk assessments for the venue and accommodation

Camp fees

The cost for the camp is \$310.00 TBC (GST-free) per participating student. This covers accommodation, meals, trophies, and certificates. Each student should make this payment to their own school. The department will then charge each school after the championships using the intercompany journal process.

Relief for the accompanying teacher

Relief will be paid to each coordinator's school via the intercompany journal process. Please let the office at your school know to look out for a payment of \$1,599 TBC (GST-free, includes oncosts) with the description 'Debating relief x 3 days 17 to 20 Nov 24.'

Look forward to seeing you there!

Justine Clarke
Speaking Competitions Officer
T: 8512 1172
M: 0418 412 218
E: justine.clarke@det.nsw.edu.au

Tony Davey
2024 Chief Adjudicator
Locked Bag 1500, PETERSHAM 2049
M: 0405 181 178
E: anthony.r.davey@det.nsw.edu.au



Camp organisation

Registration

Please fill out the 'Team registration form' included in this package and email it to The Arts Unit as soon as possible so that we can begin work on room allocation. Ensure that all names are correctly spelt and printed, as this form will be used to print the certificates which will be presented at the end of the championships. Please send the form as soon as you have the names of your team, and then resend as soon as you have the necessary dietary and health information.

Arrival and departure

Debating begins early Monday morning, so it is recommended that all teams arrive by Sunday evening. There will be a meeting followed by debating workshops after dinner on Sunday night. Teams unable to arrive on Sunday will need to contact The Arts Unit about their schedule for Monday morning. The championships end with an 11:00 AM morning tea on Wednesday.

Student accommodation

Students will be allocated to rooms with up to 6 children sharing bunk accommodation. Every effort will be made to ensure that team members are able to room with each other. However, male and female students will be accommodated in nearby but separate rooms, so some teams will be split up.

Teacher accommodation

Teachers will be accommodated in rooms at the end of the student wings, or in rooms nearby. The Arts Unit holds a booking for the teachers and adjudicators who will be in attendance.

The Collaroy Centre

The Collaroy Centre is located in Collaroy Beach on Homestead Avenue. The centre has an excellent website including maps, directions, lists of facilities available, and much of the information included in this package. The address is www.collaroycentre.org.au

Travel

Teams are responsible for their own travel to the championships. Bus services run regularly from the city and take roughly 50 minutes. There is ample parking at the centre. Directions are available on the website.

Meals

All meals will be taken together in the dining room. The first meal will be dinner on Sunday night, and the last will be morning tea on Wednesday. Each day will include a morning and afternoon tea and a supper along with regular meals. If any member of your team or any adult has special dietary requirements, please contact The Arts Unit as soon as you're aware and then include that information on the registration form.

Camp organisation continued

Health requirements

Please notify The Arts Unit immediately if any member of your team has special health needs. We particularly need to know if anyone has any severe allergies or will be unable to participate in certain outdoor activities. Note that a risk assessment for the camp will be sent to the regional coordinator.

Activities

Free time offers volleyball, basketball, tennis, play on a large oval and beach walks. Debaters are not to swim at any point during the camp. However, as they will get wet feet on beach walks, shorts and swimsuits are advisable. We will also have a 3D movie night organised for Monday evening.

2024 PSSDC state final

Don't forget that parents, families and friends are welcome to come to the PSSDC final on Wednesday at 10:00 AM. The final will be recorded for use as a teaching aid in schools, and may also be streamed live to primary schools across New South Wales. A video of the final will also be posted online for the public to view and download.

Things to bring

Supplies for debating preparation will be provided, but it's fine if teams want to bring along their own paper, pens and palm cards. Dictionaries will not be provided, and teams will not be allowed to take them into preparation. In addition, students should ensure they pack:

- A sleeping bag
- A pillow case
- Sleep wear
- A bath towel
- Toiletries
- Sunscreen and insect repellent
- Any personal medications – to be arranged with regional coordinator
- A hat
- A jumper or jacket
- Casual clothes for the day – weather is usually a pleasant 22°C to 27°C
- Walking shoes
- Warmer gear for nights – usually 15°C to 20°C
- Swimmers for beach walks
- A raincoat
- A quiet time book
- Spending money (drink machines available)
- Students are welcome to bring along balls or other activities as arranged with the regional coordinator, and sports equipment will also be provided for use in free time

Contacts

Please feel free to contact your regional coordinator or Justine Clarke and Tony Davey at the details above if you have any questions about the championships.



Rules of the championships

- Competitors must be from Year 5 or Year 6 and attending a NSW government public school. Only one student may be selected per school and each student may compete at state level only twice.
- The regional representative squad can consist of up to 5 members.
- In each debate there will be only 4 members per team of which only 3 will speak. Only the 4 participating members will be allowed into preparation.
- All teams are required to be present at the designated meeting place 10 minutes prior to scheduled preparation time.
- Debating teams are to be attired in a team uniform.
- For every debate there will be a choice of 3 topics. Topics will be set by the chief adjudicator in consultation with the adjudicators. All teams will choose from the same list of 3 topics in each round.
- During topics selection, only the 4 team members involved in the debate will be involved in the ranking of the topics from 1 to 3.
- Both 3rd choices will be eliminated, and the highest-rated topic chosen. Where two remaining topics are equally popular, a coin toss shall decide between them.
- The toss of a coin will determine affirmative/negative. The winner of the toss is the affirmative.
- For each round there will be a period of 60 minutes for preparation. There will be no adult present in the room during this time.
- The only materials allowed in preparation will be a timer, blank palm cards, paper and pens.
- Dictionaries will not be provided for preparation, and will not be allowed in the preparation rooms.
- Students may not take bags, mobile phones, or preparation aids into preparation.
- Teams will prepare in the same preparation room on any given day.
- Each regional coordinator will supervise the opposition team during preparation. They are responsible for ensuring the team remains undisturbed and for escorting the team to the debate once the 60 minutes has passed.
- Each speaker has 4 minutes to speak. There will be a warning bell at 3 minutes with two bells at 4 minutes. There will be a continuous bell if a speaker exceeds the speaking time by more than 1 minute.
- Each team will debate 5 times in the round-robin section of the championships.
- An adjudicator appointed by The Arts Unit will adjudicate all debates. Their decision will be final.
- The 4 teams with the most wins will move on to the semi-finals. They will be ranked by the adjudicators so that the top two teams are given the opportunity to meet in the state final.
- In the event that teams draw for semi-final spots, tiebreakers will be applied in the following order: head-to-head, strength of win, strength of schedule, adjudicator ranking. If more than two teams are drawn, the tiebreakers are applied in order until one team is eliminated and the process is restarted.
- The winners of the semi-finals will proceed to the state final on Wednesday. All teams are expected to attend the state final.



Program for the championships

Day 1 – Sunday 17 November 2024		
5:00 PM	Arrival and registration	Conference room
5:30 PM	Welcome and housekeeping	Conference room
6:00 PM	Dinner	Dining hall
6:45 PM	Team training session	Various
8:15 PM	Supper	Conference room
Preparation rooms for Monday debates		
Hunter/Central Coast:	Room TBC	North Coast: Room TBC
Illawarra & South East:	Room TBC	New England: Room TBC
Northern Sydney:	Room TBC	Riverina: Room TBC
South Western Sydney:	Room TBC	Sydney: Room TBC
Western Sydney:	Room TBC	Western NSW: Room TBC
Day 2 – Monday 18 November 2024		
7:30 AM	Breakfast	Dining hall
8:20 AM	Teams gather for topic selection	Conference 1
8:30 AM	Round 1 preparation	
9:30 AM	Round 1 debates – topic area TBC	Debate room
	1. Western NSW v Sydney	Room TBC
	2. Western Sydney v Northern Sydney	Room TBC
	3. South Western Sydney v New England	Room TBC
	4. North Coast v Illawarra & South East	Room TBC
	5. Riverina v Hunter/Central Coast	Room TBC
10:30 AM	Morning tea and free time	Dining hall
12:00 PM	Lunch	Dining hall
12:50 PM	Teams gather for topic selection	Conference room 1
1:00 PM	Round 2 preparation	
2:00 PM	Round 2 debates – topic area TBC	Debate room
	1. Sydney v South Western Sydney	Room TBC
	2. Northern Sydney v Hunter/Central Coast	Room TBC
	3. New England v Riverina	Room TBC
	4. Western NSW v North Coast	Room TBC
	5. Western Sydney v Illawarra & South East	Room TBC
3:30 PM	Afternoon tea	Dining hall
3:40 PM	Teams gather for topic selection	Conference room 1
3:50 PM	Round 3 preparation	
4:50 PM	Round 3 debates – topic area TBC	Debate room
	1. Illawarra & South East v Sydney	Room TBC
	2. North Coast v Northern Sydney	Room TBC
	3. New England v Western NSW	Room TBC
	4. Riverina v Western Sydney	Room TBC
	5. Hunter/Central Coast v South Western Sydney	Room TBC
6:00 PM	Dinner	Dining hall
7:00 PM	Recreational activities (movie night)	Lecture theatre
8:45 PM	Supper	Conference room



Program for the championships continued

Preparation rooms for Tuesday debates		
Hunter/Central Coast:	Room TBC	North Coast: Room TBC
Illawarra & South East:	Room TBC	New England: Room TBC
Northern Sydney:	Room TBC	Riverina: Room TBC
South Western Sydney:	Room TBC	Sydney: Room TBC
Western Sydney:	Room TBC	Western NSW: Room TBC
Day 3 – Tuesday 19 November 2024		
7:30 AM	Breakfast	Dining hall
8:20 AM	Teams gather for topic selection	Conference room 1
8:30 AM	Round 4 Preparation	
9:30 AM	Round 4 debates – topic area TBC	Debate room
	1. South Western Sydney v North Coast	Room TBC
	2. Sydney v Riverina	Room TBC
	3. Western Sydney v Western NSW	Room TBC
	4. Northern Sydney v New England	Room TBC
	5. Hunter/Central Coast v Illawarra & South East	Room TBC
10:30 AM	Morning tea and free time	Dining hall
11:45 AM	Lunch	Dining hall
12:20 PM	Teams gather for topic selection	Conference room 1
12:30 PM	Round 5 preparation	
1:30 PM	Round 5 debates – topic area TBC	Debate room
	1. Northern Sydney v Sydney	Room TBC
	2. Riverina v North Coast	Room TBC
	3. Western Sydney v South Western Sydney	Room TBC
	4. Hunter/Central Coast v Western NSW	Room TBC
	5. Illawarra & South East v New England	Room TBC
3:00 PM	Afternoon tea & free time	Dining hall
3:35 PM	Semi-finalists gather for topic selection	Conference room 1
3:45 PM	Semi-finals preparation	
4:45 PM	Semi-final debates	Debate room
	1. Team 1 (Conf: 1) v Team 4 (Seminar 1)	Conference room 1
	2. Team 2 (Conf: 2) v Team 3 (Seminar 2)	Conference room 2
6:00 PM	Dinner	Dining hall
7:00 PM	Free time	
8:15 PM	Supper	Conference room
Day 4 – Wednesday 20 November 2024		
7:30 AM	Breakfast and pack-up time	Dining hall
8:50 AM	Finalists gather for topic selection	Conference room
9:00 AM	State final preparation	
10:00 AM	State final debate	Debate room
	Win SF1 (Seminar 1) v Win SF2 (Seminar 2)	Conference room
11:00 AM	Morning tea and farewell	Conference room



Team registration form

Coordinator:

Region:

Mobile:

Dietary / Health Needs:

1	Student's Name:	School:
	Dietary / Health Needs:	M / F:
2	Student's Name:	School:
	Dietary / Health Needs:	M / F:
3	Student's Name:	School:
	Dietary / Health Needs:	M / F:
4	Student's Name:	School:
	Dietary / Health Needs:	M / F:
5	Student's Name:	School:
	Dietary / Health Needs:	M / F:

Email to: anthony.r.davey@det.nsw.edu.au



Student permission note page 1 of 2

Privacy advice

The personal information provided on this consent form will be used by the NSW Department of Education for general administration and communication and other matters of welfare relating to your child at this excursion. While the provision of this information is voluntary, it is strongly recommended that all details are completed. Failure to do so may impede the resolution of welfare issues if you are not able to be contacted. This information will be stored securely. You may access or correct any of the details at any time by contacting the teacher in charge of your representative team.

Permission

I give permission for my child/ward to attend the 2024 Primary Schools State Debating Championships at the Collaroy Centre, Collaroy Beach. from Sunday 17 to Wednesday 20 November 2024.

Student's Name:

Student's School:

I understand that:

- transport to and from the venue will be my responsibility in coordination with representative team's responsible coach.
- debaters will watch a PG-rated movie on Monday evening.
- it is my responsibility to provide sunscreen and a hat for my child and to ensure my child understands they need to reapply the sunscreen throughout the day.
- some children at the tournament may have a severe reaction to contact with nuts and I will avoid sending nuts or nut bi-products with my child.
- should my child's team make the state final, their debate may be streamed live to other primary schools in NSW, and that the debate will be recorded and made available publicly online with subtitles identifying my child.

- I acknowledge that this event is required to be held in accordance with any current NSW Health COVID-19 Public Health Orders and the NSW Department of Education's policies and procedures.
- I acknowledge and accept that there is a risk that my child may be exposed to COVID-19 whilst attending and participating.
- I confirm that my child will not attend if displaying any symptoms of illness, and/or if directed to isolate under public health orders.
- I understand that my child will complete a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) prior to leaving home on the morning before the start of the program and not attend the event if the test result is positive.
- I understand that I will be required to collect my child from the venue immediately if they become ill and present with COVID-like symptoms.

Parent/caregiver contact details

Name:

Signature:

Address:

Mobile:

Email:

Home phone:

Work phone:



Student permission note page 2 of 2

Doctor contact details	
Name:	
Address:	Phone:
Emergency contacts (other than the previous parent/caregiver details)	
Name (1):	Phone:
Name (2):	Phone:
List existing medical conditions or illnesses (include asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, allergies etc.). Outline the treatment for each.	
Outline special dietary needs and possible reaction to inappropriate diet.	
List any medication to be administered during the camp. Include name of medication, instructions for administration, and any possible reactions	
Student publication consent	
<p>I hereby consent to my son/daughter/ward being photographed, recorded, and/or filmed at the Primary Schools State Debating Championships from Sunday 17 to Wednesday 20 November 2024. I understand that the photographs, recordings and/or films may be used for NSW Department of Education publications, external publications, internet sites, social media, print and electronic mainstream media, television and or other associated promotional material or by sponsors of the departmental program in which the photograph, recording and/or film was taken. I understand that my son/daughter/ward may be identified by name and school with their image on any of these media forms.</p>	
Signature:	Date: