



## Castle Classic - Debate Topics & Ballot Checklist

1. Please check in to our Judge's Table no later than 7:30 am MST and be logged on to your **tabroom.com** account. The first few events will start at 7:30 am - You should return to the Judge room after each judging assignment.

- Carla Rust (assistant coach) and Brett Todd (team captain) will be there to assist you with technical issues and/or how to maneuver through Tabroom. If they don't know an answer, they will escalate the issue to the coaches in the Tabulation room.

**Judge Room** = 215

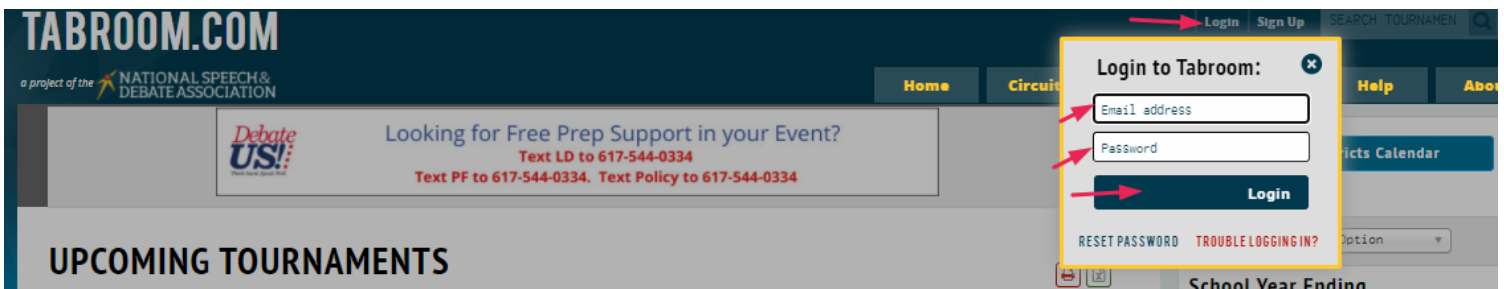
**Sarah French** (*Frenchie*) Cell = 970-405-3198 (text or call)

**Carla Rust** Cell = 307-399-3470

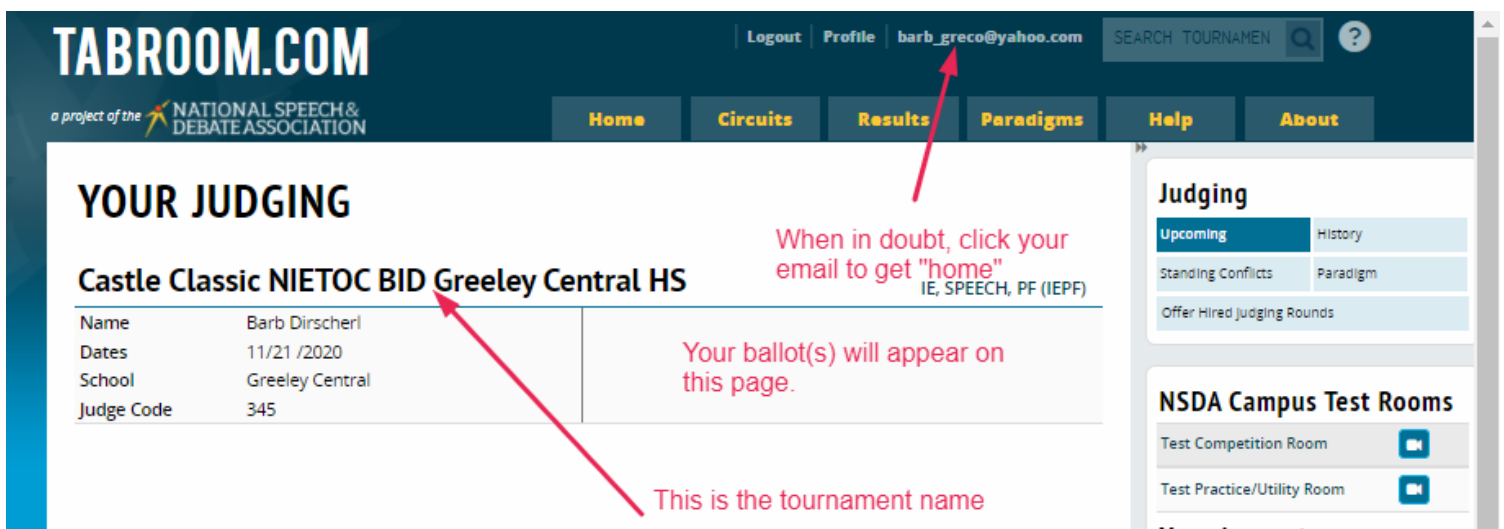
2. Each round, tabroom.com will "blast" an email and a text message when you have a ballot. Start as soon as you get this notification. Your ballot will be located on tabroom.com. Please make sure you are logged on. If you are judging for/are associated with a school at the tournament, the coach of that school should have added you to their judge list. If you are freelance and are not seeing the tournament when you logon to tabroom, please email Sarah ([sfrench@greeleyschools.org](mailto:sfrench@greeleyschools.org)) so she can add you to the tournament site on tabroom.

### 3. Getting around in tabroom.com

#### A. Log on



B. The Castle Classic tournament should be what you see as soon as you logon. If not, click on your email in the top right of the tabroom page after logging on.





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### C. Click on your ballot so we know you see and have started the round –

- **Non-debate events:** Start as soon as you have students. Many students are entered in 2-3 events during the same round, so may arrive late or need to leave early to get to their next event, THAT IS OK. Please do not wait for all 6 competitors to arrive before you start. Go with who has arrived and just make sure you match the correct code/student with their correct ballots. Watch all the students then rank them 1-6 (or however many you have on your ballot).
- **Debate/Draw events:** For the debates, start as soon as you have all the debaters in the room (if 10 minutes has passed and you have a no-show please inform Carla in the Judge's room so she can contact the Tabulation room).
- **Extemp and Creative Storytelling** will have the students arrive one at a time, as soon as that one student arrives, have them perform. They can stay and watch, but most likely will leave and the next student will enter and perform/speak. Please make sure the students who arrive match the names on your ballot... if they don't have the student return to draw to find their correct room BEFORE you judge a student not on your ballot.

4. Double check that you rank/score each competitor under their correct name before you submit your ballot. **It is OK (and preferred) to submit your ballot as soon as you have the ranks decided & entered on the ballot and then return to the ballot to finish entering comments.** This way, we know that the competition in the round concluded and can look to scheduling the next round.

5. **RANK** the competitors in ALL rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. This is how you think the students placed in the round (best performer/speaker gets the 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> best the 2, etc)

6. You will also need to assign each entry a **SCORE** which will be points ranging from **20** (*yikes, that was a rough/VERY subpar performance*) to **50** (*WOW you totally nailed it*). Do not tie points, and 1<sup>st</sup> place needs to have the most points assigned, 2nd place, the next highest points, etc.

7. **Please write comments on the ballot AS YOU GO.** Trying to save all of your comments until the end of the round is not very kind to your brain and will slow the tournament to a crawl. You aren't going to offend the synchronous students if you are sometimes not looking at them because you are writing comments **DURING** the performance/debate/speech.

8. Please submit your completed ballots within 5 minutes of the completion of the last performer/debater/speaker.

9. ALL JUDGES, please write a **Reason For Decision (RFD)**, as well as individual comments. Whether debate, duo or anything in-between, it is discouraging to get comments like "good, great, awesome" then be ranked last in the round with nothing to show why you lost the round.

10. **NO ORAL CRITIQUES.** Please do NOT offer oral critiques. It slows tournaments to a crawl and upsets some coaches as they are not privy to the advice being given to their students.

11. Use the restroom, grab some grub and/or something to drink and off you go to the next exciting round of competition. Tabroom should send you an email and/or text message as soon as you have another ballot. As soon as you get the electronic notification that means the next round is posted and ready to start. **After your round, please go back to the Judge Room.** If we are unable to locate a judge that is the first place we go to find people to replace them and it is nice to see if a live person exists that we can see/hear in that Zoom room.



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### 12. Debate Judges:

#### **Current Debate Topics:**

##### ***Congressional Debate Docket:***

There will be a provided list of the legislation given to the judges of these rounds

##### ***Lincoln-Douglas Debate***

**Resolved:** The United States ought to prohibit the extraction of fossil fuels from federal public lands and waters.

##### ***Public Forum Debate***

**Resolved:** The United States federal government should forgive all federal student loan debt.

##### ***Policy Debate***

**Resolved:** The United States federal government should substantially increase fiscal redistribution in the United States by adopting a federal jobs guarantee, expanding Social Security, and/or providing a basic income.

- "Flashing" (sharing arguments/evidence via flash drive) during prep **COUNTS** as prep time.
- Please remember, you are judging this round based on how well the debaters construct and communicate their arguments, NOT what you personally believe.
- Please leave a written reason for decision so the debaters and their coaches understand what arguments swayed you to vote a certain way. Please do not offer oral critiques.
- In Lincoln-Douglas, no debater may be tied in points and the winner must get more points.
- Public Forum Debate has a coin flip. The winner of the flip can decide what side of the debate to argue OR if their team speaks first or second. It is **CRITICAL** that you mark the correct names with the correct side they are debating on the ballot. It is not required, but **HIGHLY** recommended to take notes of their arguments throughout the debate so you can keep track of who does the better job refuting the opposing side.