

## Establish a consistent state tournament schedule

At an appropriate place in the constitution (state tournament section or as an Appendix), a schedule for the state tournament will be established. It will follow these parameters:

1. Six preliminary rounds of debate (LD, CX, PF), four of which are power-matched within brackets in a high/low fashion
2. Three preliminary rounds of individual events. The third round will use a “snaking” procedure allowing for the balance of power between sections.
3. Two preliminary sessions of Congressional Debate. Each session will be at least three hours in length
4. Allow for the maximum level of elimination rounds for each event. Current guidelines for elimination round participation will be followed.
5. The schedule will begin with the two pre-set rounds of debate. Alternating rounds of debate and individual events will take place so that events may use that time to power match pairings
6. Debate round schedules will be accelerated on elimination round day(s) when conflicts no longer exist with individual events.
7. This schedule may only be altered or shortened if weather emergencies result in the need to shorten the tournament
8. The schedule will include registration times that allow for schools to attend with a minimum amount of school days missed.

A regionally balanced ad-hoc committee will meet to discuss a plan. The demands of this schedule will be shared with and have the expectation that future tournament hosts meet these parameters

## Rationale

The TFA state tournament is one of the largest state academic competitions in the country. It is a logistical challenge. Each year, we seem to want to build a new schedule with little regard to past precedent or procedures. It makes it difficult for many schools to make travel plans and reservations when things change on a regular basis. A consistent and predictable schedule allows for persons to make necessary plans from one year to the next. Competitors also know the number of rounds in which they will be competing, and can reasonably expect to anticipate what level of performance may be needed to achieve elimination round participation.