



THE DEENS ACADEMY
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

DUELLUM DIALOGUS



9TH OCTOBER, 2025





WHO ARE WE?

“It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it”- Joseph Joubert

It is with great pride and jubilation that The Deens Academy unveils the second edition of its Annual Interschool Debate competition; Duellum Dialogus, which returns on the 9th of October, 2025.

This year aims to embolden the same invigorating spirit that shaped the previous edition, but with new additions that are sure to excite every debater. This year, Duellum Dialogus raises the stakes, hosting avid debaters from every corner of the city. This year, **all the city is a stage, but only one victor will emerge.**

Whether one has an army of accolades or is beginning their debating journey, we hope that everyone can seize this opportunity to present fresh arguments, broaden their perspective and ultimately duel in what will undoubtedly be a battle to remember.

With the stakes higher than ever before, who will clinch the final victory?



FORMAT

This year, Duellum invokes the **British Parliamentary** format of debate. A format rooted in English academia and prestige, British Parliament is the ideal choice of world reputed institutions such as World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) and now, Duellum Dialogus.

Please find the format that will be followed for all the rounds disclosed below:-

- ◆ The number of members per team is 2
- ◆ There are a total of 4 teams per debate, 2 teams in the Government (proposition) and 2 teams for the opposition

Government	Opposition
Team 1 (Opening Government) ◆ The Prime Minister ◆ The Deputy Prime Minister	Team 2 (Opening Opposition) ◆ The Leader of Opposition ◆ The Deputy Leader of Opposition
Team 3 (Closing Government) ◆ The Member of government ◆ The Government Whip	Team 4 (Closing Government) ◆ The Member of Opposition ◆ The Opposition Whip

In the British Parliamentary format, each team is competing not only against the opposing teams but also the team fighting on their own side. For example, team 1 is not just competing against teams 2 and 4, but also team 3.



- ◆ The opening government begins by arguing for the motion, with the Prime Minister. It is their duty to establish and define the motion.
- ◆ Next, the leader of the opposition delivers a speech against the motion. They may refute the opening government's definition of the motion and provide an alternative.
- ◆ This is then followed by the Deputy Prime Minister who supports the arguments presented by the Prime Minister and refutes the arguments presented by the Leader of the Opposition
- ◆ This is followed by the Deputy leader of the opposition who performs the same function as the Deputy Prime Minister.
- ◆ Then, the members of government and opposition extend the argument further.
- ◆ An important note for the members of government and opposition is that they must not go against the opening speakers. They must instead present an alternative argument which is stronger but does not refute any of the points already made.
- ◆ Finally, the whips conclude by substantiating the members of government and oppositions speech and refuting the previous speakers on the other side. They cannot refute the opening team on their side.
- ◆ This format ensures that every member is aware of their responsibilities and the points of the teams on the same side do not overlap.



POINTS OF INFORMATION



- ◆ Points of information or POIs can be raised on any speaker's speech by the opposing side. For example, the closing government can raise a POI on the opening opposition's speech.
- ◆ A POI is a short question to which the speaker provides a rebuttal. POIs can be asked at any time during the speech except the first and last minute.
- ◆ The speaker has the ability to either accept or reject the POI. Points are allotted both for the question asked and the answer. One POI must be allotted to only one question. After the speaker has answered, any additional questions must form another POI.
- ◆ Ensure that all POIs are short, precise questions that are relevant to the speech. Questions which are irrelevant or compound are grounds for demarking.

SPEECH TIMINGS

- ◆ Each speech lasts 5 minutes and the speaker is informed after 1 minute has passed and 1 minute before their time is up. Going beyond 5 minutes is grounds for demarcation.
- ◆ In every team, the member who speaks first is the one who introduces new arguments while the second only supports the arguments already presented.





RULES

Kindly note the following :-

- ◆ Event timings - 7:30AM to 3:00PM
 - At 7:30, registrations will open. From 8:30 AM onwards, an opening ceremony shall commence and by 9:00 AM, Duellum Dialogus shall begin. A detailed schedule of the event will soon be released on the website.
 - We are committed to following a strict schedule in order to ensure the event can function smoothly within a permissible time period. We would thus appreciate that every school arrives at their earliest convenience as this would allow us to commence on time.
- ◆ The maximum number of teams per school are 2.

Some general instructions to be followed by every participant are:-

- ◆ Participants must have identity proof with them when they arrive on campus. This includes an **id card** and a **copy of their Aadhar card**. *Any member not possessing proof will immediately disqualify their team.*
- ◆ Participants must wear their **full school uniform** on the day of the event.
- ◆ Participants may avail a wide array of food stalls during the event.
- ◆ Volunteers escort the participants to their respective classrooms for the debate. Loitering around school premises is strictly forbidden.



RULES

- ◆ Students must refrain from bringing illicit substances to campus. There will be bag checks and the discovery of such items will result in immediate confiscation and possible repercussions for the team.
- ◆ Participants will be given their motions once they arrive on premises and will be given 15 minutes time to prepare before the debate begins.
- ◆ Participants are allowed to make use of laptops during the event and will be granted Wifi access, which will be closely monitored to ensure it is employed only for permissible uses. Improper use of the internet will result in disqualification of the team.
- ◆ There will be no tolerance towards misbehaviour of any kind. Any team with improper conduct will be immediately disqualified.
- ◆ Participants are asked to adhere to their speech timings to allow the debate to close at its allotted time.
- ◆ It is also imperative to mention that the judges verdict is final and cannot be contested. Participants are asked to respect the rules of the debate and school, respecting each other and the judges.
- ◆ Speech content should refrain from employing profanities, hate speech and other impermissible content as this is grounds for disqualification. Speeches cannot attack the judge or any other participant.
- ◆ Strictly no form of plagiarism will be tolerated. Participants are forbidden from making use of Artificial Intelligence and other generative tools. The usage of such tools will result in immediate disqualification.





CONTACT US

FOR REGISTRATIONS OR MORE INFORMATION

For any queries, details or information related to the event including registrations, contact the following channels :-

EMAIL ID

debate@deensacademy.com

PHONE NUMBER

+91 93425 54641

+91 98919 92288

INSTAGRAM

[@duellumdialogus25](https://www.instagram.com/duellumdialogus25)

