

BLC DEBATE SCRIMMAGE

**On the campus of Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota
September 21, 2019**

For over a decade, the Bethany Speech Team tried to host a weekend Parliamentary debate tournament, the THBT Classic, to limited success. Several weekends were tried. Some conflicted with other tournaments. Some were at very busy times in the year. The last several attempts appeared to be too early to have debaters ready for competition.

In 2015, the last THBT Classic was cancelled due to lack of entries. Instead, Dordt College from Sioux Center, IA, came to Bethany when the THBT Classic was to be held and the two teams held scrimmage debates. Much fun and debating were had! In that spirit, the BLC Debate Scrimmage was born!

Format

The Debate Scrimmage has two parts: A training session for new debaters and the debate scrimmage for all debaters.

Training Session

A training session for new debaters will be held in the morning. Debaters will learn the rules and procedures of Parliamentary Debate. They will learn basic case construction and debate strategy. While an experienced debate coach will run the training session, experienced debaters and other coaches are encouraged to attend the training session to add input. Debate is all about understanding something from multiple perspectives!

Debate Scrimmage

The debate scrimmages will happen in the afternoon. One or more debates will be held (depending on number of participants). While two teams debate, the rest of the debaters, coaches, and judges will watch the debate. After the round is over, a discussion will be held on what everyone witnessed. Questions will be asked. Opinions will be given. No one will win or lose, this is just an opportunity to debate and learn.

Depending on the number of debaters, multiple rooms and multiple debates will be used. Rooms will be divided and experienced coaches and debaters will be in each room. Both novice and experienced debaters will debate.

Schedule

- 8:45-9am Registration at Honsey Hall 200
- 9 am Training Session Begins
- 11:30-1 pm Lunch on your own (Map of local restaurants will be provided)
- 1 pm Scrimmage #1
- 2:30 pm Scrimmage #2
- 4 pm Scrimmage #3

Entries and Fees

This event is **FREE** to all those who come. This is a no frills activity. There are no awards, no paid judges, or any food or refreshments (Ok, there will be coffee). You don't even have to dress up in a suit! Come for the debate, leave with the knowledge and experience!

Please register by email to Jon.Logging@blc.edu by 5 pm on Wednesday, September 12. Please specify how many debaters will be coming to the training session and/or the scrimmage.