



Dundee WSDC 2011

Hello everyone

This is the first WSDC Dundee newsletter from a frozen Scotland! During this past week when parts of the country have virtually ground to a halt we have indulged in comforting dreams of long summer days when you are all here and we hope so much that the weather will be kind and show off our country at its best.

Dreams, however, do not a tournament make, and you will appreciate that a lot of hard work is going on every week to ensure that things run smoothly when you get here. We imagine that everyone who is hoping to come has by now looked at our website www.wsdcdundee.com – if not, check it out for lots of info on accommodation, schedules, venues and so on. We are delighted to say that preparations are going well and we are very much looking forward to seeing you in August.

Contents

Welcome letter from Irene	p1
Registration policy	p5

As you will know, Beth James and Andrew Marshall will be our Chief Adjudicators and they have chosen their CAP who will support them in the running of the tournament. They are:

Taimur Bandey - Pakistan

Dan De Kadt - South Africa

Hayah Eichler - Israel

Eirianna Kouri - Greece

Malcolm Smart – Scotland



Useful contacts

www.wsdcdundee.com
Our website

www.dundee.com
Dundee City website

www.visitscotland.com
Tourist information

We have listened to and acted upon the concerns expressed on NetPals regarding the number and geographical spread of judges and have incorporated this into our registration policy. We have also met with Head Teachers of all secondary schools in which the debates will be held; they are very much looking forward to welcoming you all in their schools, have promised to provide audiences and are keen to support the tournament in any way they can.



We have a small army of Team Scotland alumni who have got together down south, christened themselves the Oxford

Volunteer Team and are doing amazing things in taking responsibility for all the different aspects of logistics which need to be checked out and overseen. You will know most of them; maybe for the next newsletter I will have time to get you some pictures of them!

We are working closely with Dundee City Council and other providers to ensure a variety of social activities which will give you a real feel for Scotland and the local area. We have arranged a practice dance session so that after the final ceilidh you can go home and announce proudly that you did some Scottish country dancing. The University of Dundee is giving us a barbecue; the dance school are organising an evening display and buffet and the Al-Maktoum Institute are inviting everyone to an Ifthar to share the experience of what happens during Ramadan. We will also be providing some optional tours of the local area, more information on which will be contained in the next newsletter.



Cameron Wyllie has been working on the Edinburgh Day; the 'halfway' Saturday when we shall undertake the 60-mile drive south in coaches to see our capital city at its busiest at the height of the Edinburgh Festival. It's amazing just to be there; there are impromptu performances on the streets and the buzz is tremendous. Cameron is arranging for you to go on walking tours of the city under the guidance of pupils from George Heriot's School; then we shall return to the school's beautiful grounds for supper before the journey back to Dundee.

Organising this event however, as you are all aware, has not been without problems. With the constant pressure to be as inclusive and welcoming as possible – aims which in themselves are entirely laudable – it is going to become increasingly difficult for the or-

dinary intelligent debating coach (to paraphrase a familiar line from the Stockley document) even to consider offering to run the tournament. When we took on to do it in the wake of Scotland's victory in Seoul, we were conscious that we had last hosted in 1991 when the numbers attending had been very small. A review of the attendance over the previous decade revealed numbers ranging from 25 to 39, and so our capacity of 44 seemed more than viable. Now, after Doha and the generosity of our Qatari hosts, it would appear it may not be. This is a small city and its facilities are commensurate with its size; such limitations have to a very large extent determined the number of teams and delegates we can invite.

There is no easy answer to this but as it is the host's responsibility to run the tournament, we have had to make the decision to set a cap of 44 teams. We have talked about it endlessly; we have looked at a variety of means of addressing the problem and after much debate have come up with the registration policy attached. With South Africa beckoning in January 2012, we have no idea how many teams intend to come to Dundee but we would encourage you all to register. We do however have some good news. We have generously been given a reasonable amount of money to award in bursarial aid to less wealthy countries and, if you feel that your team would benefit from such a bursary, please do apply. These bursaries will be awarded only to debaters, not to coaches or judges.

Until now WSDC has almost always been run for debaters by people who love debating. Mehvesh had a wonderful phrase in an e-mail about 'where there is excitement in the air because a debate is about to occur, and where there is appreciation for debate as an art form'. We are confident that we can generate that kind of excitement.

With all best wishes for 2011

Irene

Irene McGrath

Tournament Convenor, WSDC Dundee 2011



Registration Policy for WSDC Dundee 2011

The purpose of this document is to explain how registration will work for WSDC Dundee 2011. It is an expanded version of the document submitted by Cameron Wyllie, at the request of the WSDC Council in Doha.

This policy is designed to ensure that as many nations as possible can compete in a tournament which is well judged and efficiently managed. The registration process will be broken into five stages beginning in January 2011. This is to allow the organising committee to make bookings, financially plan, and assess demand for judges as early as possible. Additionally, to enable us to manage various logistical and budgetary constraints, we intend to ask for a non-refundable deposit to be paid before we collect the full registration fee balance from each nation.

If any aspect of this policy is unclear nations should contact the Convenor immediately at Contact@wsdcdundee.com

Registration Fee: £480.

This fee is inclusive of Value Added Tax which, as a UK-based company, we are required to pay. Nations may be able to reclaim this tax (£80 of total fee) and should consult their national tax authorities for information. Global Tax Reclaim (<http://www.globaltaxreclaim.com/>) will provide a free consultation if this process is unfamiliar.

Please note that the figure of £480 above applies to the vast majority of rooms, which are single en-suite and grouped (as in Wales 2006) into flats of mostly 7, with a few of 6 or 8 rooms. We may also be able to secure some rooms in the new Opal residence at the University of Abertay Dundee.

The cost for any observers will be £720.



Team Cap: 44 nations

Due to restrictions on accommodation and in venues, we have had to set a cap on the number of teams which will be able to participate in WSDC Dundee 2011. The allocation of these places will be subject to a formal cap policy which is appended to this document. In calculating a reasonable cap, we have allowed for an increase on the average number of teams which participated in the tournaments prior to Qatar whilst ensuring that the tournament in Dundee is run as effectively as possible.

Stage One (28th January – 10th February 2011):

In the initial stage of registration, nations wishing to participate will be able to register online via Dundee City Council's Convention Bureau online booking system.

Nations wishing to participate should:

1. Register a **maximum of seven individuals**, including all the speakers in their team, a coach and **at least one judge**
OR

Register a **maximum of six individuals**, including the speakers in their team and a coach, if one judge cannot be provided. One adult member of each delegation must be the named Team Manager. We would encourage nations to nominate either their

coach or judge as the team manager wherever possible. At this stage we do not need to know the names of each delegation member if they are not yet decided upon.

2. Indicate on the registration form if they would like to apply for bursarial aid, kindly provided by Baillie Gifford, Edinburgh and the Al-Maktoum Institute, Dundee. This aid is designed to help nations meet the costs of **debaters' registration fees only** and will be awarded only to teams who may have genuine difficulty participating in the tournament without it.

An e-mail explaining your reasons for applying for a bursary should be addressed to **Irene McGrath, Convenor**, and sent to Convenor@wsdcdundee.com **before the close of stage one registration on 10th February**. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

3. Indicate how many additional delegation members they would like to bring. At this stage we will not be able to guarantee additional spaces but we will prioritise applications for judges until we meet the minimum requirement of judges for the tournament.
4. Complete the Adjudication Questionnaires which will be on the main website for **every** judge for whom they wish to apply. When allocating additional spaces we will give priority to past WSDC experience and geographical diversity.

When registration opens we ask that **individuals wishing to apply to be independent judges** should contact the CAs directly at CA@wsdcdundee.com

Nations will be awarded places in the tournament in accordance with our cap policy. We recommend that teams register as soon as possible. Teams who register late will be placed on a waiting list.

Stage Two (21st February - 28th February 2011)

1. Nations that have been awarded a place in the tournament will be notified.
2. Nations that have been awarded additional judge spaces will be notified.
3. Nations that have been awarded additional spaces for other delegation members will be notified.
4. If, after this allocation process is complete, there are still spaces available, nations who have been put on the waiting list will be awarded places.
5. All successful independent judges will be contacted.

If, for whatever reason, a nation does not wish to continue with their registration or has the need to amend their delegation size, they must contact the organising committee immediately at Contact@wsdcdundee.com

Stage Three (1st March – 31st March 2011)

1. Nations and independent judges will receive a registration invoice and will be required to pay a non-refundable deposit of **50%** of their total balance via the Convention Bureau link.

Any nation which fails to make this payment by the 31st March will be struck from the tournament and places will be reallocated.

Stage Four (1st April - 20th May 2011)

1. Nations will receive an updated registration invoice and will be required to pay their full outstanding balance.
2. Every nation and independent participant will be given an account on the booking system. They will be asked to log in and submit all their final details (arrivals information, dietary requirements, etc) as soon as these are known.
3. Any nation which fails to make this payment by the 20th May will be struck from the tournament and places will be reallocated.

We have tried to ensure that this policy is as fair as possible and we hope that nations will find this document clear. If there are any queries regarding the registration process, please contact Contact@wsdcdundee.com

All queries regarding the adjudication process should be sent directly to the CAs at CA@wsdcdundee.com

Please note that **only the Contact address will be live until registration opens.**

**Irene McGrath
Malcolm Smart
WSDC Dundee 2011**

Headline sponsor **BRODIES** LLP

Other sponsors include



WSDC Dundee 2011 Cap Policy

In the event that 44 or fewer teams register, all those teams will receive places.

In the event that 45 or more teams register, places will be allocated as follows:

- 35 places will be reserved for 'nations of long-standing'. These are nations which have participated in and contributed to WSDC over many years and therefore we feel it is appropriate that these teams receive some protection. A 'nation of long-standing' is a nation that has either participated in the last three WSDCs, or participated in at least five WSDCs in total.

In the event that fewer than 35 'nations of long-standing' register by the stated date of 11th February, these extra places will become available for other nations.

- Priority will then be given to those teams which have qualified for a bursary awarded by Baillie Gifford. They will be contacted during the period 10th – 21st February and asked to confirm their attendance.

After these two allocations, all remaining places will be allocated by random draw.



We can't wait to see you in Dundee in summer 2011...