Newsletter #2

WORLD SCHOOLS DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIP 2016
STUTTGART · GERMANY

Dear WSDC community Happy New Year to all of you!

As you can imagine, the year date of 2016 has been a constant companion of ours ever since we started planning WSDC Stuttgart Region in the spring of 2013. As the tournament finally draws closer, we'd like to give you a long awaited update on the registration and participation fee situation, among other things.

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Pre-Registration & Fees

Most pressingly, you'd be interested to know that the set standard participation fee will be **580 EUR** for debaters, judges, coaches, and team managers who are also registered as a judge or a coach, which is still within the range we've announced in Singapore and in our previous newsletter, but sadly on the upper end, rather than closer to 500 EUR, and the reasons for this are ironically good news.

After our voluntary pre-registration, where **63 nations** have thankfully left us their best guesses of how many people would arrive, we knew that participation would exceed not only previous WSDCs, but also our most recent estimates of 450-500 participants.

There are 11 nations that have attended WSDC 2015 and haven't signed up during pre-registration, many of which we believe will undoubtedly join in as of the next registration stage. Given the information at hand, there is the potential of having **565 participants** joining in, not counting additional independent judges.

We think it is a **great achievement** of the WSDC movement to reach the attention of 74 nations, whether they will eventually be able to arrive in Stuttgart or not. In addition to corporate sponsoring, significant funding by the **State of Baden-Württemberg** and the **City of Stuttgart** has given us a strong financial base. However, every additional participant sadly doesn't add to the tournament budget, but is subsidized with the amount of ca. 250-300 EUR.

This means that the funding based on 450-500 participants and 50-60 teams will now may have to be shared by amazingly more potential new arrivals (we're counting up to 20 nations for 2016 that were not in Singapore), in figures: almost 100 participants more than expected.

It's unlikely that there will be 74 teams participating in WSDC 2016. However, based on tendencies reflected in pre-registration, we think the final number of teams will be somewhere between 60 and 70. If participation should unexpectedly end up on the upper end of the scale, we'd like to be prepared for it and make such **high attendance possible**.

Delegation size

Our current arrangement with MARITIM hotel Stuttgart guarantees accommodation for **510 delegates** in mostly 2-bed, but also some 3-bed rooms. Divided by delegations with an average number of seven, that would still give room for 72 teams. We are currently negotiating for more beds at MARITIM Stuttgart.

As a compensational measure, we have negotiated a contingency of beds at the downtown youth hostel and have created a **cheaper package** for a specific group of delegates, and it's aiming at **additional/ independent judges,** who also ensure consistent judging at the tournament. We call them '**+3 judges**'.

+3 judges (€380)

In order to alleviate some pressure on the number of beds at the hotel, and at the same time incentivize teams to bring along more judges, we have created a second, more feasible offer we'd make **exclusively and limitedly** to **(independent) judges**, or teams who send **more than** two adults, namely one TM/judge and one TM/coach or two coaches (one being TM).

The third adult as judge ('+3 judge') could then choose to reside in the youth hostel for a lower fee and would find their own way to the hotel meeting point using the rail passes all tournament participants will receive (15-20').

Costs will be **€380 per +3 judge at the alternate hostel**. It includes accommodation, the rail pass, as well as all food provided at central dinners and at the school venues.

We expect each delegation to bring at least one judge. Given the estimated size of the tournament, we would also strongly encourage all delegations to consider sending **more than one judge**.

+3 judges pay **€ 380** and can register as of Stage 2 (starting 12th FEB).

Please note: There are only limited spaces available at the alternate hostel, and delegates can only be put there as +3 judges (no TM or coaches).

Fee summary

We can guarantee accommodation at the tournament hotel (MARITIM Stuttgart) for an average of **seven delegates per nation** with a participation fee that **does not exceed 580 €**, despite the increased interest in participation.

Role	Amount
Debater, Judge, Coach, Team Manager also serving as a (Co-) Coach or Judge,	**€580**
Independent judge at Hotel Maritim	**€580**
Independent judge / +3 adult as judge at Youth Hostel International (limited offer)	**€380**
Sponsored (delegate) judge at Hotel Maritim	**€290** **see p. 3**
Observer, team manager registered as observer	**€ 1,100**
Single room surcharge (subject to availability)	**€ 370**

Registration

Once registration starts for the second stage on 12th FEB, sign up as many delegates as you have planned (numbers only, names in Stage 3). Naturally, some delegations will be smaller, allowing larger delegations in return.

If, however, we exceed a certain limit, we will ask large delegations to reduce their size (e.g. observers), asking to re-consider first, but then we may also have to scratch participants, our least liked option.

Please note: Pre-reg data does not make any higher claim to a larger delegation! It has always been presented as non-binding in any way and merely used as a rough guide for our planning, for which we are grateful and to which we've also reacted accordingly.

Payment-relevant procedures and links:

Stage 2 (**12th FEB – 11th MAR**):

- Number and roles of delegates
- 50% pre-payment, non-refundable
  Must arrive by 18th MAR
- 100% payment/names optional

Stage 3 (**22nd APR-20th MAY**)

- Names of delegates
- Scanned documents
- Full payment, 10% refundable
  Must arrive by 24th MAR (Easter weekend!)

Attached to this e-mail, you will also find a registration summary PDF.

See all the details on our online checklist as well.

Registration domain:

www.reg-wsdcgermany2016.com

Subsidized judges

The CAs will allocate the equivalent budget of 25 judges receiving a 50% subsidy to an eligible number of recipients. If too few candidates qualify, 100% subsidies may be allocated as well.

Applications are open from
18th JAN- 19th FEB 2016

To apply for a judge subsidy, please visit this page, read more info and fill in the form:

http://www.wsdcgermany2016.com/adjudication/

Tournament changes

It has proven difficult to find corporate sponsoring that would pay for room and board. With current numbers, one prelim day **dinner at the hotel** equals roughly 10,000+ € per night, or 20 € per person, so we had to keep it with two dinners at the hotel.

We thought we'd rather keep the participation fee low and let you have the chance to find dinner options for less than € 20 in walking distance to the hotel, of which there are many. Done intelligently, you could even have two meals for the same amount of money.

For this, we're currently contacting around **25 restaurants in the vicinity of the hotel** and are trying to arrange for discounts and preferred reservations for participants of WSDC. We'd then have a comprehensive guide to dinner alternatives in walking distance to the hotel with various types of food from local to international and vegan/vegetarian.

We hope we can also negotiate similar discounts for the hotel buffet itself (and pay individually).

CAP – Feedback wanted

The CAs would like to thank everyone who submitted their application to be part of the CAP for WSDC 2016.

During this stage of the CAP selection process, the CAs are seeking **community feedback** on the candidates that have completed the application form and that have judged in at least one WSDC already, as required by the WSDC rules in order to be a member of the CAP.

That is why we highly encourage all members of the debating community that have feedback on any of the following candidates, to please send their comments via this form by **February 1st 23:59 UTC+0**.

The feedback responses will be viewed **strictly by the CAs only**. We will accept anonymous submissions, however, more credibility will be assigned to feedback which is not anonymous.

The CAP candidates for WSDC 2016 are:

Alam Ishraq Chowdhury (Bangladesh)
Cristina Loayza (Peru)
Franco Scamarone (Peru)
Hamish Saunders (New Zealand)
Joshua Park (Korea)
Keana Reinu (Malaysia)
Lisa Schallenberg (The Netherlands)
Paidamwoyo Mangondo (South Africa)
Roel Becker (The Netherlands)
Taimur Bandey (Pakistan)
Thepparith Senamngern (Thailand)

To leave feedback on the candidates mentioned above, visit this page, and fill in the form by **February 1st 23:59 UTC+0**:

http://www.wsdcgermany2016.com/adjudication/

Motions committee

The motions committee for WSDC 2016 consists of five previously elected and two members, who were appointed by the tournament convenors. They are:

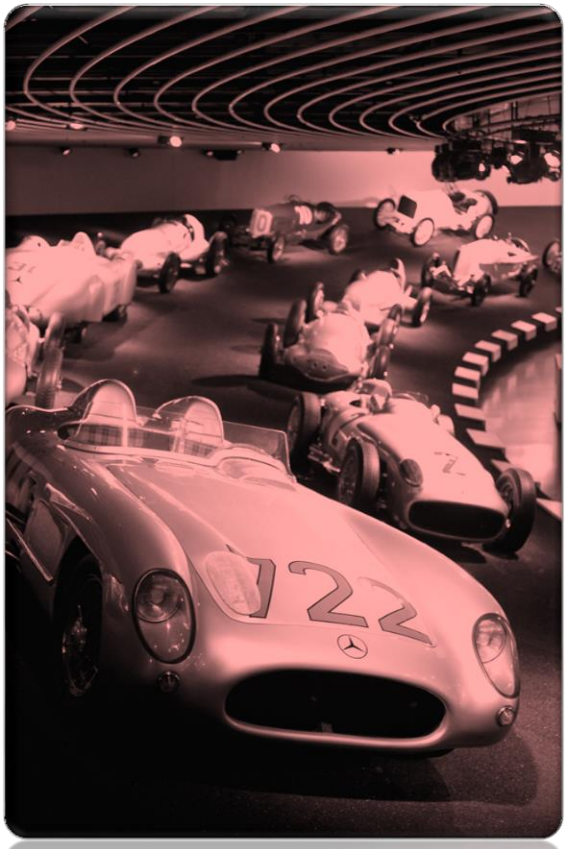
Aisha Ahmad, Pakistan
Anna England Kerr, England
Daniel Swain, Australia
Georgie Barker, Scotland
Kaspar Kelder, Estonia
Paidamwoyo Mangondo, South Africa
Udayan Mukherjee, New Zealand

We thank both, the CAP applicants and the motions committee members for their voluntary hard work and commitment!

Pre-registered nations

We are happy to announce the intended participation of the following nations (63):

Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bermuda, Botswana, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, England, Estonia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Scotland, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, Uganda, USA, Wales, Zambia, Zimbabwe



Contact

Please write to our registrations officer Christine Blume at

registration@wsdcgermany2016.com

Visa issues

Contact Christopher Sloan at
chrsloansg@yahoo.de

Chief Adjudicators

Branislav Fečko-Čegin, Slovakia
Rocío Abril, Argentina
CA@wsdcgermany2016.com

Convenors

Christopher Sanchez and Jana Gilke
convenor@wsdcgermany2016.com

Registration Webpage

www.reg-wsdcgermany2016.com

Tournament Webpage

www.wsdcgermany2016.com
On Facebook

See you soon in Stuttgart!

Jana Gilke and Christopher Sanchez,
on behalf of the WSDC OrgComm