

The State Debate Tournament Commission (SDTC) tries to promote debate throughout the high schools in Illinois. Our main task is to sponsor a state tournament for novice and junior varsity competitors in Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, and Congressional debate. We are open to hosting policy debate when enough schools express interest.

The 2015 tournament was held March 13-14, at James B. Conant High School in Hoffman Estates, hosted by Frank Kernats. There were 36 novice and 32 JV teams in public forum, 43 novice and 28 JV debaters in Lincoln Douglas, and around 30 novice and 28 JV Congressional debaters. In addition to giving awards to the quarterfinalists and top ten speakers in all events, we presented two Student of the Year debate camp scholarships.

The coaches who served as commissioners include Carol Harms, Belleville East HS, chair; Laine McGraw, Carl Sandburg HS; Vince Willaredt, Granite City HS; Michael Colletti, A.A. Stagg HS; Darrell Robin, Schaumburg HS; and Brian Voss, Libertyville HS.

The 2016 tournament will be held March 11-12 at Belleville West High School, hosted by coach Brandon Hentze.

All teachers or coaches interested in entering their students in our tournament or to observe debates should contact Carol Harms at charms@bths201.org. We welcome new schools into our debate community.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Harms, SDTC chair
Belleville East High School