



The National Debating League

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Invitation to the NDL's 2027 All Girls Debating Championship

Dear Coaches and Coordinators,

Greetings from the National Debating League (NDL). We work with over 200 schools across South Africa run structured and competitive debating programs. We see debating as more than just a competition – it is a powerful tool for building confidence, teamwork, and lifelong connections.

We are writing to invite your school to the first edition of the NDL All Girls Debating Championship.

The championship will be held on 25-27 June 2027 at Merrifield Prep & College in KuGompo City (East London), South Africa.

Entry is open to all schools. To be eligible, students should work in teams consisting of three to five members and be in Grades 4 to 12. There are four age divisions:

Group A (Grade 10+) | Group B (Grade 8-9) | Group C (Grade 6-7) | Group D (Grade 4-5)

For experienced teams this presents a chance to stretch their abilities and test themselves against some of South Africa's strongest debaters. For new teams, this will be a supportive environment where guidance and mentorship nurture growth and confidence. Highly experienced debaters may want to register as "mentors". They will be paired with a Junior team. They will impart experience, support them through the highs and lows, and share their passion.

Each team will need to bring a teacher who is willing to adjudicate debates. We will guide them through the process of adjudication with a training session at the start of the event. This training will make the process of adjudication enriching and enjoyable. Many of our adjudicators in South Africa are teachers or school principals. They have commented on how adjudication experience has helped them become more critical thinkers who are able to engage in important managerial roles.

More information about the program such as the pre-prepared topics, registration fees, and schedule can be found here: <https://ndl.org.za/tours/all-girls>. In addition, you are welcome to email us using Thishin@ndl.org.za or WhatsApp using +27 81 343 9036.

We are deeply grateful to Merrifield Prep & College for partnering with us to host this event. With their support, and yours, we hope to add to our diverse community of debaters and critical thinkers.

Yours sincerely,

Thishin Moodley
The National Debating League