

# TEAM MEXICO SELECTIONS 2023



## Welcome to the 2023 edition of Team Mexico and Development Team Tryouts!

Once again, we are looking for the brightest and best students to join us and tryout for the chance to represent Mexico at the highest levels of debate in English. We believe that being a part of this team is a life-changing experience, and one that we hope you join us in making it happen!

This document will explain all relevant details about the tryouts process. If you have any doubts, please feel free to contact us at - [caste@debatemx.org](mailto:caste@debatemx.org) AND [TeamMexicoDebate@gmail.com](mailto:TeamMexicoDebate@gmail.com)

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# WHAT IS WSDC?



The World Schools Debating Championships (WSDC) is the world's most prestigious english-language high school debate tournament. Each year, over 60 countries come together to interact, debate and learn from each other. Teams will typically debate 8 preliminary rounds with the top 24 advancing into elimination debates.

Typically, WSDC is held in a different country each year and the tournament occurs over the course of 11 days. This usually includes cultural and social events, such as Countries Night where each team brings cultural gifts such as snacks to share with the other competitors.

In previous years, WSDC has been held in a variety of countries including Germany, Thailand, Indonesia, Croatia, South Africa and Singapore.

**TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT WSDC,  
PLEASE YOU CAN  
VISIT:  
[WSDCDEBATE.ORG](http://WSDCDEBATE.ORG)**



# WHAT IS TEAM MEXICO?



For the past 13 years, Mexico has competed at WSDC! Each year we hold a series of tryouts in order to determine who are the main members of the team. Typically, 5 main speakers are chosen to compete at the tournament (as per the rules of WSDC) along with the selection of 3 reserve members.

**Team Mexico is working hard.** We are not a team that accepts laziness or excuses. We think Mexican students are as smart and talented as any in the world, but in order to prove that we also work as hard as anyone in the world. This year, students will begin training in November and continue all the way until the tournament in July.

**Team Mexico is family and fun.** As important as the work is, we also believe that unity and team dynamics are the key for not just success but also for enjoying the process. Every year we have Team Mexico alumni come back and help coach and train the team because of how meaningful the experience was for them. Education is at the core of everything we do at the AMD, and part of that is ensuring the students are enjoying what they do.



**Team Mexico is learning.** Debate is a great activity in and of itself, but the ultimate goal is not competition. Team Mexico is an opportunity to be challenged daily, having to learn and understand some of the most complex issues in today's world. Team Mexico provides students an opportunity to constantly be exposed to new ideas, have spaces to explore and understand a variety of issues and develop their abilities to think constructively and speak publicly.





# WHAT IS TEAM MEXICO?



In order to be on the team, we do expect that the final students selected place Team Mexico as one of their priorities over the following months. While we understand that school must come first and we want students to have time to explore other activities as well, being a part of Team Mexico is a privilege and students are expected to honor that commitment.

Trainings will begin in November and continue until July, when the tournament is held. There will be trainings and assignments for the Team through the school year though they will be limited in order to avoid over-burdening students. That being said, once the summer begins students will be required to spend a significant portion of their time training and debating. Should students fail to live up to the expectations of the workload, they will be at risk of being removed from the team.

The final training schedules will be determined once the team members are selected and we have an idea of each student's schedule looks like. That being said, if you are going to apply and participate in the tryouts please make sure that your summer plans align with the training schedule and most importantly, the dates of WSDC 2023.

# WHAT IS THE DEVELOPMENT TEAM?

The Development Team (or Dev Team for short) is an initiative going on its 6th year! This program has a unique focus on creating a space to train younger students to become the next generation of Team Mexico debaters. Students on the Dev Team will go through a training program comparable to that of the Team Mexico students, so that they are better prepared for future debate tournaments and tryouts.

The Dev Team will train throughout the remaining school year and through the first half of the summer. Part of their curriculum is to help develop cases to be able to debate, challenge and help Team Mexico as they prepare for WSDC. While the Development Team students are not eligible to participate at WSDC, we will look for online tournaments in which they can compete together to be able to put their training to the test.

The number of students selected to the Development Team will vary depending on the number of students who participate in Tryouts and are eligible to participate as part of the team. The final number will be somewhere between 5 to 15 total students.



# WSDC 2023

WSDC 2023 will take place in Vietnam. This tournament will be the 36th edition of the competition and it will be hosted in the capital city of Hanoi. This was voted unanimously by the WSDC Tournament Committee and will have a duration of 10 days. The tournament will officially happen from July 18th through July 28th 2023.

This event will be hosted in Vin University and will have a cost that ranges from 330-350 USD and will be confirmed shortly as the bid final confirmation arrives. There are some requirements that will need early attending to participate: 1) Passports should be valid for at least 6 months following the arrival date in Vietnam. 2) Mexicans must acquire a Vietnamese tourist visa to enter the country.

Taking this in consideration, the trip will require heavy organization and planning to guarantee it's success. Both the Team Mexico coaches and the AMD will be in contact with Team Mexico parents to ensure the best possible prices, safety and organization prior to the tournament. Please be on the lookout for the payment dates which will be announced shortly. We are very excited to have WSDC as an in-person event once again but need the support and puntuality from the parents to ensure this trip happens.



# HOW WILL THE TRYOUTS OPERATE?

For the third year in a row, Team Mexico tryouts will be run mostly online, we will announce the dates and locations if there are to be in-person activities.

Predominantly we will be using Google Drive as the space in which students should upload their work and videos while Zoom will be the platform to host online debates.

The 4 areas of evaluation that will be taken into account for the Tryouts Process is:

- Attendance and Punctuality
- The Research Exam
- Mixed Teams Impromptu Debate Rounds
- Recorded Prepared Motion Speeches

The details regarding each of these areas will be sent out to all applicants following the conclusion of the time allotted to submit any applications.

Using an excel-based system, we will calculate each person's scores as they pertain to each area and ultimately rank the students based on these scores. The top 8 students will be selected to be part of the Team Mexico training process.





# HOW WILL THE TRYOUTS OPERATE?

Following the selection of Team Mexico, the next 5-10 highest scoring students who are eligible will be selected to the Development Team.

While the primary purpose of this selection process is to determine the students who will form a part of each national team we still desire that these same tryout processes are beneficial to all who participate, whether they are selected or not. To that end, we will be organizing a variety of workshops for all applicants to attend. These workshops will also be made available via video and pdfs to all participants should they be unable to attend the live workshop sessions.

The registration for the Tryouts will open Friday September the 9th. The registration form will be open for 21 days, closing at 11:59 pm on the 30th of September.

To register please go to the following link:

<https://forms.gle/Fpund5ZJMQ5hP4gr6>

The tryout process will begin on the 1st of October and continue until the 30th of the same month. The final announcement of the selections of each will be announced by November 6th.





# RELEVANT DATES

We will be sending out a more complete calendar with all the specific assignment deadlines following the closing of the registration deadline. That being said, here are all the most important dates that we can announce as of now -

## September

30th - Registration and Payment Deadline

## October

1st - Tryout Process Details are sent out to all applicants

PHOTO BY MARTIN R. SMITH

1st - Research Speeches handout

1st & 2nd - Workshop dates

21st, 22nd & 23rd - Impromptu Debate Rounds

29th - Knowledge Exam

30th - Research Speeches deadline

## November

6th - Team Mexico / Development Team Selections are Announced

Makeup dates for the Online Debates will be sorted out once the Tryouts have begun and we understand the availability of the relevant applicants.

Workshop dates will be determined and announced at a later date.

# HOW WILL THE TRYOUTS OPERATE?



For the Team Mexico Tryout processes, the cost is **\$ 2,000.00 MXN** per student.

For the Team Mexico Training Process, the cost is **\$3,500 MXN** monthly per student.

For the Development Team, the cost is **\$3,5000.00 MXN** monthly per student.

Scholarships are available for all possible costs related to the Tryouts and Training process. Scholarships will only be provided on the basis of need, independent of performance past or present.

All money generated by the Tryouts and Training are re-integrated back into the circuit through the creation of scholarships, hiring of coaches and funding of academic events and opportunities.

Payment details for the costs will be sent out to participants following the completion of their registration for Tryouts.

All costs include I.V.A.

# WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT TEAM MEXICO AND DEBATE?

If you would like to learn more about Team Mexico as a structure or some of the previous student's experiences, we would recommend the following links:

- 1 - [Team Mexico Interview with Al Jazeera](#)
- 2 - [Team Mexico Interview with the INE](#)

If you would like to learn more about WSDC and watch previous debates, we would recommend the following links:

- 1 - [Online WSDC Finals 2020 \(Team Sri Lanka vs Team Canada\)](#)
- 2 - [WSDC Final 2017 \(Team England vs Team Singapore\)](#)
- 3 - [WSDC 2018 Round 8 \(Team Korea vs Team Mexico\)](#)
- 4 - [WSDC 2018 Round 7 \(Team India vs Team China\)](#)
- 5 - [Online WSDC Training Platform Exhibition Debate](#)

If you would like to learn more about about debate and watch previous workshops and trainings, we would recommend the following links:

- 1 - [Training Workshop on Refutation \(Spanish\)](#)
- 2 - [Training Workshop on Argumentation \(Spanish\)](#)
- 3 - [Series of Training Workshops from Proyecto Mexico 2020 \(Spanish\)](#)

# FINAL CLARIFICATIONS



## How can we contact you if we have any questions or would like to learn more about tryouts?

Please send us an email to [benjamin@debatemx.org](mailto:benjamin@debatemx.org) or call us at (55) 74473169 to contact us in regards to anything related to Team Mexico or the Development Team!

## If I am interested in a scholarship, what should I do?

Please fill out the following form: <https://forms.gle/Dtnp78EAYgP2nnA88> .The Scholarship application form will close at 11:59 on October 31. We will inform the applicants of the result of their scholarship applications by the 9th of November.

## Are there any eligibility requirements?

In order to participate at WSDC (and such, be selected to Team Mexico) you must be at least 14 by the time the tournament starts and cannot turn 20 before the tournament ends. For the development team there is no lower age limit to apply. The only restriction is students must have at least 1 year left of school.



# SOCIAL MEDIA AND CONTACT INFO



## WHATSAPP OR PHONECALLS

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