

Sebastian Templeton
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Kelburn
WELLINGTON

26 February 2011

Dear coaches and students,

Welcome to the Senior Premier A Grade for 2011. This year there are seventeen teams in the grade. Hopefully you are all looking forward to arguments in the top grade for Wellington school debating.

This year's grade will be run using 'power pairing', as was the case in Premier A last year. For those of you who are new to the grade – this means that after the first round your team will face a team on the same number of points as your own. If there is an uneven number of teams in one of these brackets a team will be randomly pulled up from the next bracket down. The first round has been drawn randomly. The draw for each round will be sent out soon after the completion of the previous round.

There are five preliminary rounds of debates, and then the eight top teams will 'break' to the quarter-finals. Some of the rounds are prepared debates, with the topic announced with the draw. The other rounds are limited preparation debates, with the teams having thirty minutes to prepare between the announcement of the topic and the commencement of the debate.

Quarterfinalists will be determined in the following way:

1. Number of wins;
2. Strength of opposition (ie, 'who beat whom');
3. Win points (total wins of opposition teams);
4. Number of defaults (teams with less being first);
5. Coin Toss.

Each round will start at 6:30pm sharp, at a school to be announced prior to the round. For limited preparation rounds the preparation time will start at 6:30 and the debate at 7. Changes of date will not be accepted, so if a team member is busy one night please make sure you find a replacement well in advance.

Please contact me with any concerns you have throughout the year. My contact details are below. If you are not receiving emails with topics, venues, and draws, please ensure that you email me. Such announcements will also be made on the website: <http://www.wsu.co.nz>

Yours sincerely,

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Premier A Debating 2011

The Draw

Round 1: Tuesday 15 March

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 6:30pm

Topic: This House believes that the West should not contribute military aid to non-democratic regimes.

Affirmative

Tawa College
Scots College
Wellington College
St Patrick's College Silverstream
Hutt International Boys' School
Queen Margaret College
Upper Hutt College
Kapiti College
Chilton St James School
Wellington Girls

Negative

Wellington East Girls' College
St Catherine's College
Heretaunga College
Samuel Marsden Collegiate School
Hutt Valley High School
Wellington High School
Paraparaumu College
St Mary's College
Sacred Heart College
BYE

Round 2: Tuesday 10 May

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 6:30pm

Topic: To be announced.

Round 3: Tuesday 24 May

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 6:30pm

Limited Preparation

Round 4: Tuesday 7 June

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 6:30pm

Limited Preparation

Round 5: Tuesday 21 June

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 6:30pm

Limited Preparation

Quarterfinals: Tuesday 16 August

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 6:30pm

Topic: To be announced.

Semifinals: Tuesday 30 August

Venue: To be confirmed

Time: 6:30pm

Limited Preparation

**Premier A Final for Henning Cup: Tuesday 20
September**

Topic: to be announced.

Wellington City Council Chambers, 7.30pm.