



Newsletter 4

January 2004

Dear Friends,

This is our last newsletter before we all meet in Stuttgart for what is looking like an action-packed ten days. We have three particular requests, the first to all adjudicators and the second and third to most teams.

Firstly, adjudicators, please bring your own **pocket calculators** for working out the marks; our resources won't stretch to supplying these...

And **secondly, teams**, please tell us which of the **excursions** (Hohenzollern /Tübingen or Heidelberg) you would like to go on Saturday 14th February; the coach companies need to know! You must let us know by **Wednesday, 28th January** how many of your team/delegation want to go to either Heidelberg or Tübingen on February 14th. Please contact Ellen Butzko, at ebu@online.de **immediately**. Teams who have transferred money for the excursions must also inform her about numbers to either Heidelberg or Tübingen as it is not always clear from the bank slips who wants to go where. If we have not received a reply by January 28 we will assume that the team/delegation prefers to spend the day in Stuttgart. We must book the coaches with a commercial operator so we will not be able to wait until the last minute; and we may have to cancel excursions altogether if we do not have sufficient numbers to fill the coaches. In the case of a cancellation you will of course receive a refund if you have already paid for the excursions.

And **thirdly**, Markus Bihler, who is organising **arrivals**, also has a request: In order to make sure that we are able to pick you up at the airport or train station at the day of your arrival, you **have** to send your travel details to Markus.Bihler@web.de **now** !

Please include: 1. Number of people arriving together, 2. Day of arrival, 3. Time of arrival, 4. Flight or train number, and 5. City and airport from which plane departs.

Update to the Rules (by Mark Gabriel):

Many people will be aware that a postal ballot of the World Schools Debating Council, seeking to make two changes to the World Schools Debating Championships Rules, began in December and closed on 14th January. The results of the ballot were as follows:

Proposal 1: Use of materials by teams in impromptu debate preparation rooms – Defeated

Although a simple majority voted in favour of changing the Rules to impose further restrictions on the types of materials teams can take into their impromptu debate preparation rooms, the necessary two-thirds majority needed to change the Rules was not achieved. Therefore the existing rules with regards to preparation materials will remain in place for the 2004 championships. Teams may bring in any written or printed materials they choose. (Though accessing information through any form of electronic means in a preparation room remains strictly prohibited.)

Proposal 2: Procedures if a debater falls ill during a debate – *Passed*

A two-thirds majority voted in favour of this proposed amendment, and therefore it is formally adopted into the WSDC Rules with immediate effect.

Under the new rule, if a debater declares that they are not able to give their speech after the debate has started, one of the team's two other speakers at the table will give a speech in replacement. However, no matter how good the speech is, it will automatically receive a mark of 60 on the judges' ballot sheets. (In such cases, the mark of 60 will not be taken into account when calculating any individual speaker rankings.) The replacement speech must be given by one of the two other speakers at the table. It cannot be given by a debater who has been seated in the audience.

Generally it is advisable that coaches do not put a speaker into a debate if they think there is a chance that the individual will not be able to complete the debate.

Schedule

The schedule, once more revised, can no longer remotely be described at tentative; in fact it may be taken as firm. Our thanks are due to the many people whose time and efforts have made and will make the events in the schedule possible.

- Wednesday 11th - Arrival; all teams will be met on arrival in Stuttgart (station or airport) and taken to Maritim Hotel, where **registration** will take place
- Thursday 12th - 8.00 breakfast
8.30 – 16.00 briefing for coaches and adjudicators (Maritim Hotel)
8.30 sports morning for debaters (various venues)
13.30 teams meet their guides (Maritim Hotel)
14.00 Stuttgart City Tour (guided walk; start at Maritim Hotel) and reception for debaters ("Kunstgebäude" (House of Art) of the Württemberg Art Society)
16.00 **Opening Ceremony** with Lord Mayor Dr Wolfgang Schuster
- Friday 13th - 7.30 breakfast
8.30 travel to debating venues in Stuttgart (walk, or public transport)
10.00 welcome at schools
11.00 – 12.00 **Round 1** (prepared motion)
Lunch at venues
14.00 – 15.00 preparation time
15.00 – 16.00 **Round 2** (impromptu)
Evening: wine tasting
- Saturday 14th - 8.00 breakfast
9.00 coaches leave for **excursions** (Heidelberg or Tübingen)
18.00 return to hotel
Evening free (an opportunity to eat out)
- Sunday 15th - 8.00 breakfast
9.00 walk to University of Stuttgart (K2, Institut für Anglistik)
10.00 welcome at university
10.30 – 11.30 **Round 3** (prepared motion)
Lunch: lunch packets supplied by hotel
12.30 – 13.30 preparation time
13.30 – 14.30 **Round 4** (impromptu)
14.30 – 15.30 adjudicators' briefing
16.30 Ecumenical Christian church **service** (St Fidelis Church)
19.15 opera "*The Abduction from the Seraglio*" or Planetarium show "*Stars by Night*"
Return to hotel at 21.00 or later
- Monday 16th - 7.00 breakfast
8.00 travel to schools in Backnang, Winnenden, and Esslingen
10.00 welcome at schools
11.00 – 12.00 **Round 5** (prepared motion)
Lunch at schools
14.00 – 15.00 preparation time
15.00 – 16.00 **Round 6** (impromptu)
travel back to hotel
19.00 "Jugend debattiert" demonstration debate and reception (Hotel Maritim)

- Tuesday 17th - 7.00 breakfast
8.00 travel to schools in Tübingen, Böblingen and Schwäbisch Gmünd
10.00 welcome at schools
11.00 – 12.00 **Round 7** (prepared motion)
Lunch at schools
14.00 – 15.00 preparation time
15.00 – 16.00 **Round 8** (impromptu)
17.00 travel back to Stuttgart
Evening free (opera? ballet? play?)
- Wednesday 18th - 6.30 breakfast
7.15 travel to venues for Octofinals
8.30 welcome at venues
9.00 – 10.00 preparation time
10.00 – 11.00 **Octofinals** (impromptu)
Lunch at venues or return to hotel
13.30 travel to venues for Quarterfinals (State Parliament, Wilhelms-Palais, Haus der Geschichte, Old Palace)
14.00 welcome at venues by representatives of main political parties, who hope to be able to chair the debates
14.00 – 15.00 preparation time
15.00 – 16.00 **Quarterfinals** (impromptu)
Evening free
- Thursday 19th - 7.30 breakfast
8.30 coaches leave for **Strasbourg**
10.30 – 12.30 sightseeing in Strasbourg
(Lunch: find some food fast)
13.30 depart for venues
14.00 welcome at venues
14.30 – 15.30 **Semifinals** (prepared motion)
17.00 coaches leave for Stuttgart
20.00 carnival fancy dress party (light dinner provided)
(Backnang, Stadthalle)
24.00 coaches leave for hotel
- Friday 20th - 8.00 – 9.00 breakfast
9.00 Worlds Council Meeting
opportunity for debaters to visit (for free) Stuttgart museums, Renoir exhibition
17.00 **Grand Final** (prepared motion) at Liederhalle, Mozartsaal
(Chairman: Mark Twigg, British Consul General)
opening speech, prizegiving, and closing speech by Dr Anette Schavan, Minister for Education, Sports and Culture
19.00 **Grand Dinner** at Maritim Hotel, Alte Reithalle
Closing Ceremony
- Saturday 21st - 8.00 breakfast, Teams depart

Church Service to be held in St Fidelis Church at 4.30 p.m. on Sunday 15th February. The array of people who are willing to provide their talents in order to make this particular event a success is typical of the whole of the schedule. The liturgy will be conducted by a Roman Catholic priest, a Lutheran (Evangelical) priest who has wide experience of the U.S.A., and a priest of the Church of South India (Anglican Communion) who is the chaplain of the Anglican community here in Stuttgart; and the music will be played by a number of highly talented students from the College of Music. The other events in the schedule provide a similar line-up of, usually freely given, expertise.

Further Notes

We would also like to particularly recommend the Stuttgart museums and the **Renoir exhibition** in the State Art Gallery (entrance to which will be free for participants.) The morning of Friday, 20th February is the time envisaged for these, but teams likely to find themselves involved in the final had better find a time to go earlier!

Preparations for the **Grand Carnival** are well underway. As it is a fancy dress affair, we have decided on the theme of "Myths, Legends & Fairy Stories". All those invited are expected to come in fancy dress - as a figure from a myth, legend or fairy story from their own country,

e.g. the Americans as Uncle Sam or the English as King Arthur, etc. This way the debaters from different cultures will get to learn something about the myths, legends of other countries through the costumes. We are putting together a fine programme of entertainment, including some great surprises!

The Carnival will be held in Backnang (where some of the debates are being held on the 16th February). The debaters, coaches, judges, etc. will be brought by coach from Stuttgart to Backnang and also returned that way when the Carnival finishes at midnight. For anyone wishing to leave earlier, the hall is very close to Backnang station, allowing a return by train (although we hope that everyone will want to stay to the end!).

Entry will be by invitation only. All the debaters, coaches, judges, and observers will be given printed invitations when they register in Stuttgart. For those whose boogieing days are behind them, there will be a wine tasting and a pleasant social evening in cosy surroundings next to the main hall.

We sincerely regret that we have not been able to find enough sponsoring to cover *all* meals; there are a few occasions, particularly evenings, when we have asked you to find your own.

Near the hotel there are a number of cheap eating houses, burger bars, and döner (Turkish, halal) outlets, and a few low-priced supermarkets. Your guides will guide you to these and will steer you away from the expensive places (unless you positively *want* to splash out.)

Reckon on paying about 4 euros for a burger and 4 euros for a döner.

We are thrilled to meet you soon and look forward to having you as our guests.

We are proud to welcome you soon to the 16th Worlds in Stuttgart.

With best wishes

Angelika Hoeness
hoeness@t-online.de