



A guide to the elected sub-committees of the WSDC Tournament Committee

Tournament Executive Committee

The Tournament Executive Committee is the on-going, working arm of the Tournament Committee, which represents all the currently competing nations in the championships. Unlike the Tournament Committee, which is large and can meet for only a short time, the members of the Executive are able to continue discussions throughout the year, between competitions, and spend more time drafting new rules of administrative systems, giving advice to hosts and news teams on the WSDC tournament rules and logistics, and co-ordinating working groups to consider important debate-related issues. It regularly answers queries about the championships from all over the world.

The Executive's tasks are not onerous but they do increase as a tournament approaches, especially in the three or four months beforehand. The roles of the executive are as follows:

The role of the **Chairperson** is to:

- (a) Convene Executive and Tournament Committee meetings;
- (b) Chair, or arrange for a chairperson of, Committee meetings, to decide who may speak and when;
- (c) Oversee the implementation of the tournament policies and rules and ensure that they are followed;

The role of the **Vice Chairperson** is to:

- (a) Assist the Chairperson to perform of the tasks outlined above;
- (b) Perform the above tasks in the event of the default, absence or inability of the Chairperson.

The role of the **Secretary** is to:

- (a) Record the minutes of Committee meetings
- (b) Receive and reply to correspondence as required by the Executive;
- (c) Forward all notices and accompanying documentation to Executive and Tournament Committee members including notices of meetings
- (d) Maintain records as required
- (d) Arrange postal ballots where required

The role of the Tournament Executive Committee general member (there are six of them to be elected) is to:

- (a) Attend Executive meetings between championships (usually held by Skype);
- (b) Facilitate a working group (usually two Executive members are assigned to one group);
- (c) Support the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary in ensuring key tasks are carried out;
- (d) Support the host in preparing and carrying out the tournament.

Please DO consider standing if – you want to become more involved in the administrative and organising side of WSDC, you believe you have something to offer, you are a team player and you enjoy meeting and working with other members of the debating community, as well as participating in robust discussion where necessary.

Please DO NOT stand if – you are unable or unwilling to make the necessary time and work commitment or if you are likely to be unavailable for participating in email and Skype communications.

Nominating:

- (a) Feel free to email/ask any current Executive member about serving on the executive. The current members are: Beth James, (Wales, Chair), Taimur Bandey (Pakistan, Vice-chair), Roger Hatridge (Korea, Secretary), Irene McGrath (Scotland), Joshua Park (Korea), Derek Lande (Ireland), Thepparith (TJ) TJ Senamngern (Thailand), Ben Woolgar (England) and Hayah Eichler (Israel)
- (b) The form needs to be completed by 3 people: someone to nominate, someone to second and the nominee to confirm

- (c) The person nominated does not have to be present at the tournament at which s/he is nominated - there are many reasons why a candidate may not be able to attend a particular tournament because of work or other commitments but may nonetheless make an excellent Executive member throughout the following year
- (d) There are 9 positions: Chairperson, Vice chairperson, Secretary, 6 executive members

Motions Sub-Committee

This committee selects the topics for debate at each World Championships. The topics include the 8 preliminary rounds, a Round zero topic in case it is required, octo final, quarter final, semi final and final together with a few spare in case they are needed. There are 5 Motions Committee members elected by the Tournament Committee and 2 chosen by the host for the championship at which the topics will be debated.

The Motions Committee starts to work at least 4 months prior to a championship and is required to release the prepared round topics and final no later than 8 weeks before the start of a championship.

Please DO consider standing if – you are someone who is familiar with WSDC, and who has the time, energy and interest to work with a group of 6 others (communicating by e-mail and Skype) to carefully discuss ideas; decide on a varied, balanced and appropriate set of topics; and very carefully consider and fine-tune the wording of motions.

Please DO NOT stand if - you will be in any way involved in helping to coach or prepare a team that will be participating in the championships in Turkey, either as the team's official coach or in any other official or unofficial supporting capacity.

The committee should reflect the geographic, cultural and linguistic diversity of the participants at the championships. Appropriate candidates from various regions and from ESL / EFL nations are encouraged to stand.

Nominating:

- (a) The form needs to be completed by 3 people: someone to nominate, someone to second and the nominee to confirm;
- (b) The person nominated does not have to be present at the tournament at which s/he is nominated – there are many reasons why a candidate may not be able to attend a particular tournament because of work or other commitments but may nonetheless make an excellent Motions Committee for the two or so months required.
- (c) There are 5 positions for which voting is to take place

Complaints Committee

Unlike the work of the Executive, which ebbs and flows from tournament to tournament, and the work of Motions Committee, which takes place from about the fourth to the second month prior to the tournament, the Complaints Committee's work takes place mainly during the tournament itself.

The function of the Complaints Committee is to hear and determine formal written complaints made by anyone at the tournament including by the Complaints Officers. The committee's powers and duties are set out in the Code of Conduct. It may decide to take no action, or determine a complaint without a hearing or hold a hearing at which the person complained about may have to attend. Its decision making power ranges from dismissing the complaint or upholding it but taking no further action to suspending or expelling someone. However, the Code and its support by the Complaints Committee is more a system of guidance, assistance and positive resolution of difficulties than a threat of punishment.

The committee must have a minimum of 3 people, at least one of each gender and at least 1 but no more than 2 from the host nation. The current practice is to vote for up to 5 members of the Complaints sub-committee.

Please DO consider standing if – you are familiar with WSDC, you understand or are familiar with meetings and/or other procedures, you enjoy or have experience in guiding, assisting and resolving, you are prepared to meet and work with other like minded people during the tournament, even at short notice, and you have an ability for decision-making and achieving outcomes.

Please DO NOT stand if – you are unable to attend WSDC Turkey.

Nominating:

- (a) The form needs to be completed by 3 people: someone to nominate, someone to second and the nominee to confirm;
- (b) The person nominated does not have to be present at the tournament at which s/he is nominated – there are many reasons why a candidate may not be able to attend a particular tournament because of work or other commitments. However, the person elected will need to attend the tournament at which s/he is to serve as a member of the Complaints Committee, which will be the tournament following his or her election.
- (c) There are 5 positions for which voting is to take place.

Thank you for reading this brief guide. Happy nominating and good luck!

WSDC Ltd, Tournament Executive Committee.
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