

THE BIG DEBATE

A debating competition in English

Monaco, 19 October 2011



A common initiative of three Monegasque associations

Three Monegasque associations have joined forces to organise a debating competition in English in the Principality: the *Junior Economic Chamber of Monaco* (JCEM), the *British Association of Monaco* (BAM) and the *Association of Young Monegasques* (AJM).

English is an international language and mastering it has become essential in today's world. Working knowledge of English is a requirement in many fields of activity. For this reason, the JCEM, BAM and the AJM have chosen to host an event that provides the opportunity for people whose mother tongue is not English to hone their language skills in a stimulating exercise: a debate.

The debating exercise pits together two teams: one for and one against a certain pre-defined topic. Each team has an allocated time to present and defend their point of view.

The competition is organised with the support of the Hudson Foundation, administered by BAM.

The International Commission of the JCEM initiated the debating competition project as it fulfils the following objectives, which are in line with its mission:

- To develop English-language skills. Debating is an exercise that encourages effective communication, critical thinking and teamwork. Participants will gain in confidence and improve their public-speaking skills.
- To bring together people from different sectors to take part in a common project, share their perspectives and learn from one another. Debating benefits society as a whole and offers a platform for discussing topical and pertinent issues.

The Competition

Participation to *The Big Debate* is entirely **free of charge**.

Each debating **team** will be made up of **two members**.

The Big Debate finals and semi-finals will take place on **19 October** at the *Théâtre Princesse Grace* (Salle du Ponant) and will be open to the public.

Eligibility

There will be two separate competitions:

- The **Students Debating Competition (SDC)** for:
 - o Students in a Monegasque School or University aged 15+
- The **Inter-Organisation Debating Competition (IODC)** for:
 - o Employees of Monaco based companies
 - o Members of an association based in Monaco
 - o Monaco civil servants

→ Please also note that BOTH competitions are for candidates whose mother tongue is NOT English.

Information Session & Training

An information session will be held on 28th September during which the Big Debate competition rules and format will be presented. The Big Debate coach and organisers of the competition will be at hand to answer questions. **Please send an email to jcemonaco@jcemonaco.mc if you wish to attend.**

Participants are encouraged to attend training courses in preparation for the competition. The courses will cover the competition debating rules in detail, provide practise debate sessions and will help candidates maximize their chance for success.

Courses will take place in the Green Room (Stade Louis II) and will be run by Mrs. Anne Batt. Please note that entrance for the training sessions is restricted solely to candidates. Accompanying persons are not permitted under any circumstances.

Prizes

The Jury will be composed of the presidents of the three associations organising the event: BAM, JCEM and AJM.

The winning teams will be awarded the Presidents' trophies and receive commemorative medals.

Calendar

Event	Date/Time	Venue
Cocktails/Information Session Training	Wed 28 Sept 6.30 pm	Association des Jeunes Monégasques, Centre Commercial le Métropole n° 118, Avenue des Spélugues, Monaco
Training	Wed 5 Oct 6 pm – SDC teams 7.30 pm – IODC teams	GREEN ROOM, Stade Louis II, 7 avenue des Castelans, Fontvieille, Monaco
Quarter finals	Wed 12 Oct 6 pm – SDC teams 7.30 pm – IODC teams	GREEN ROOM, Stade Louis II, 7 avenue des Castelans, Fontvieille, Monaco
Training	Tues 18 Oct 6 pm – SDC teams 7.30 pm – IODC teams	GREEN ROOM, Stade Louis II, 7 avenue des Castelans, Fontvieille, Monaco
Semi-Finals and Finals	Wed 19 Oct 7pm	SALLE DU PONANT Théâtre Princesse Grace 12, avenue d'Ostende, Monaco

Registration

Registration forms and information regarding the Big Debate can be found on the following websites:

- Jeune Chambre Economique de Monaco: www.jcemonaco.mc
- Association des Jeunes Monégasques: www.ajm.asso.mc
- British Association of Monaco: www.bam-monaco.org

Please send completed registrations forms by the 29 September 2011 to Mrs. Nathalie COTTINI, jcemonaco@jcemonaco.mc

Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.