

Bay Area Spring Conference: Post-Conference Report

Greetings to the conference committee!

I think the 2026 Bay Area Spring Conference was overall a positive experience for those involved. The event didn't have a central theme, focusing instead on just roleplaying different Competitive scenarios, and discussing the scenarios involved. We had a wide breadth of experience levels amongst judges, from those who were first dipping their toes into competitive policy, up to 10 years of experience.

One of the key aspects of this first conference was community building. Most of the judges present had not met each other before, and/or had never worked an event together, so everyone expressed appreciation at the sense of community this event worked to provide.

I think the primary glaring issue was a lack of structure. This was my first time running a conference, so I wasn't really sure at all what level of preparation I should be planning for. This wound up with us having no presenters, and losing some time as we laid a more solid foundation in place. Luckily that structure is one of the things we discussed as part of the conference, so I plan to have presenters and a clearer structure going forward.

Lao Akili tested for their L1 and passed.

There were no presentations at this event, but we plan to include them at future events.

Thank you for your time!

Ian Waters





