**Proposed standard format**

The major premise here is that there’s tension between maximum flexibility, which requires spreading the data all over hell, and simplicity, which is essential to get others to understand what we’re doing. What I’ve got here moves toward simplicity with the idea that our upload interface can take the data in this .xml format and translate it into our database structure. In slightly different terms, we spread the data across many tables to make sure we have lots of flexibility, but to use it in any meaningful way we have to pull it all together. I’m asking other users to ONLY send us the pulled-together version.

Big picture is this: At the start of the tournament, the online system downloads the minimum info into one file (TourneyData.xml), and all of the master user database record ID info from the relevant circuit in another file (TourneyDataMaster.xml). First file is required, second file depends on whether the user wants to track their changes against the master database identifiers, or whether they want us to do that at upload time. I want to strongly encourage them to do the tracking, but if they are trying and it isn’t working for them I want them to be able to just get through their tournament in offline/TRPC mode.

After the tournament, the tournament director sends back the basic tournament data file (TourneyData.xml), the final list of teams in order (FinalRank.xml), and if they wish, round-by-round results (RoundByRoundResults.xml) so we can make a cume sheet for them.

Ultimately, the info goes into 4 files, 2 of which are optional.

**TourneyData.xml** holds the basic info that is necessary to run a tournament. Basically, it’s what debateresults sends TRPC now. It identifies which online system holds the tournament entries. Regardless of mode, it downloads basic info for ALL the schools in the circuit.

**TourneyDataMaster.xml** is optional and it holds all the master record numbers for users (judges and competitors). We know what the numbers refer to based on the online entry system value stored in TourneyData.xml.

**TourneyDataResults.xml** holds the basic info in the tourneydata.xml file with everything un-necessary stripped out and JUST what is minimally necessary to report the final tournament results. It includes 2 additional tables:

1. **FinalRank** stores the final, rank-ordered finish of the teams at a tournament. It’s what Colm gets now, and is the minimum necessary info to post the results of a tournament. I think that this can go into the “result” and “result\_value” table you proposed.
2. **RoundResults.xml** is optional stores individual judge scores per team per round. We’d use it to generate debate cume sheets. Users could send it to us if they wanted their cume sheet online (almost all CAT 2.0 users would); but, if we got the data from another source, like someone who started on JOT but wanted their full cume sheet posted on iDebate, they could send it to us too.