

# Debate Events

## FOR ALL EVENTS:

Speaker Points and the Win/Loss of a debate are two different things.

**Win/Loss:** Choose who wins the round based on who had the best and most persuasive arguments, and which team did the best job persuading you to their side.

**Speaker Points:** Choose speaker points for each individual based on how well spoken and confident they are in their speech. How eloquent, relatable, and confident are they in their speaking? A team can lose the round and still do better speaking than the winner. Take notes on points made in constructive speeches and rebuttals made to attacks.

Points should be between 20-30 points. This can be a comparison:

A: 29-30

B: 27-28

C: 25-26

D: 23-24

F: 20-22

Debaters should be graded on how well they deliver their speech. An A grade would be if they were very well spoken, clear, concise, and were able to easily grab your attention. An F grade would be if they floundered, didn't use their time, were unclear in their arguments, were rude to you or their opponent, etc. Use your discretion, but try to be gracious to students. They are striving to become better public speakers, so give them positive feedback. Don't be too generous or too stingy, try to be as fair as possible.

Each event has a rubric guide, you are welcome to use it if it helps you better judge each round. If you are experienced as a judge, we trust you to use your impartial and fair judgment.

Rubrics provided are for speaker points. Win and Loss is based on who attacks their opponent and defends their position the best. **Please avoid personal bias when judging an argument.**

## Policy (CX)

Policy is a 2 on 2 debate. The Affirmative team will propose a plan that solves for the topic. The Negative team will try to argue against adopting the Affirmative's plan. One member of a team will perform all the first speeches and the partner performs the second speaker speeches. New arguments in Rebuttal speeches are not allowed. Debaters should use this to further their arguments and refute their opponent.

### Time Limits: (8 minutes prep which can be used between speeches)

<i>Speaker/Speech</i>	<i>Time</i>
1st Affirmative Constructive/ 1AC	8 minutes
Negative Cross Examination of Affirmative	3 minutes
1st Negative Constructive/ 1NC	8 minutes
Affirmative Cross Examination of Negative	3 minutes
2nd Affirmative Constructive/ 2AC	8 minutes
Negative Cross Examination of Affirmative	3 minutes
2nd Negative Constructive/ 2NC	8 minutes
Affirmative Cross Examination of Negative	3 minutes
1st Negative Rebuttal/ 1NR	5 minutes
1st Affirmative Rebuttal/ 1AR	5 minutes
2nd Negative Rebuttal/ 2NR	5 minutes
2nd Affirmative Rebuttal/ 2AR	5 minutes

### Rubric

Skill	Score	Explanation
Clarity/Organization	4 5 6	Arguments are presented in a manner that is clear and understandable to the judge.
Delivery	4 5 6	Presentation, style, poise, articulation/enunciation, and inflection are effective in delivering the arguments and responding to the opponent.
Evidence and Logic	4 5 6	Cites credible sources and warrants claims that are relevant and support their position. The nature of proof should be in the logic and the ethos of a student's analysis and/or authoritative opinion.
Cross Examination	4 5 6	Cross-examination should clarify, challenge, and/or advance arguments.
Overall Presentation	4 5 6	Behavior is ethical, respectful of topic, opponent, and judge in manners and tone.

Choosing a Winner - Throughout the debate, Aff team more effectively uses evidence and claims to argue that their plan would be most beneficial OR Neg team more effectively uses evidence and claims to argue that the aff plan would not work or be beneficial.

**Submit ballots on tabroom immediately after round to keep things moving. You can enter comments later.**

## Lincoln Douglas (LD)

Lincoln Douglas is a 1 on 1 debate over a resolution. It focuses on the ethics, values and philosophical issues, for example, by examining questions of morality, justice, democracy, etc. Typically, LD debates concern themselves with deciding whether or not certain actions, or states of affairs, are good or bad, right or wrong, moral or immoral. The goal is that each side attempts to persuade the judge on what should hold the most value when deciding the debate. They then argue about how to achieve their ideal result.

### Time Limits:

<i>Speech</i>	<i>Time</i>
Affirmative Constructive/ AC	6 minutes
Cross Examination	3 minutes
Negative Constructive/ NC	7 minutes
Cross Examination	3 minutes
1st Affirmative Rebuttal/ 1AR	4 minutes
Negative Rebuttal/ NR	6 minutes
2nd Affirmative Rebuttal/ 2AR	3 minutes
PREP TIME (MAY BE USED ANY TIME BETWEEN SPEECHES/ CROSS)	4 minutes per team

### Rubric

Skill	Score	Explanation
Clarity/Organization	4 5 6	Arguments are presented in a manner that is clear and understandable to the judge.
Delivery	4 5 6	Presentation, style, poise, articulation/enunciation, and inflection are effective in delivering the arguments and responding to the opponent.
Evidence and Logic	4 5 6	Cites credible sources and warrants claims that are relevant and support their position. The nature of proof should be in the logic and the ethos of a student's analysis and/or authoritative opinion.
Cross Examination	4 5 6	Cross-examination should clarify, challenge, and/or advance arguments.
Overall Presentation	4 5 6	Behavior is ethical, respectful of topic, opponent, and judge in manners and tone.

Choosing a Winner - The affirmative debater's job is to present arguments in order to persuade the judge that the resolution is true. The negative debater, on the other hand, disagrees with the resolution and presents arguments to persuade the judge that the resolution is false.

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## Public Forum (PF)

Public Forum is a 2 on 2 event concerning a current event. This debate is an evidence debate, where they should present evidence that supports the arguments they are making. They are debating about what can realistically be done to solve the resolution.

TEAMS ARE NOT GIVEN SIDES. They must flip a coin to pick either PRO or CON or 1st or 2nd speaker. Whichever category the winner did not choose, the loser picks (i.e. winning team picks aff or neg, losing team picks 1st or 2nd speaker). Make sure to correctly enter the results of the coin flip into your ballot.

The questioning period in PF permits alternating sides asking questions. This is called Crossfire. Additionally, the time period named "Grand Crossfire" permits both sides to answer questions from any of the speakers. (i.e. the first speaker on team a could ask the second speaker on team b).

### Time Limits:

Speaker/ Speech	Time
Team A Speaker 1 Constructive	4 minutes
Team B Speaker 1 Constructive	4 minutes
Crossfire 1st Speakers	3 minutes
Team A Speaker 2 Rebuttal	4 minutes
Team B Speaker 2 Rebuttal	4 minutes
Crossfire 2nd Speakers	3 minutes
Team A Speaker 1 Summary	3 minutes
Team B Speaker 1 Summary	3 minutes
Grand Crossfire	3 minutes
Team A Speaker 2 Final Focus	2 minutes
Team B Speaker 2 Final Focus	2 minutes
PREP TIME (MAY BE USED BETWEEN ANY CROSS OR SPEECH)	3 minutes per team

### Rubric:

Skill	Score	Explanation
Clarity/Organization	4 5 6	Arguments are presented in a manner that is clear and understandable to the judge.
Delivery	4 5 6	Presentation, style, poise, articulation/enunciation, and inflection are effective in delivering the arguments and responding to the opponent.
Evidence and Logic	4 5 6	Cites credible sources and warrants claims that are relevant and support their position. The nature of proof should be in the logic and the ethos of a student's analysis and/or authoritative opinion.
Cross Examination	4 5 6	Cross-examination should clarify, challenge, and/or advance arguments.
Overall Presentation	4 5 6	Behavior is ethical, respectful of topic, opponent, and judge in manners and tone.

Choosing a Winner - The Pro side more efficiently argues for the resolution, using evidence to support their rationale OR The Neg side more effectively argues against the resolutions, using evidence to support their rationale.

**Submit ballots on tabroom immediately after round to keep things moving. You can enter comments later.**

# Congress

Congress is an event that aims to simulate a real congressional session. Students pass bills, give speeches, and ask questions. To begin the round, students will elect a chair or sometimes known as a presiding officer to run the session. Students are scored often on engagement and the quality of their speeches given for or against the bills.

First speeches are typically 3 minutes in length followed by 2 minutes of cross examination by the rest of the chamber. All remaining speeches given are only subject to 1 minute of Cross.

**Rubric:** For Speaker Points

FOR SPEAKERS:

Skill	Score	Explanation
Originality of Thought	0 1	Speech advances debate and does not merely repeats previously stated ideas. Speaker refutes opposing arguments when appropriate.
Organization and Unity	0 1 2	Speeches that respond to other arguments advanced in the session are often spontaneous and extemporaneous. The speaker should still attempt to organize ideas and have cohesiveness.
Evidence and Logic	0 1 2	Cites credible sources and warrants claims accordingly that is relevant and supports claim/ideas.
Delivery	0 1 2	Speakers may speak extemporaneously vs. should not feel like reading a manuscript. They should demonstrate seriousness of purpose, style and poise.
Answering Questions	0 1	Logic, reasonable, uses evidence when needed.

FOR CHAIR/PRESIDING OFFICER: Should earn speaker points for each hour of chair.

Skill	Score	Explanation
Parliamentary Procedure	0 1 2	Clear in explaining protocols and rulings
Recognition	0 1 2	Fair and efficient in recognizing speakers and questioners, and maintains appropriate speaker precedence and recency
Control	0 1 2	Maintains decorum of delegates, and willing to rule dilatory motions/business out of order
Demeanor	0 1	Fosters a respectful, professional, and collegial atmosphere
Communication	0 1	Overall use of language, avoiding unnecessary verbiage

Choosing a Winner - all congressional members will be ranked by order of performance. Keep track on a seating chart throughout the session.

**Submit ballots on tabroom immediately after round to keep things moving. You can enter comments later.**

## Big Questions (BQ)

Big questions can be done alone or with a partner (debates may even be 2 on 1). Topics are often a statement that involves sciences, philosophy, and/or religion that each debater must affirm or negate with evidence and reasoning. Philosophy and ethics play a big role in this theoretical debate.

### Time Limits:

Speech type/title	Time
Affirmative Constructive	5 minutes
Negative Constructive	5 minutes
Question Segment	3 minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	4 minutes
Negative Rebuttal	4 minutes
Question Segment	3 minutes
Affirmative Consolidation	3 minutes
Negative Consolidation	3 minutes
Affirmative Rationale	3 minutes
Negative Rationale	3 minutes
Prep Time per side	3 minutes

### Rubric:

Skill	Score	Explanation
Clarity	4 5 6	Arguments were presented in a manner that was clear and understandable to the judge.
Delivery	4 5 6	Presentation, style, poise, articulation/enunciation, and inflection are effective in delivering the arguments and responding to the opponent.
Evidence and Logic	4 5 6	Cites credible sources and warrants claims accordingly that is relevant and supports claim/ideas, . The nature of proof should be in the logic and the ethos of a student's independent analysis and/or authoritative opinion.
Cross Examination	4 5 6	Cross-examination should clarify, challenge, and/or advance arguments
Overall Presentation	4 5 6	Behavior is ethical, respectful of topic, opponent, and judge in manners and tone

Choosing a Winner - Aff more effectively defends the statement with credible evidence, philosophy, and reasoning OR Neg more effectively refutes the statement with credible evidence, philosophy, and reasoning.

**Submit ballots on tabroom immediately after round to keep things moving. You can enter comments later.**

## Parliamentary Debate

Parliamentary is an extemporaneous debate format modeled after the British parliamentary style. It features two teams: the Government, which supports the resolution, and the Opposition, which argues against it. The goal is to engage in persuasive argumentation, critical thinking, and public speaking. Teams must construct logical arguments, refute opposing viewpoints, and demonstrate effective communication skills to persuade judges of their position.

Speech type/title	Time
Prime Minister Constructive (PMC):	7 minutes
Leader of the Opposition Constructive (LOC):	8 minutes
Member of the Government Constructive (MG):	8 minutes
Member of the Opposition Constructive (MO):	8 minutes
Leader of the Opposition Rebuttal (LOR):	4 minutes
Prime Minister Rebuttal (PMR):	5 minutes

In this debate form, there is no formal cross-examination period for the speakers. Instead, the speakers have the option to ask questions during the opponents' constructive speeches. – When a question is desired, the questioner will stand and raise a hand to be acknowledged by the opponent who has two options:

(1) Say "No Thank You" and continue. (2) Say "Proceed" and answer the question. (d) Remember that the stopwatch will not stop for a question. Speakers must present their constructive speeches and answer questions in the allowed time. Questions cannot be asked during the first and last minute of the opponents' constructive speeches. There are no questions during the rebuttals.

### Rubric:

Skill	Score	Explanation
Clarity	4 5 6	Arguments were presented in a manner that was clear and understandable to the judge.
Delivery	4 5 6	Presentation, style, poise, articulation/enunciation, and inflection are effective in delivering the arguments and responding to the opponent.
Evidence and Logic	4 5 6	Cites credible sources and warrants claims accordingly that is relevant and supports claim/ideas, . The nature of proof should be in the logic and the ethos of a student's independent analysis and/or authoritative opinion.
Overall Presentation	4 5 6	Behavior is ethical, respectful of topic, opponent, and judge in manners and tone

## **Topic Draw Procedures**

Topics shall be drawn by the students at the beginning of the round. (b) After examining the three-posted topics, teammates should discuss and prioritize the choices. The judge will ask the Proposition to strike first, then the Opposition. The remaining topic shall be on that is debated.