

INTERNATIONAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS' PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

CROSS EXAMINATION DEBATING

Date: _____ Room: _____ Round _____
 Judge: _____ Number of Judges in the room: _____
 Resolution: _____

Please write down the code and name of each debater

Affirmative		Negative		
_____ . 1st Affirmative	_____ . 2nd Affirmative	Categories	_____ . 1st Negative	_____ . 2nd Negative
		Analysis /25		
		Organization /15		
		Logic /15		
		Evidence /20		
		Delivery /10		
		Refutation /15		
		Individual Totals /100		
		Team Totals /200		

Note: If the sum of the categories doesn't equal the total score, we will assume that we should use the overall total unless you check here: _____ Use the sum of the categories

Comments:

Affirmative

Negative:

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

_____ .

Scoring Guidelines (For Individual Scores)

50 - 59
Poor

60 - 69
Weak

70 - 79
Average

80 - 89
Very Good

90 - 100
Superb

EVENT RULES

1. There are two, two-person teams, designated respectively "Affirmative" and "Negative."
2. The Chairman will open the debate and call upon each speaker in turn. The Chairman may be addressed as Mr. or Madame Chairman in an opening salutation, but need not be addressed otherwise. No salutation is required, but it is customary for each speaker to begin with some polite form of address such as "Mr. Speaker, honourable judges, worthy opponents, ladies and gentlemen..." etc.
3. Speeches are addressed to an audience consisting of the judges and all other persons in the room. Other debaters are customarily referred to in the third person during speeches, in the second person during cross-examinations.
4. Each speaker delivers a constructive speech, cross examines one member of the opposing team, and delivers a rebuttal.
5. Following a constructive speech, a speaker must submit ("I now stand open for cross-examination.") to a cross-examination by the member of the opposing team who is NOT speaking next.
6. All speakers are allotted equal times for their constructive, cross-examinations, and rebuttals. (See #13)
7. Constructive Speeches
 - Each team must present its main lines of argument (its "case") and the principal evidence supporting the case in the course of its two constructive speeches.
 - The members of each team may divide between them the labour of presenting the case in any way they see fit.
 - Any constructive speech (except the first affirmative) may also include explicit attacks upon the case of the opposing team and explicit replies to attacks made by their opponents.
8. Cross-Examination
 - The purpose of cross-examination is to allow each team the opportunity to elicit damaging admissions from its opponents regarding their case. The admissions may then be used against them in subsequent speeches.
 - Each speaker seeks to elicit these admissions by asking questions of the opposing speaker whom he/she is assigned to cross-examine. The respondent is required to respond to these questions in some way. Both questioner and respondent should avoid speech-making. Questions may be based on statements made earlier in the debate, on arguments, which the questioner expects his/her partner to present, or on any topic, which the questioner thinks, may bring his/her side advantage, regardless of its apparent relevance to the debate. Questions, however, may NOT be personal (e.g., "Do you do drugs?")
 - The questioner may not demand simple "yes/no" answers. The subject has the right to explain any answer briefly, but is forbidden to stall or filibuster. If the respondent is answering at inordinate length, the questioner may interrupt (as courteously as possible) in order to continue the line of questioning.
9. Rebuttal
 - The purpose of rebuttal speeches is to give both teams the opportunity to summarize their case, defend them from attacks by opponents, and press attacks upon their opponents.
 - New lines of argument may not be introduced in rebuttals. **Exception:** in the first affirmative rebuttal, which follows two negative speeches, the speaker may deal with new issues raised in either of these negative speeches, even if this requires a new line of argument.
 - In general, the introduction of substantial items of new evidence should be avoided in rebuttals. **Exception:** If the second negative constructive or the first negative rebuttal speaker has demanded additional evidence on any point in the affirmative case, the first affirmative rebuttal speaker may respond accordingly.
10. Evidence
 - Both teams are expected to support the lines of argument with sufficient evidence to make them logically persuasive.
 - Evidence may consist of facts, statistics and/or authoritative opinions drawn from published or publicly accessible sources (NOT private conversations, personal letters, or similar sources.) Debaters may assert that some facts are "general knowledge," but judges must decide for themselves what value, if any, to attribute to such assertions.
 - Debaters should always be prepared to document the source of any evidence. It is customary, but not mandatory, to cite the source of most evidence when it is introduced in a speech.
 - Evidence may never be fabricated or deliberately misrepresented. A debater who is shown to have done so may be disqualified from further competition.
11. Definitions
 - It is the duty and privilege of the affirmative team to make clear at the beginning of the debate as precisely as possible how it construes the resolution. This may be done by defining each key term individually, by paraphrasing the resolution as a whole, and/or by presenting the plan, which the affirmative proposes to implement the resolution.
 - In prepared cross-examination debates, definitions should embody the standard meanings of the terms of the resolution in contemporary public discourse. Creative, novel, or whimsical definitions are not

appropriate. The affirmative must construe the resolution in such a way as to make it debatable. They may not construe it as a tautology or a truism.

- The negative may challenge the definitions offered by the affirmative only at the beginning of the first negative speech and only on the grounds that the definition does not meet the requirements set out in the previous rule. The judges must decide at the end of the debate whether such a challenge is warranted. Meanwhile the negative may either attempt under protest to make its case under the definitions offered by the affirmative, or make its case under the challenged and revised definitions. However, a prolonged wrangle over definitions is not advisable, as it leads to avoiding the intent of the debate. The negative is better advised to challenge, if need be, but to proceed with an attempt to argue under the original definitions. The affirmative should make every effort to define in a manner that will be acceptable by both sides.
- A non-challenge by the negative in the first negative speech is deemed explicit acceptance of the affirmative's definitions.

12. Other Duties and Privileges of the Affirmative and Negative

- **Affirmative.** The affirmative has the burden of proof and the compensating privileges of presenting the opening and closing speeches. The affirmative is not required to offer a plan, but, since it is required to show that the resolution is feasible and does not entail significant disadvantages, the affirmative usually chooses to offer a plan – a reasonably detailed description of the way in which the resolution should be implemented – as the most efficient and persuasive way to accomplish these tasks.
- **Negative.** The negative enjoys the benefit of presumption. Therefore, debates in which the speaker scores produce a tie are awarded to the negative. Strictly speaking, the negative is not required to “make a case” in order to win, but may confine itself merely to attacks upon the affirmative case. In theory, the negative wins if it mounts a completely successful attack on one major element of the affirmative case. In practice, completely successful attacks are extremely rare. The negative may introduce a counterplan, an alternative proposal. A counterplan must solve the same problem, attain the same goals, or bring about the same advantages as the affirmative claims will be done by its solution, but by means entirely different from those stated or implied in the resolution. If a counterplan is introduced, it **MUST** be in the first negative speech. If the negative introduces a counterplan, it assumes the burden of proof comparable to that borne by the affirmative.

13. Speaking times

- **Constructive Speeches.** 6 minutes each. Each constructive speaker is granted a 30 second grace period to finish his/her speech after the allotted time has expired. Judges will disregard anything said after the expiration of the grace period.
- **Cross-examinations.** 3 minutes each. The cross-examiner must stop speaking as soon as the time expires. If a question has been asked, but the time allotted expires before the respondent is able to answer it, or to complete an answer, the respondent may choose whether to answer it. If an answer is attempted, it may continue briefly beyond the time.
- **Rebuttals.** 3 minutes each. These speeches must end when times expires. There is no grace period. Judges will disregard anything said after time expires.
- **Order of speaking:**

Constructive speeches and cross-examinations

1 st Affirmative	Cross-ex by 2 nd Negative
1 st Negative	Cross-ex by 1 st Affirmative
2 nd Affirmative	Cross-ex by 1 st Negative
2 nd Negative	Cross-ex by 2 nd Affirmative

Intermission (3 minutes)

Rebuttals

1 st Negative
1 st Affirmative
2 nd Negative
2 nd Affirmative

14. Other matters

- Speeches in cross-examination debates may not be interrupted. There are no points of order, personal privilege, or information. Heckling is prohibited. Courtesy is expected.
- Violations of rules, misquotations of opponents, and similar matters may be called to the judges' attention in constructive or rebuttal speeches, and occasionally in cross-examination. Judges will rule on these matters at the end of the debate and should consider them as they decide the outcome of the debate. The chairperson has no role in such rulings.
- If there is no chairperson, a judge will begin the debate by recognizing the 1st Affirmative speaker. Thereafter, debaters should speak in turn without formal recognition.
- The team with the highest total number of speaker points **must** always be the team which wins the debate. If the two teams' total speaker points are tied, the negative team must win the debate.