



Group Discussion

Judge code: _____

Room: _____

Description of the event: Group Discussion is an event in which students discuss and argue a topic set at the beginning of the round. The topics will present an issue, designed to introduce a variety of conflicting opinions. Students will be given the generic nature of the issue in the invitation, with a specific focus to be discussed at the start of the round. Students should research the topic in advance and may bring notes and outside resources into the competition. After the topic is revealed, students will be given 5 minutes to formulate their argument, draw for speaking order, and then each shall be given 2 minutes to deliver an opening statement. Then an open discussion period of up to 15 minutes shall follow in which the issue is discussed and criteria for a resolution or recommendation are established, followed by another period of open discussion of up to 15 minutes to present and discuss possible solutions that meet those criteria. The students will then have 1 minute to prepare their final arguments and 2 minutes to present their final argument in the reverse order of their opening.

Standards for Judging:

Does the student speak with poise/confidence and with appropriate skills?

Does the student exhibit an understanding of the subject and remain on topic?

Does the student defend their positions clearly, with evidence and reasoning?

Does the student contribute effectively and politely to the discussion, while maintaining a strong and clear defense of their own viewpoint?

Comments: (Include praiseworthy aspects as well as areas in need of improvement)

Title _____

Speaker Code: _____

Round: I II III Semi-Finals Finals

Please rank the speaker in relation to the rest of the round, 1 being the highest (no ties): _____

Please rate the speaker according to the following scale (please avoid ties in rating): _____

76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
poor					fair					good					excellent					superior				

Judge's Signature _____ School _____