

## **Public Forum Tournament of Champions**

### **Judging Procedures**

- **Accuracy in reporting results** is critical and can be especially challenging in Public Forum with the coin flip and sides being variable. At the start of the debate, after the flip has determined sides and team order, adjust your online ballot to reflect sides and order. Then show the online ballot to all four debaters to confirm each team is in the correct position before starting.
- **All rounds at the TOC are open to observers and scouting.** Debaters, coaches, judges, and observers may watch or flow any debate. Do not restrict scouting or flowing/note taking. You may remove observers who actively disruptive.
- **Teams must present the specific evidence they read to their opponents on request.** Prep time does not start until requested evidence is provided; if a team can't produce evidence they give their opponents free prep. Failure to produce evidence cited may be grounds for a challenge.
- **Either team may issue a challenge** over the misuse, fabrication or false citation of evidence, or for external coaching during the round. Challenges must be issued before you submit your decision. Confirm that the teams understand that if the challenge fails, the challenging team loses the debate. If the challenger agrees, the round ends. You should accompany the debaters to the Tab Room where a ethics committee will be convened to address the matter.
- **All other issues** (including clipping, quality of evidence, and all arguments) **are to be decided exclusively by the judge(s)**. Do not discuss your decision with anyone, including other judges, until you vote in Tabroom and confirm your ballot.
- **You should disclose your decision** and reasoning after voting. You may not change your decision after disclosure. Win/loss results are posted after each round. You can edit written feedback on Tabroom until Monday night; please submit wins & points before writing and giving feedback.
- **Speaker point scale** should average around a 28 with 29.5+ meaning surpassing, TOC champion level debate and below 26 indicating some serious basic skills and problems. 24 or below indicates rude or offensive behavior. Half points may be awarded, and ties are permitted.
- Typically at the TOC, we are able to use judges for only a single flight of debate, but we must double flight rooms. That means if you judge a flight 1 debate, please leave your room as soon as you can for the flight 2s to begin. If you are engaging in extensive deliberation or discussion, do it out in the hallway or other common spaces.