

Logan Will Virtual Ultimate Challenge

Debate Rules

Public Forum Debate

Team Size. In this debate form, there are two speakers to a team.

Topic. Resolved: On balance, the benefits of creating the United States Space Force outweigh the harms.

Sides/Burdens. A team represents either the "pro" or the "con" side of the resolution. Public Forum Debate focuses on advocacy of a position derived from the issues presented in the resolution, not a prescribed set of burdens.

Side Draw Procedure. Prior to every round and in the presence of the judge(s), **the judge will allow the first team in the virtual room to call heads or tails in a coin toss. The judge will then use a coin toss simulator after all debaters have arrived to proceed with the coin toss.** The team that wins the flip may choose one of two options: EITHER the SIDE of the topic they wish to defend (pro or con) OR the SPEAKING POSITION they wish to have (begin the debate or end the debate). The remaining option (SIDE OR SPEAKING POSITION) is the choice of the team that loses the flip. Once speaking positions and sides have been determined, the debate may begin.

Speaking Procedure. Each speaker shall have four minutes for constructive argument, alternating between pro and con. (Please keep in mind that the debate may begin with a con speech.) Following the first two constructive speeches, the two debaters who have just given speeches will stand and participate in a three-minute "crossfire." In "crossfire," both debaters "hold the floor," however, the first question must be asked by the speaker who spoke first. After that question, either debater may question and/or answer at will. At the end of the first "crossfire," the four-minute constructive arguments are continued by the students yet to speak. At the conclusion of the last two constructive arguments, another three-minute "crossfire" takes place between the two debaters who just spoke using the crossfire procedure discussed above. Following the four constructive speeches and two "crossfire" segments, the 1st speakers for each team will each give a two-minute summary continuing established alternation. The summary speeches should include the arguments his or her team is winning and refutation of arguments the team is losing. At the conclusion of the summary speeches, all four debaters will remain seated and participate in a three-minute "Grand Crossfire" in which all four debaters are allowed to cross-examine one another. The first question must be asked by the speaker who gave the first summary speech. At the conclusion of the "Grand Crossfire," the second speakers will each give a

two-minute "Final Focus" speech. The "Final Focus" is a persuasive final restatement of why a team has won the debate

Time Limits

4 minutes First Speaker Team A
4 minutes First Speaker - Team B
3 minutes Crossfire
4 minutes Second Speaker - Team A
4 minutes Second Speaker - Team B
3 minutes Crossfire
3 minutes Summary - First Speaker - Team A
3 minutes Summary - First Speaker - Team B
3 minutes Grand Crossfire
2 minutes Final Focus - Second Speaker - Team A
2 minutes Final Focus - Second Speaker - Team B
Prep Time (per team) = 3 minutes

Plans/Counterplans

In Public Forum Debate, a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation is considered a plan or counterplan. Neither the pro nor the con side is permitted to offer a plan or counterplan; rather, they should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.

Prompting

Oral prompting, except time signals, either by the speaker's colleague or by any other person while the debater has the floor, is discouraged though not prohibited and may be penalized by some judges. Debaters may, however, refer to their notes and materials and may consult with their teammates while they do not have the floor and during the Grand Crossfire.

Reading Case.

A team may decide, when asked by the opponent team for a copy of their case, whether or not to provide it; if the team refuses, they shall not be penalized in any way.

Other Rules. See General Debate Rules.

Parliamentary Debate

Team Size. In this debate form, there are two speakers to a team. The affirmative team is called the Proposition. The negative team is called the Opposition.

Length and Order of Speeches.

- 7 minutes 1st Proposition constructive
- 8 minutes 1st Opposition constructive
- 8 minutes 2nd Proposition constructive
- 8 minutes 2nd Opposition constructive
- 4 minutes Opposition rebuttal (given by 1st Opposition speaker)
- 5 minutes Proposition rebuttal (given by 1st Proposition speaker)

Resolutions.

- (a) There shall be three resolutions per round.
- (b) One resolution shall be a policy resolution, one resolution shall be a value resolution and the third resolution may be either a value or a policy resolution.
- (c) The Affirmative team must affirm the resolution.

Topic Draw and Preparation Room Procedures.

(a) After examining the three-posted topics which the judge will copy and paste into the chat feature of the virtual room only after all debaters are present, teammates should discuss and prioritize the choices. Postings may also be released publicly when each round is posted.

(b) The **judge** shall ask the Proposition to strike first, then the Opposition. The remaining topic shall be debated.

(c) All competitors must prepare for the debate in sight of the judge but may mute their devices during this period.

- Materials allowed in the Parliamentary Debate Preparation Room and in the round.

- (a) Paper
- (b) Dictionary. Allowed in Preparation Room ONLY.
- (c) Pens or Pencils

(d) An internet-enabled device. Internet Prep Allowed.

Questions and Answers.

(a) In this debate form, there is no formal cross-examination period for the speakers.

(b) Instead, the speakers have the option to ask questions during the opponents' constructive speeches.

(c) When a question is desired, the questioner **will 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 shall be no questions during the rebuttals.

Judge Participation.

(a) The Judge in a Parliamentary Debate is responsible for announcing each speaker and the amount of time for each speech. Example: "I will now call the second Opposition forward for an eight-minute speech," etc.

(b) The Judge shall disregard any arguments made over the time limits. The Judge shall disregard new arguments in rebuttals with the exception of the Proposition's response to new arguments made in the 2nd Opposition constructive. New examples, analysis, analogies, etc., which support previously introduced arguments are permitted in rebuttal speeches.

(d) The Judge shall penalize misrepresentations of opponent's arguments, personal attacks on opponents and rudeness by reducing speaker points and factoring such infractions into the decision.

- Heckling. No heckling is allowed other than supportive knocking, patting or applause.
- Points of Order and Points of Personal Privilege are not allowed.
- **All debaters must be visible in round using a camera on their device. Each team may debate separately from multiple devices, but teams can also use the same device for both debaters.**
- Other Rules. See General Debate Rules.

Lincoln Douglas Debate

Team. In this debate form, there is only one speaker to a team. A speaker in this contest must be prepared to debate both sides of the resolution.

Length and order of speeches.

Six Minutes Affirmative Constructive Speech
Three Minutes Negative Questions Affirmative
Seven Minutes Negative Constructive Speech
Three Minutes Affirmative Questions Negative
Four Minutes Affirmative Rebuttal
Six Minutes Negative Rebuttal
Three Minutes Affirmative Rebuttal

Preparation Time. Each Debater shall be allowed a maximum of four minutes preparation time to be used at his / her discretion.

Value Debate Topics.

Resolved: States ought to ban lethal autonomous weapons.

Visibility. All debaters must be visible in round using a camera on their device. Each team may debate separately from multiple devices, but teams can also use the same device for both debaters.

Other Rules. See General Debate Rules.