

UK Season Opener 2021

Congressional Debate Scorer and Parliamentarian Instructions

For Everyone:

- 1) Access your ballot and the “room” by logging into tabroom.com. We are using the NSDA Campus platform.
- 2) If there are problems (no-show students/judges, etc.) or questions, please use the Help Ticket system to contact Tab or email congress.ukyhelp@gmail.com. If you don’t get a response, call or text the special Congress Help Phone at **(480) 594-2507**.
- 3) Please log in and arrive at your “room” no later than 10 minutes before the start of the round to do a technology check and help others. Check the postings for start times.
- 4) We are all influenced by implicit bias, or the stereotypes that unconsciously affect our decisions. When judging, our implicit biases negatively impact students who are traditionally marginalized and disenfranchised. Before writing comments or making a decision, please take a moment to reflect on any biases that may impact your decision-making process.
- 5) Recognize and stress the importance of all types of speeches which make this a Debate. Authorships/Sponsorships (the constructive which sets the ground of the debate); Extensions (not repeating prior points verbatim, but providing new information/evidence/logical reasoning); Rebuttals (not just listing names of opposing representatives, but providing substantive clash and reasoning as to your argument); Crystallization (the “Final Focus” which isolates key voting issues to explain why passage/failure is necessary).

For Scorers:

- 6) Please provide comments and reasons-for-decision on all ballots Please remember that the students and coaches are looking for constructive comments on how to improve their performance.
- 7) Each Presiding Officer should receive 2 scores for their session. Please make sure you consider the PO when ranking.
- 8) You will rank your top 8 legislators, with 1 being the best. Leave the others blank. There are no ties in ranking.
- 9) Do not wait until the end of the session to begin providing comments for speeches. Provide comments and points as the session progresses. We need your rankings no later than 30 minutes after the session concludes. You will be able to edit speech comments until the end of the tournament.

For Parliamentarians:

- 10) At the start of each session, hold an open nomination for Presiding Officer. Even if your chamber plans out the PO selection prior to the tournament, we want all students to have the chance to run for PO if they choose. Open the floor for nomination and accept all nominees.
- 11) If you have multiple Presiding Officer Candidates, go to www.strawpoll.me. Type in the names of the candidates and select "Create Poll." Share the link in the room chat. Once students have voted check the results. If you do not have a majority and need to conduct more ballots, create another strawpoll. We will not have a specific voting record to complete and submit to tab, but please keep track of the votes in case a question arises.
- 12) Precedence ties will be broken by a preset list which should be randomized each session. You will access this by going into Tabroom and opening your judge assignment. For sessions 1 and 2, you will see the list of competitors with a "precedence number" next to their name. Share this with your elected PO. For session 3, you will also have your ballot available. If the list does not appreciably shift between sessions, you may use your best discretion to ensure students have an equitable opportunity at precedence.
- 13) Tab staff will come by at the start of the session to answer any questions you may have.
- 14) Please check with your scorers to make sure they are providing speech scores for the Presiding Officer. Each PO should receive 2 scores for their time presiding.
- 15) If a round must be paused because of a technological failure, please submit a Help Ticket or text the Congress Phone. If the stoppage is significant enough to impact the ability of students to speak, we will adjust the schedule accordingly.
- 16) If there is suspicion of a rules violation, please check with us before ranking a student on the basis of the violation.

Thank you all so much for your hard work in making the UK Season Opener such a wonderful tournament!