

CBSR Congress Championship

GENERAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

Selection of Speakers

- Priority for the first affirmative speech goes to a student from the school whose legislation is being debated, if more than one speaker from the school wishes to speak selection is at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. If no student from the school wishes to speak, another student may speak.
- Speakers will be selected based on recency. The person who spoke least recently must be chosen. When all speakers are tied for recency the Presiding Officer should use previous attempts to speak as a tie-breaker. However, the PO can essentially pick anyone they want if all those wishing to speak have not yet spoken.

Speeches

- Speeches are 3 minutes long. A small grace-period (3-5 seconds) ought to be permitted before the PO should interrupt and stop the speaker.
- Speeches will alternate from affirmative to negative.
- Props and visual aids are strictly forbidden.

Questioning Period

- Questioners are to be recognized at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- In the first two rounds, the cross-examination period will be 2 minutes of *indirect*¹ cx for the first affirmative speech and 1 minute indirect cx for all subsequent speeches.
- Indirect questioners may only ask one question and are not allowed follow up questions.
- Cross-examination in round 3 (finals) is 2 minutes of indirect cx for the first affirmative speech and 1 minute *direct*² cx for all subsequent speeches.
- Direct cx questioners may ask as many questions as the 30 second time period allows with follow up questions if time permits.

Motions

- We will use only the “CHSSA Approved Motions for Student Congress”
- Motions to suspend CHSSA rules or motions to impeach the presiding officer are not permitted.
- Motions to divide the house are not in order unless there is a contested vote.
- Any potential amendments must be submitted to the Tournament Director in writing before the start of the round. (We don't like amendments! They use up time and may cause competitors to be unable to speak)

Time of Round/Chance to Speak

- The Tournament Director will communicate the maximum time allowed for the round to the Presiding Officers. The Presiding Officers keep the official time.
- The Presiding Officers in the round will communicate official start and stop times to competitors.
- Sessions may not end before the stop-time time if anyone who has not spoken wishes to speak.
- No round may go longer than stop-time determined by the Tournament Director.

¹ *Indirect* = The PO selects someone to ask one question of the speaker. There are no follow-up questions. As many questioners are selected as possible in the 1 or 2 minutes of time. Competitors who have asked the fewest questions should be prioritized when selecting questioners.

² *Direct* = The PO selects two people to ask questions. Each questioner has 30 seconds to ask questions of the speaker. The questioner may ask follow-up questions. The questioner controls the time and may interrupt to move to another question if the speaker is spending too much time on a question. Competitors who have asked the fewest questions should be prioritized. Never select someone who has already asked a question over someone who has not.