FGCCFL Judge "Cheat Sheet" for Debate Events

These boxes are designed to provide a basic guideline. More detailed information regarding regulations, etc. can be obtained from the Tab Staff.

Student Congress (CON)

Contestants in Student Congress become legislators charged with fulfilling the responsibilities of the legislative branch of the US federal government.

Regulations:

- Student speeches are up to 3 minutes (PO will announce speech times)
- Legislation authors and first negative speakers have 2 minutes mandatory questioning period, others 1 minute
- Students may not have visual aids
- Speech should be on appropriate topic/side

Content:

- Focused on topic
- Organized
- Factual accuracy
- Good composition
- References

Delivery:

- Eve contact
- Confidence
- Appropriate/professional tone

Score every speech and the PO. Points range from 1 (unacceptable) to 6 (exemplary). Please make detailed positive and negative comments on each student ballot

At the end of the round, rank the top 8 legislators (including the PO).

Bills and resolutions are written by students and published the week before the tournament

Public Forum (PFD)

Team event that advocates or rejects a position posed by the resolution below.

Regulations:

- Follow ballot as sides are set. Coin flip for sides may occur in final rounds.
- Students should adhere to timing schedule on ballot (3 minutes prep time)

Content:

- Focused on topic
- Arguments organized
- Factual accuracy
- Point of view supported
- References
- Support is germane to topic
- Countered arguments presented by opposing team

Delivery:

- Confidence
- Appropriate/professional tone

Scoring guide for each debater is detailed on the ballot. Please make sure your comments justify your judging decision (win/loss) and your point score is reflective of your decision.

Speaker Points Max: <= 30 per team (higher to winner) or follow ballot instructions, if different.

Lincoln-Douglas (LD)

Each debater will try to show why their position supports the more important fundamental principles inherent in their position and why that position is superior to the opponent's

Regulations:

• Students should adhere to timing schedule on ballot (4 minutes prep time)

Content:

- Focused on topic
- Arguments organized
- Factual accuracy
- Point of view supported
- References
- Support is germane to topic
- Countered arguments presented by opposing debater

Delivery:

- Confidence
- Appropriate/professional tone

Scoring guide for each debater is detailed on the ballot. Please make sure your comments justify your judging decision (win/loss) and your point score is reflective of your decision.

Speaker Points Max: <= 30 per student (higher to winner) or follow ballot instructions, if different

Policy Debate (CX)

Team event in which the affirmative advocates for a plan implementing the resolution and the negative opposes the plan and/or advocates for the status quo.

Regulations:

• Students should adhere to timing schedule on ballot (8 minutes prep time)

Content:

- Focused on topic
- Arguments organized
- Factual accuracy
- Point of view supported
- References
- Support is germane to topic
- Countered arguments presented by opposing team

Delivery:

- Confidence
- Appropriate/professional tone

Scoring guide for each debater is detailed on the ballot. Please make sure your comments justify your judging decision (win/loss) and your point score is reflective of your decision.

Speaker Points Max: <= 30 per student (higher total to winning team) or follow ballot instructions, if different

Legislation/Topics January 2025 PFD

Resolved: The African Union should grant diplomatic recognition to the Republic of Somaliland as an independent state..

January/February 2025 LD

Resolved: The United States ought to become party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and/or the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

2024-2025 Policy

Resolved: The United States federal government should significantly strengthen its protection of domestic intellectual property rights in copyrights, patents, and/or trademarks.

FGCCFL Judge "Cheat Sheet" for Speech Events

These boxes are designed to provide a basic guideline. More detailed information regarding regulations, etc. can be obtained from the Tab Staff.

Extemporaneous Speaking (EXT)

Students are given 30 minutes to prepare a speech on a given topic.

Regulations:

- Time: up to 7 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch)
- Time violations cannot place first.
- No notes
- Those using notes must rank last in the round

Content:

- Factually accurate
- Organized
- Focused on topic
- Point of view supported
- Research referenced

Delivery:

- Eve contact
- Volume
- Speaking rate
- Confidence

Original Oratory (00)

Students write, memorize and deliver a speech they wrote themselves.

Regulations:

- Time: up to 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch)
- Time violations cannot place first.
- No scripts/notes
- Those using notes must rank last in the round

Content:

- Organized, flows, easy to follow
- Clear message
- Engaging
- Good composition

Delivery:

- Eve contact
- Volume
- Speaking rate
- Confidence

Oratorical Declamation (DEC)

Students memorize and perform a speech written and previously delivered by someone else.

Regulations:

- Time: up to 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch)
- Time violations cannot place first.
- No scripts/notes
- Those using notes must rank last in the round

Content:

- Engaging
- Speech choice appropriate for competition

Delivery:

- Eve contact
- Volume
- Speaking rate
- Confidence

Dramatic Performance (DP)

Students memorize and perform a published scene portraying either single or multiple characters.

Regulations:

- Time: up to 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch)
- Time violations cannot place first.
- No scripts/notes
- Those using scripts must rank last in the round

Content:

- Engaging
- Piece choice challenging and appropriate for competition
- Piece may be serious or humorous (DI/HI)

Delivery:

- Characters clearly defined and differentiated
- Eve contact
- Volume
- Speaking rate
- Confidence

Duo Interpretation of Literature (DUO)

Two students as a team memorize and perform a published scene portraying either single or multiple characters

Regulations:

- Time: up to 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch)
- Time violations cannot place first.
- No scripts/notes
- Those using scripts must rank last in the round
- Students do not touch or have eve contact except during introduction

Content:

- Engaging
- Piece choice challenging and appropriate for competition

Delivery:

- Characters clearly defined and differentiated
- Eve contact
- Volume
- Speaking rate
- Confidence

Oral Interpretation of Literature (OI)

Students deliver dramatic readings of published poetry or prose in alternating rounds.

Regulations:

- Time: up to 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch)
- Time violations cannot place first.
- Maintains impression of reading from script
- Student may not step away from performance spot

Content:

- Engaging
- Piece choice challenging and appropriate for competition

Delivery:

- Characters clearly defined and differentiated
- Eve contact
- Volume
- Speaking rate
- Confidence

In ALL Speech Events:

There is a 30 second grace period in all events.

Please make detailed positive & negative comments on each ballot.

Rank students 1st place to last.

Issue speaker points, 85 to 100 (highest score to 1st; no ties).