Novice Judging Info

Thank you for volunteering your time to judge at this contest! The following are some guidelines and helpful tips to ensure a great contest experience for everyone involved.

Features of a Great Judge:

- *Attentive*
  - While new debaters may need help from time to time, such as knowing who should speak next or how much prep time is left, you should otherwise be a silent observer.
  - Minimize anything distracting for competitors, including by silencing cellphones. Please only use cellphones for professional use during rounds (such as using it as a timer).
  - Make it clear that you are giving the competitors your full attention.

- *Impartial*
  - Enter the round with an open mind and evaluate only the information presented in the round.
  - Do not let your personal opinions influence your decision.
  - Opinions about how you would have constructed the case or responded to an argument should be irrelevant to your decision (but can still be used as constructive feedback).

- *Kind & Supportive*
  - These students are in their very first year competing in these events, so please create a supporting and encouraging environment where students can grow.
  - Please ensure that you are following tournament expectations and that you help competitors do so as well.

Before the Round:

- Once postings are released, please head to the tab table to pick up your ballot, if you have one.
- We will only be using paper ballots.
- Please be in your room as soon as possible and do not begin until all judges and competitors are present. If someone is missing at the start of the round, please report it to the tab room.
- ***FOR PF ONLY:*** Complete a coin flip to start the round. Whoever wins the flip will choose whether they speak first/second OR whether they go PRO/CON. The losing team will decide the remaining option.

During the Round:

- Judges are in charge of keeping time, including prep time.
- Take notes! Flowing the round not only helps you fill out your ballot, but shows the competitors you take the judging role seriously.
- Stay impartial. Avoid reacting visibly to arguments, interrupting, or showing favoritism.

After the Round:

- When the round is complete, please complete your ballot and return it to the tab table.
- Please include constructive comments and a reason for your decision. No verbal feedback, please.
- Speaker points should be given to each speaker. No decimals or low point wins, please.

Public Forum

Time	Speech	Speaker(s)
4 minutes	Team A Constructive	Speaker 1
4 minutes	Team B Constructive	Speaker 2
3 minutes	Cross X	Speakers 1 & 2
4 minutes	Team A Rebuttal	Speaker 3
4 minutes	Team B Rebuttal	Speaker 4
3 minutes	Cross X	Speakers 3 & 4
3 minutes	Team A Summary	Speaker 1
3 minutes	Team B Summary	Speaker 2
3 minutes	Grand Cross	All Speakers
2 minutes	Final Focus	Speaker 3
2 minutes	Final Focus	Speaker 4

3 minutes total prep time per team.

Lincoln-Douglas

Time	Side	Speech
6 minutes	AFF	Affirmative Constructive (AC)
3 minutes	NEG	Cross X
7 minutes	NEG	Negative Constructive & First Rebuttal (NC/1NR)
3 minutes	AFF	Cross X
4 minutes	AFF	First Affirmative Rebuttal (1AR)
6 minutes	NEG	Second Negative Rebuttal (2NR)
3 minutes	AFF	Second Affirmative Rebuttal (2AR)

4 minutes total prep time per person.

Resolutions

Public Forum - Resolved: European members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization should ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Lincoln-Douglas - Resolved: De-extinction is unethical.

Speaker Points

- **30 (Outstanding)** Reserved for an exceptional performance which could win the contest. Great delivery, structure, and argumentation with very minimal errors for a novice.
- **29 (Well Above Average):** Likely to be in the top tier of competitors - Solid delivery, structure, and refutation, but still has some room to grow.
- **28 (Above Average):** Likely to beat most debaters, but may not beat the top tier. Good delivery, structure, and refutation, but also has clear areas for improvement.
- **27-26 (Average):** Adequate delivery with some hesitation, awkward pauses, unclear structure, or flaws in argumentation.
- **26-25 (Below Average):** Will likely beat the lower 25% of competitors but may not beat the average debater. Significant nervousness, frequent stumbling, hard-to-follow organization, or struggled to engage with the topic.
- **24-23 (Well Below Average):** Competitive among the bottom 25% but likely to lose to other competitors. There were multiple, substantial areas of improvement throughout the round.
- **Below 23 (Unacceptable):** Inappropriate behavior, severe ethical issues, or complete inability to participate; must include a written explanation for coaches and tournament staff on the ballot.