

Parliamentary Debate

Round Overview

If all four debaters are there, press **“START ROUND”** in Tabroom.

SPEECH TIMES

- First Proposition Speaker: 7 minutes.
- First Opposition Speaker: 8 minutes.
- Second Proposition Speaker: 8 minutes.
- Second Opposition Speaker: 8 minutes.
- Opposition Rebuttal: 4 minutes.
- Proposition Rebuttal: 5 minutes.

Then thank the debaters and say “good luck.” **Do not give oral feedback.**

Select a winning team, assign speaker points, **submit ballot within 5 minutes.**

After your ballot has been submitted you can add comments to write your reason for decision. Give constructive feedback that focuses on the content of the arguments and the strategic choices made by the debaters.

Useful Information

POINTS OF INFORMATION (Common)

- A. To make a point of information, a member of the opposing team rises for recognition by the speaker. The speaker then has the discretion to accept or refuse the point. If the point is accepted, the opposing team member directs a statement or question to the speaker. The speaker is technically yielding time from his/her own speech for the point of information and the time for the point is deducted from the speaker holding the floor.
- B. Only allowed during first 4 speeches. The first and last minute of these speeches are protected time, no POIs allowed.
- C. Only one member of each team may do so within a given cross-examination period. Oral prompting by a participant of either the questioner or the respondent is discouraged, and may be considered by the judge as a factor in deciding the debate.

Rules specific to Points of Order (occasionally will see)

tldr: only in final speeches when a new argument is made, stop the clock and listen to why the opponent claims a new argument has been made then listen to the speaker's response, say "I will take that into consideration," restart time).

- A) A point of order is a serious charge and should not be raised for minor violations, nor may it be used as a tactic to disrupt the opponent's speech, and these expectations should be noted in the judging instructions.
- B) Points of order are allowed on a limited basis. Points of Order may be raised in only the two final speeches of the debate: the Opposition Rebuttal and the Proposition Rebuttal. A point of order is allowed only to claim that the opposing team has introduced a new argument in rebuttal.
- C) Points of Order may be made at any moment of a rebuttal; in other words, there is no protected time.
- D) To make a point of order, a member of the opposing team rises and states "point of order." The debater must then provide any rationale in no more than 15 seconds.
- E) The opposing team may respond to the points of order as they choose but their response comes out of their allotted speech time.
- F) Timing for Points of Order
 - a) Once a Point of Order is raised, time should be immediately stopped.
 - b) The debater that raised the Point of Order must make a concise statement, lasting no more than fifteen seconds that clearly identifies the new argument or offense alleged to have been committed by the speaker.
 - c) The speaker will then be granted the opportunity to respond to the Point of Order with a statement, lasting no more than fifteen seconds, that either directly responds to

the offense brought up in the Point of Order, or accepts the Point of Order. No other arguments may be brought up while time is stopped due to a Point of Order.

d) Once the speaker has responded to the Point of Order, time officially restarts.

e) The judge simply observes the point/s of order. The judge/s may take the point of order into account in their deliberations as they choose and no new arguments in rebuttals are allowed; both of these points shall be noted in the judging instructions.