



Oregon School Activities Association
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2018 OREGON NOVICE DEBATE CASE AREAS

Each year, the OSAA designates a set of “Oregon Novice Debate Case Areas” in order to limit debate through December at Oregon debate tournaments offering a Novice division. Oregon debate coaches have requested that the OSAA limit the topic area in order to encourage Novice participation by selecting topics that offer a balance between the affirmative and the negative positions, provide relatively easy research for everyone and provide the opportunity for meaningful case debate, rather than generic argumentation.

The presentation of an affirmative case approach included within one of the case areas listed below does not preclude the legitimate option of the negative to challenge the topicality of any plan presented. The issue of topicality is still to be decided within the round.

In addition to restricting Novice teams to the following cases, adapted from the NFHS list, it is Oregon policy that neither Kritiks nor counterplans may be presented in Novice divisions during the period of restriction. Oregon coaches voted at the OSAA Speech State Championship in 2018 to allow a single type of counterplan to be presented by Novices during the restriction period, as a one year trial. Thus, only counterplans which change the agent or actor of the affirmative plan are permissible in Novice division in 2018.

The following will be designated as “Oregon Novice Debate Case Areas” on the 2018-19 National Policy Debate Topic:

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reduce its restrictions on legal immigration to the United States.

- A path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants
- Expansion of the H-1B visas for skilled workers
- Lifting the Trump Travel Ban
- The Dream Act