

### 13.3. Parliamentary Debate.

- 13.3.1. Team Size.** In this debate form, there are two speakers to a team. The affirmative team is called the Proposition. The negative team is called the Opposition.
- 13.3.2. Length and Order of Speeches.**
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|-----------|---|
| 7 minutes | 1st Proposition constructive                            |
| 8 minutes | 1st Opposition constructive                             |
| 8 minutes | 2nd Proposition constructive                            |
| 8 minutes | 2nd Opposition constructive                             |
| 4 minutes | Opposition rebuttal (given by 1st Opposition speaker)   |
| 5 minutes | Proposition rebuttal (given by 1st Proposition speaker) |
- 13.3.3. Resolutions.**
- (a) There shall be three resolutions per round.
  - (b) One resolution shall be a policy resolution, one resolution shall be a value resolution and the third resolution may be either a value or a policy resolution.
  - (c) The Affirmative team must affirm the resolution.
- 13.3.4. Topic Draw and Preparation Room Procedures.**
- (a) Topics shall be drawn, and preparation shall occur in the Parliamentary Debate Preparation Room *when possible*.
  - (b) After examining the three-posted topics, teammates should discuss and prioritize the choices.
  - (c) When a team's code number is called, the team may send up one representative topic proctor.
  - (d) The proctor shall ask the Proposition to strike first, then the Opposition. The remaining topic shall be debated.
  - (e) The Proposition ***shall deliver the topics*** to the judge(s) in the competition room.
  - (f) Teams are to prepare in the Prep Room on the selected topic. ***Competitors may work with their partners, but should be reminded to keep their voices down.***
  - (g) The proctor shall dismiss both teams in a match to go to the competition room at the end of the 15-minute preparation period.
- 13.3.5. Materials allowed in the Parliamentary Debate Preparation Room and in the round.**
- (a) Paper
  - (b) Dictionary. Allowed in Preparation Room ONLY.
  - (c) Pens or Pencils
  - (d) ***Electronic Devices may used in the Preparation room ONLY in alignment to the rules outlined in 12.12. Electronic devices may be used to access the Internet, find definitions, statistics, or other background information only.***
  - (e) ***Pre-written arguments, handbooks, briefs, or outlines are prohibited from the prep room, whether accessed electronically or present in hard copy form.***
  - (f) ***No other items are to be used in the round or during preparation. Other people may not be used as a resource.***
- 13.3.6. Questions and Answers.**
- (a) In this debate form, there is no formal cross-examination period for the speakers.
  - (b) Instead, the speakers have the option to ask questions during the opponents' constructive speeches.
  - (c) When a question is desired, the questioner will stand and raise a hand to be acknowledged by the opponent who has two options:
    - (1) Say "No Thank You" and continue.
    - (2) Say "Proceed" and answer the question.
  - (d) Remember that the stopwatch will not stop for a question. Speakers must present their constructive speeches and answer questions in the allowed time. Questions cannot be asked during the first and last minute of the opponents' constructive speeches. There shall be no questions during the rebuttals.
- 13.3.7. Judge Participation.**
- (a) The Judge in a Parliamentary Debate is responsible for announcing each speaker and the amount of time for each speech. Example: "I will now call the second Opposition forward for an eight-minute speech," etc.
  - (b) The Judge is also responsible for letting the speakers know when to ask questions during the constructive by "rapping on the desk" when the speaker is one minute into the constructive and "rapping" again when one minute is left to speak.
  - (c) The Judge shall disregard any arguments made over the time limits. The Judge shall disregard new arguments in rebuttals with the exception of the Proposition's response to new arguments made in the 2nd Opposition constructive. New examples, analysis, analogies, etc., which support previously introduced arguments are permitted in rebuttal speeches.
  - (d) The Judge shall penalize misrepresentations of opponent's arguments, personal attacks on opponents and rudeness by reducing speaker points and factoring such infractions into the decision.
- 13.3.8. Heckling.** No heckling is allowed other than supportive knocking, patting or applause.
- 13.3.9. Points of Order and Points of Personal Privilege** are not allowed.
- 13.3.10. Other Rules.** See [General Debate Rules](#).