



Dogwood Speech and Debate League

Public Forum Debate Ballot

Tournament Date:			Tournament Location:		
Round/ Flight:	Room:	Division:	Judge Name:	Affiliation/ Occupation:	
Resolution/Topic:					

EVERY round begins with a coin toss; the winning team has the option of choosing *either* the side (pro or con) *or* the speaking order (first or second) in the round; the losing team makes the remaining choice, either side or speaking order.

AFTER the coin toss, **ALLOW THE STUDENTS** to record the following (the team on the left speaks first and should sit to the judge's left):

First Team			Second Team		
Code:	Side: Pro	Con	Code:	Side: Pro	Con
Speaker 1 Name:			Speaker 2 Name:		
Speaker 3 Name:			Speaker 4 Name:		

Winning Team: (circle one) Pro Con	Team Name/Code:	Team Points:
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Rate each speaker from 20-30 points: 20-23 Below Average 24-26 Average 27-28 Above Average 29-30 Outstanding
Scores below 20 may only be awarded in cases of unethical or inappropriate behavior

- ❖ Judges should decide the round as it is debated, not based on their personal beliefs.
- ❖ Debaters should advocate or reject the resolution in manner clear to the non-specialist citizen judge (i.e., jury). Clash of ideas is essential to debate.
- ❖ Debaters should display solid logic and reasoning, advocate a position, utilize evidence, and communicate clear ideas using professional decorum.
- ❖ Neither the pro nor con is permitted to offer a plan or counterplan, defined as a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation. Rather, they should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.
- ❖ Crossfire time should be dedicated to questions and answers rather than reading evidence. Evidence may be referred to extemporaneously.
- ❖ **No new arguments** may be introduced in the Final Focus; however, debaters may include new evidence to support prior arguments.

Comments to debaters:

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Reasons for my decision (cite specific arguments that had a bearing):

Order/Time Limits of Speeches	
Speaker 1	4 min.
Speaker 2	4 min.
Crossfire (1 & 2)*	3 min.
Speaker 3	4 min.
Speaker 4	4 min.
Crossfire (3 & 4)*	3 min.
Speaker 1 Summary.....	2 min.
Speaker 2 Summary.....	2 min.
Grand Crossfire (all)	3 min.
Speaker 3 Final Focus.....	2 min.
Speaker 4 Final Focus.....	2 min.
2 minutes of Prep Time per side	
* The first question is asked by the earlier speaker.	