

High School Judge Cheat Sheet

This sheet is designed to provide a basic guideline to the criteria that can be used for judging individual **SPEECH** events. Remember, feedback is crucial! Let them know of things they did well, but also what they could improve on. **To access your ballots go to live.speechwire.com** As soon as you are in your room, **press "Start Round"** in Speechwire.

Extemporaneous (EX)	Original Oratory (OO)	Declamation (DEC)	Impromptu (IMP)	Interpretation (HI, DI, DUO)	Program Oral Interpretation (POI)	Informative (INFO)
In a prep room (not your room), competitors are presented with a choice of three current event questions related to national and international current events. The competitor has 30 minutes to prepare a seven-minute speech answering the selected question. Judges will receive competitors one at a time, in 10-minute increments. Each student should stay to watch the remaining competitors. <u>Judging:</u> - Time: Up to 7 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch) - Time violations cannot place first (30 second grace period). NO NOTES (Paper or Digital) - Those using notes should not rank first - Factually accurate - Organized, focused on topic, research referenced. - Judge opinion on the topic should <u>not</u> influence ranking.	Competitors write, <u>memorize</u>, and deliver a problem/solution speech with the intent to persuade the audience on a topic of significance. It usually has a problem, with causes, effects, and solutions. Competitors should remain in the room for the remaining competitors' speeches. <u>Judging:</u> - Time: up to 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch) - Time violations cannot place first (30 second grace period). NO NOTES (Paper or Digital) - Those using notes should not rank first - Organized, flows, easy-to-follow. - Clear message - Relatable to any audience - Cited evidence to support the cause, problem, and a solution that could mitigate the problem.	Competitors <u>memorize</u> and deliver a portion or portions of a printed, published, & publicly delivered speech previously performed by someone else (commencement addresses, historical speeches, political speeches, celebrity speeches, etc.). There will be a brief introduction to the piece near the beginning of the speech. <u>Judging:</u> - Time: up to 10 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch) - Time violations cannot place first (30 second grace period). NO NOTES (Paper or Digital) - Those using notes should not rank first - Entertaining, relatable, & flows - Speech choice appropriate for competition	Students have 7 minutes to prepare and give an improvised speech without notes. <u>Draw:</u> (One speaker at a time) The judge has the speaker draw three prompts from an envelope. The speaker will choose one. The 7 minutes will start once the speaker chooses the topic (that topic is no longer valid for any other competitor). Competitors should remain in the room for all speeches. <u>Judging:</u> - Time: up to 7 minutes (only valid if timed with stopwatch) 7 minutes includes preparation time and giving the speech. - Time violations cannot place first (30 second grace period). NO NOTES (Paper or Digital) - Those using notes should not rank first in the round. - Organized, focused on topic, and supported using examples.	Competitors cut, <u>memorize</u> and perform their interpretation of a printed published, publicly accessible piece (script, movie, story, novel, etc.) including either single or multiple characters. PROPS ARE NOT PERMITTED (any item is considered a prop: chair, floor, table, etc.). In DUO, competitors may <u>not</u> make eye contact, nor touch. There will be a brief introduction to the piece near the beginning of the piece. <u>Judging:</u> - Time: up to 10 minutes - Time violations cannot place first (30 second grace period). No scripts/notes - Time violations shouldn't rank first DUO – Students do not touch or have eye contact except during the introduction. <u>Content/Delivery</u> - Entertaining - Piece should be challenging & appropriate for competition. - Not mimicking the original, but an interpreted message using original wording. - Characters clearly defined and differentiated.	Students deliver dramatic readings of published poems or pieces of published works. <u>Judging:</u> - Time: up to 10 minutes - Time violations should not place first (30 second grace period). - Maintains impression of reading from script in black binder - Students may not step away from performance spot <u>Content</u> - Entertaining - Piece choice challenging and appropriate for competition <u>Delivery</u> - Eye contact - Volume - Speaking rate - Confidence	A self-written speech on a topic of their choice, using logic and evidence to inform not advocate. Visual aids are allowed. All research should be cited verbally. <u>Judging:</u> - Time: up to 10 minutes - Time violations should not place first (30 second grace period). - Focused on topic - Organized and factual information with support of sources. - Should educate and entertain - Visual aids are engaging and have smooth delivery <u>Delivery</u> - Eye contact - Organized, knowledgeable, and informative - Confidence - Smooth delivery
In ALL Speech Events: - Please look for the following: eye contact, confidence, articulation, poise, tone, speed, body language) - Please make detailed comments on each ballot (positive & areas of improvement). - Rank students in first to last, no ties. Issue speaker points, 90 to 100 (highest points to 1st) <u>DISCLOSURE of RESULTS ANY round is PROHIBITED.</u>						

***TYPE IN THE BALLOT FEEDBACK WHILE COMPETITORS ARE SPEAKING TO SAVE TIME. We cannot start the next round or finish the tournament until all ballots are submitted. You will have time to edit/change/add additional feedback after the ranks, points, and decision is submitted.**

High School Judge Cheat Sheet

This sheet is designed to provide a basic guideline to the criteria that can be used for judging individual **DEBATE** events. Remember, feedback is crucial! Let them know of things they did well, but also what they could improve on. **To access your ballots go to [live.speechwire.com](https://www.live.speechwire.com)** As soon as you are in your room, **press "Start Round"** in Speechwire.

Student Congress (CON)	Public Forum (PF)	Lincoln/Douglas Debate (LD)	Policy Debate (TD)																																																																																																			
Contestants in Student Congress become legislators charged with the task of fulfilling the responsibilities of the US legislative branch of the federal government. There is a chamber of 15-18 competitors, as well as a PO (Presiding Officer-will run the room using Parliamentary Procedure) <u>Regulations</u> • Student speeches are up to 3 minutes (PO will announce speech times) • Legislation authors have 2 minutes mandatory questioning period • All other questioning periods are 1 minute. • Students may not have visual aids • Speech should be on appropriate topic/side • Focused on topic, organized, factual accuracy, good composition, references • Eye Contact, confidence, appropriate/professional tone Score every ballot – points range from 1 (poor) to 6 (excellent). Competitors should not receive extra points for questioning, however it should help determine ranking if the speech points are tied. Your opinion on the topic should <u>not</u> influence the ranking. Competitors rank 1 (best) -8 (look at how many speeches they made, how many points you gave for each speech, their decorum towards the chamber, participation, questioning, etc.) Please make detailed positive and constructive comments on each student ballot.	Team event that advocates or rejects a position posed by the resolution. Teams will be assigned pro/con prior to the round, indicated on the ballot. <table><tr><th>Speech</th><th>Time Limit (Minute)</th><th>Purpose</th></tr><tr><td>Pro: Speaker 1 Constructive Speech</td><td>4</td><td>Present Team’s Case</td></tr><tr><td>Con: Speaker 1 Constructive Speech</td><td>4</td><td>Present Team’s Case</td></tr><tr><td>Crossfire</td><td>3</td><td>Speaker 1 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions</td></tr><tr><td>Pro: Speaker 2 Rebuttal</td><td>4</td><td>Refute the opposing side’s arguments</td></tr><tr><td>Con: Speaker 2 Rebuttal</td><td>4</td><td>Refute the opposing side’s arguments</td></tr><tr><td>Crossfire</td><td>3</td><td>Speaker 2 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions</td></tr><tr><td>Pro: Speaker 1 Summary</td><td>3</td><td>Begin forming the main issues</td></tr><tr><td>Con: Speaker 1 Summary</td><td>3</td><td>Begin forming the main issues</td></tr><tr><td>Grand Crossfire</td><td>3</td><td>All 4 debaters involved in asking and answering questions at once</td></tr><tr><td>Pro: Speaker 2 Final Focus</td><td>2</td><td>Explain reasons they should win the round</td></tr><tr><td>Con: Speaker 2 Final Focus</td><td>2</td><td>Explain reasons they should win the round</td></tr></table> (3minutes of prep time given for each team) • Focused on topic, organized arguments, factual accuracy, cited evidence to support points, countered arguments presented by opposing team • Confident, respectful of other team • Your opinion on the topic should <u>not</u> influence the ranking. Each speaker receives speaker points ranging from 25-30 points (highest total points goes to winning team) and should reflect your win/loss decision. Please justify your decision and provide positive, but constructive feedback to each team.	Speech	Time Limit (Minute)	Purpose	Pro: Speaker 1 Constructive Speech	4	Present Team’s Case	Con: Speaker 1 Constructive Speech	4	Present Team’s Case	Crossfire	3	Speaker 1 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions	Pro: Speaker 2 Rebuttal	4	Refute the opposing side’s arguments	Con: Speaker 2 Rebuttal	4	Refute the opposing side’s arguments	Crossfire	3	Speaker 2 from both teams alternate asking and answering questions	Pro: Speaker 1 Summary	3	Begin forming the main issues	Con: Speaker 1 Summary	3	Begin forming the main issues	Grand Crossfire	3	All 4 debaters involved in asking and answering questions at once	Pro: Speaker 2 Final Focus	2	Explain reasons they should win the round	Con: Speaker 2 Final Focus	2	Explain reasons they should win the round	Each debater will try to show why their position supports the more important principles inherent in their position and why that position is superior to the opponent’s. Debaters will be assigned aff/neg prior to the round, indicated on the ballot. <table><tr><th>Speech</th><th>Time Limit (Minute)</th><th>Purpose</th></tr><tr><td>Affirmative Constructive</td><td>6</td><td>Present the affirmative case</td></tr><tr><td>Negative Cross-Examination</td><td>3</td><td>Negative asks questions of the aff</td></tr><tr><td>Negative Constructive</td><td>7</td><td>Present Neg case and refute Aff case</td></tr><tr><td>Affirmative Cross-Examination</td><td>3</td><td>Affirmative asks questions of the neg</td></tr><tr><td>First Aff Rebuttal</td><td>4</td><td>Refute the negative case, rebuild aff case</td></tr><tr><td>Negative Rebuttal</td><td>6</td><td>Refute the aff case, rebuild the neg case, offer reasons neg should win</td></tr><tr><td>2nd Aff Rebuttal</td><td>3</td><td>Address neg reasons, offer why aff should win</td></tr></table> (4minutes of prep time given per debater) • Focused on topic, organized arguments, factual accuracy, cited evidence to support points, countered arguments presented by opposing team • Confidence, respectful of other team, appropriate/professional tone • Your opinion on the topic should <u>not</u> influence the ranking. Each debater receives speaker points ranging from 25-30 points (highest total points goes to winner) and should reflect your win/loss decision. Please justify your decision and provide positive, but constructive feedback to each debater.	Speech	Time Limit (Minute)	Purpose	Affirmative Constructive	6	Present the affirmative case	Negative Cross-Examination	3	Negative asks questions of the aff	Negative Constructive	7	Present Neg case and refute Aff case	Affirmative Cross-Examination	3	Affirmative asks questions of the neg	First Aff Rebuttal	4	Refute the negative case, rebuild aff case	Negative Rebuttal	6	Refute the aff case, rebuild the neg case, offer reasons neg should win	2nd Aff Rebuttal	3	Address neg reasons, offer why aff should win	Team event that advocates or rejects a proposition posed by the resolution. 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Policy Debate - Sept-Oct 2026 Topic: Resolved: Outer space colonization is a moral imperative.

DISCLOSURE of JUDGE DECISION and/or CRITIQUE of ANY round is PROHIBITED. *TYPE IN THE BALLOT FEEDBACK WHILE COMPETITORS ARE SPEAKING TO SAVE TIME. We cannot start the next round or finish the tournament until all ballots are submitted. You will have time to edit/change/add additional feedback after the ranks, points, and decision is submitted.