

I call this debate to order. I am pleased to welcome you all to this ___ round of the 20___ Nova Scotia Senior High School Debating Championships. The question before us today is " _____?"

Seated on my right are the affirmative debaters, namely: To my left, supporting the negative side, are:

Their first speaker: _____ Its first speaker: _____

Their second member: _____ Its second member: _____
and and

Their third debater: _____ Its third debater: _____.

The Judges for this debate are _____, _____ and _____.
Our Timekeeper is _____ and I, _____, am your Moderator.

Each debater will deliver a 5-minute constructive speech, after which he or she will be questioned for up to 3 minutes by an opponent. Each debater will cross-examine an opponent for up to 3 minutes and have 3 minutes rebuttal-defence-summary time. If a question has been asked before the time limit expires, a short answer may be given. Cross-examination commences immediately after a constructive speech has ended: the examiner will not be re-introduced before questioning begins. Would the Timekeeper please explain the system for signalling time remaining to debaters.

• (PAUSE WHILE TIMEKEEPER EXPLAINS SYSTEM.)

(DURING THE FIRST ROUND ONLY, SAY:) To review the general rules of debating briefly: (READ THE SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL RULES OF DEBATE FOR PREPARED DEBATES.)

During cross-examination, debaters should treat one another with dignity as the Judges will penalize debaters guilty of rudeness, flippancy, brow-beating or any attempt to belittle another debater.

While cross-examining, debaters should ask fair questions on pertinent subjects, though these need not arise out of the preceding speech. Examiners will be penalized for arguing with witnesses or making speeches instead of asking questions. They are required to give witnesses a reasonable opportunity to answer questions, though they may ask me to cut short witnesses who stall or answer at unreasonable length.

While being cross-examined, debaters shall give direct, honest answers. They must not evade questions put to them but they may impose reasonable qualifications on their answers. The only question they can ask is for clarification of a confusing query and they may not refuse to answer a question, even if it appears unfair or irrelevant. If an answer to a question is not pertinent, however, I may direct the witness to answer properly.

I will not entertain any objections other than those noted above. No heckling or other interjections are in order but after all speeches have concluded, I will give both teams an opportunity to point out misquotations and misrepresentations and violations of rules by their opponents.

Are there any questions regarding the Rules?

• (ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT ARE RAISED.)

I call upon the **first affirmative** debater to deliver his/her constructive speech, including all definitions and introducing any Plan, then be **cross-examined** by the **third negative** speaker. No Plan is required of the affirmative, but if it intends to use one, it must be at least introduced during this speech.

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Thank you. I now call upon the **first negative** speaker to present his/her main address, challenging any definitions in issue [and introducing any Counter-Plan], then be **cross-examined** by the **third affirmative** member.

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Thank you. I now call upon the **second affirmative** speaker to render his/her constructive remarks, [completing the description of any Plan], then be **cross-examined by the first negative** debater.

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Thank you. I now call upon the **second negative** speaker to present his/her main speech, [completing the description of any Counter-Plan], then be **cross-examined by the first affirmative** member.

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Thank you. I now call upon the **third affirmative** debater to render his/her remarks, then be **cross-examined by the second negative** speaker.

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Thank you. I now call upon the **third negative** speaker to deliver the final constructive speech, then be **cross-examined by the second affirmative** member.

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Thank you. We shall now hear a 3-minute speech by each debater. The functions of rebuttal, defence and summarization may be handled by each speaker or they may be divided among the team members. I call upon the **first debater from each team, beginning with the negative.**

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Thank you. Next I call upon the **second debater from each side**, again **commencing with the negative.**

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Thank you. Finally, I call upon the **third debater from each side**, again **starting with the negative.** The affirmative debater may introduce no new constructive arguments or evidence at this time.

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Has any debater any complaints of rule violations or misquoting or misrepresenting of his or her remarks by his or her opponents?

(IF ANY COMPLAINTS ARE RAISED, ASK DEBATERS TO BE SPECIFIC AND GIVE A CRITICIZED DEBATER A BRIEF OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO THEM, BUT DO NOT RULE ON THE VALIDITY OF ANY OF THE COMPLAINTS.)

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AFTER THE FIRST ROUND SAY: Thank you. Judges should not confer with one another and should not complete their scoring until they have heard the next round of debate.

AFTER THE SECOND ROUND SAY: Thank you. Would the Judges please complete their scoring of both debates, ensuring that all 12 scores are legible, and turn their Score Sheets in to the Timekeeper. Judges should not confer with one another until after they have scored the debate.

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Because of the tightness of the Tournament Schedule, there is not time for formal critiques today. However, I encourage the debaters to speak to the Judges in private to obtain suggestions as to how they might improve their debating. I remind the judges that they should not reveal any debater's scores or the winning team.

On behalf of the debating organization, I thank the Judges and the Timekeeper for their assistance; I congratulate all of the debaters on their performances; and I hope that all spectators enjoyed the event. Would the debaters please report to the Tournament Director for their next assignments; please be quiet in the halls, since other debates may still be in progress. I declare this debate officially concluded.
