



ALBERTA DEBATE AND SPEECH ASSOCIATION

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Junior High Beginner Moderator's (Chairperson's) Script

The Moderator (or Chair) is in charge of maintaining order during the debate. He/she opens the debate, introduces the debaters and calls the House to a close when the round is finished. All remarks made by debaters during their speeches should be addressed to the Chair, not to other debaters. Usually, the Chair is also the Timekeeper.

Before you begin,

- write the exact resolution and the names of all debaters on the blackboard.
- Check to see that judges are seated in different locations and that all debaters and officials are ready.
- Consult the debaters for the pronunciation of their names.
- Ask all persons present to be seated.
- Proceed as soon after the official start signal as possible

Say:

"This debate will come to order.
The resolution before us today is

Representing the Proposition are its First Speaker _____ and the Second Speaker _____.

Representing the Opposition are its First Speaker _____ and the Second Speaker _____.

On behalf of the House, I would like to express a sincere welcome to our judges:
_____, _____ and _____

and I, _____ am your Moderator (Chair).

Each speaker will deliver a 5 minute constructive speech. The first speaker of each team will also get a 3 minute summary and rebuttal speech. I will indicate how many minutes are left in the speech with my fingers (or card) (ie. I will hold up 4 fingers or the card when 4 minutes are left). The 30 second mark is indicated with a C- shaped hand signal (or Card). The last 10 seconds are counted down on my fingers, in the same way the minutes were counted. Points of Information will be allowed during the constructive speeches only, but not during the first and last minute of the speeches. I will bang the desk after the first minute, and again with one minute remaining, to signal the time during which Points of Information may be raised. For each speech, fifteen seconds grace will be allowed. This will be counted with my arms (imagine the second hands

ticking down on a clock). After each speech, I will immediately call upon the next debater to begin his or her address.

There will be no Points of Order or Points of Privilege. Heckling is also prohibited.

Are there any questions regarding the rules?

(ANSWER ANY THAT ARE RAISED)

I call upon the First Speaker to introduce the Proposition case for 5 minutes.

(FIRST PROPOSITION'S SPEECH)

I thank the member for his/her remarks. We shall now hear the first speaker for the Opposition for 5 minutes

(FIRST OPPOSITION'S SPEECH)

I thank the member for his/her remarks. I now call upon the second speaker for the Proposition for 5 minutes

(SECOND PROPOSITION'S SPEECH)

I thank the member for his/her remarks. The Second Opposition will now deliver the last speech opposing the case for 5 minutes

(SECOND OPPOSITION'S SPEECH)

I thank the Opposition speaker. At this time, the first speaker for each side will deliver a 3 minute summary and rebuttal speech. No new information may be introduced during these speeches.

We will now provide both teams with a 3 minute break to work on their summary/rebuttal!

We will start with the first opposition speaker who will speak for 3 minutes

(FIRST OPPOSITION'S SUMMARY/REBUTTAL)

We will now hear the Proposition's final summary and rebuttal, to be delivered by the First speaker, for 3 minutes.

(FIRST PROPOSITION'S SUMMARY/REBUTTAL)

I thank the member for concluding the debate. Would the judges please complete their ballots?

After the debate:

- **Wait for the judges to complete their ballots**
- **Collect their ballots when finished**
- **Ensure all Names, Codes, speakers points and decisions are clearly marked**
- **Once all judges have submitted ballots, and IF THE TOURNAMENT ORGANIZER HAS SAID IT IS OK announce the winner by saying,**

"It is the decision of the judges that the Proposition or Opposition team has won this debate. I now invite the judges to offer feedback, if they wish"

- **While the judges are offering feedback, bring the ballots to the Main Office asap.**
- **return to the room and prepare for the next debate.**

Once all debates are completed and the room is emptied, please replace all furniture to its original location. Make the room look as if no one had been there.