

# DEBATE GUIDELINES & RULES

## DEBATE DEFINED

**Lincoln-Douglas Debate** format shall use topics as indicated below. Each debater will be given up to five minutes total of preparation time to be used when needed in the debate.

- Sept. 1-Oct. 31: September/October NSDA topic
- Nov. 1-Dec. 31: November/December NSDA topic
- Jan. 1-Feb. 28(29): January/February NSDA topic
- Mar.1-April 30: March/April NSDA topic

Time Limits are as follows:

- Affirmative Constructive 6 minutes
- Cross Examination 3 minutes
- Negative Constructive 7 minutes
- Cross Examination 3 minutes
- 1st Affirmative Rebuttal 4 minutes
- Negative Rebuttal 6 minutes
- 2nd Affirmative Rebuttal 3 minutes

**Policy Debate** shall be the Oregon-Oxford Cross-Ex style and will use the National topic for that year designated by the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA). Each team will be given up to five minutes total of preparation time to be used when needed in the debate.

Time Limits are as follows:

- 1st Affirmative Constructive 8 minutes
- Cross Examination 3 minutes
- 1st Negative Constructive 8 minutes
- Cross Examination 3 minutes
- 2nd Affirmative Constructive 8 minutes
- Cross Examination 3 minutes
- 2nd Negative Constructive 8 minutes
- Cross Examination 3 minutes
- 1st Negative Rebuttal 5 minutes
- 1st Affirmative Rebuttal 5 minutes
- 2nd Negative Rebuttal 5 minutes
- 2nd Affirmative Rebuttal 5 minutes

**Public Forum Debate** shall follow the rules as established by the NSDA and shall use the monthly topic designated by the NSDA. Each team will be given up to two minutes total of preparation time to be used when needed in the debate.

NOTE: At the 2018 Alaska DDF Coaches Association meeting, it was decided that Public Forum Debate speech times would be extended by one minute (i.e. 5-minute constructive speeches, 3-minute summary and final focuses) on a trial basis for the 2018-2019 school year.

Time Limits are as follows:

- First Speaker 4 minutes
- Second Speaker 4 minutes
- Crossfire 3 minutes
- Third Speaker 4 minutes
- Fourth Speaker 4 minutes
- Crossfire 3 minutes

- Summary 2 minutes
- Summary 2 minutes
- Grand Crossfire 3 minutes
- Final Focus 2 minutes
- Final Focus 2 minutes

## **TEAM INTEGRITY**

A Policy or Public Forum Debate team consists of two students debating both sides of the question. LD requires one student debating both sides. No substitution is permitted after the start of the first round. If a debater gets sick for a single round, it will be treated as a “no show.”

## **DEBATE EVIDENCE RULES**

**Presentation of Evidence;** Debaters may use evidence gathered from lecture, pamphlet, electronic media, or other source if the tape, transcript, or published proof is submitted within 30 minutes of request.

### **Falsification of Evidence;**

1. Deliberately making up a whole quotation.
2. Providing the wrong year or the wrong source, or glorifying the source.
3. Leaving words out of the original or taking the evidence out of context.

Note: Inaccurate interpretation or misconstruing of evidence is not falsification

Judges have the right to inspect evidence cards. If a team makes falsification charges, that team must have proof for those charges. They cannot make the charge just because they think it happened. If falsification has been charged in a debate round, and if so instructed by the judge, the challenged team has one-half hour after the debate round ends to produce the original source. If the support is not offered within the half hour, the challenged team is disqualified from the tournament . The judge should take action only if falsification has been raised as an issue by the opposing team. If the charge has been wrongly made, the team making the charges will face the same penalty as if they did the falsification themselves. Falsification of evidence charges should be made immediately when the debate is over and not during the debate.

If debaters in CX, LD or PF meet for a second time in the same tournament, they **MUST** reverse sides.