



Invitational Congressional Debate Forms

Joy of Tournaments software allows scheduling and tabulation using League rules and protocols.

Use these forms
for **invitational**
tournaments.



Separate forms are available for
League **district tournaments.**

(Those forms contain the district tournament point scale for speaking and presiding.)

Congressional Debate

Speech Evaluation	Chamber #:	Student Name:	School Code:
	Session:		

Rate each speech, (1 = weak; 6 = strong), and justify your rating with constructive suggestions for improvement. Consider: **Originality of Thought** (advances debate rather than repeats previously stated ideas; refutes opposing arguments); **Organization and Unity** (cohesively links ideas); **Evidence and Logic** (cites credible sources, connecting to claims); **Delivery** (extemporaneous speaking vs. reciting a manuscript, seriousness of purpose, style and poise). How well the speaker answers questions also should be considered. *If the student speaks more than three times, write comments on the reverse side and award 1-6 points for each additional speech.* You will rank students, holistically, at the end of the session, on a separate form.

	Speech 1	← Poor (circle rating) Excellent →	Speech 2	← Poor (circle rating) Excellent →	Speech 3	← Poor (circle rating) Excellent →
	<input type="checkbox"/> Aff <input type="checkbox"/> Neg	1 2 3 4 5 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Aff <input type="checkbox"/> Neg	1 2 3 4 5 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Aff <input type="checkbox"/> Neg	1 2 3 4 5 6
Topic:						
Comments ↓						

Questioning of Other Speakers (relevance to debate, clarification, etc.)

Print Judge Name:
School/Affiliation:

Congressional Debate

Speech Evaluation	Chamber #:	Student Name:	School Code:
	Session:		

Rate each speech, (1 = weak; 6 = strong), and justify your rating with constructive suggestions for improvement. Consider: **Originality of Thought** (advances debate rather than repeats previously stated ideas; refutes opposing arguments); **Organization and Unity** (cohesively links ideas); **Evidence and Logic** (cites credible sources, connecting to claims); **Delivery** (extemporaneous speaking vs. reciting a manuscript, seriousness of purpose, style and poise). How well the speaker answers questions also should be considered. *If the student speaks more than three times, write comments on the reverse side and award 1-6 points for each additional speech.* You will rank students, holistically, at the end of the session, on a separate form.

	Speech 1	← Poor (circle rating) Excellent →	Speech 2	← Poor (circle rating) Excellent →	Speech 3	← Poor (circle rating) Excellent →
	<input type="checkbox"/> Aff <input type="checkbox"/> Neg	1 2 3 4 5 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Aff <input type="checkbox"/> Neg	1 2 3 4 5 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Aff <input type="checkbox"/> Neg	1 2 3 4 5 6
Topic:						
Comments ↓						

Questioning of Other Speakers (relevance to debate, clarification, etc.)

Print Judge Name:
School/Affiliation:



Congressional Debate

Presiding Evaluation	Chamber #:	Student Name:	School Code:
	Session:		

Award a rating of 2-6 points per hour of presiding (2=*weak*; 6 = *strong*), and *justify your rating* with constructive suggestions for improvement. You will rank students, holistically, at the end of the session, on a separate form, and **may or may not include** the presiding officer in your ranking. Consider: **Parliamentary Procedure** (clearly explains protocols and rulings); **Recognition** (fairly and efficiently recognizes speakers and questioners, maintains appropriate speaker precedence and recency, and avoids “activity,” “longest standing/standing time”); **Control** (maintains decorum of delegates, and willing to rule motions out of order); **Demeanor** (fosters a respectful, professional, and collegial atmosphere); **Communication** (overall use of language, avoiding unnecessary verbiage).

Circle point rating:					X # of Hours	= Total Points
← High/Best			Low →			
6	5	4	3	2		

Print Judge Name:
School/Affiliation:



Congressional Debate

Presiding Evaluation	Chamber #:	Student Name:	School Code:
	Session:		

Award a rating of 2-6 points per hour of presiding (2=*weak*; 6 = *strong*), and *justify your rating* with constructive suggestions for improvement. You will rank students, holistically, at the end of the session, on a separate form, and **may or may not include** the presiding officer in your ranking. Consider: **Parliamentary Procedure** (clearly explains protocols and rulings); **Recognition** (fairly and efficiently recognizes speakers and questioners, maintains appropriate speaker precedence and recency, and avoids “activity,” “longest standing/standing time”); **Control** (maintains decorum of delegates, and willing to rule motions out of order); **Demeanor** (fosters a respectful, professional, and collegial atmosphere); **Communication** (overall use of language, avoiding unnecessary verbiage).

Circle point rating:					X # of Hours	= Total Points
← High/Best			Low →			
6	5	4	3	2		

Print Judge Name:
School/Affiliation:

Congressional Debate

Master Ballot

Session:	Room:	Chamber Number:
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Please **rank**, in order of preference (1=most preferred; 8=least preferred) the **top eight** legislators in this session. Consider each contestant's holistic performance in the session, including an aggregate consideration of the quality of speaking or presiding. Did the contestant's actions enhance the chamber's ability to conduct legislative business, or did his/her focus on the minutia of procedures and competitive framework detract from time for others to speak?

Are you aware you *may or may not* place the presiding officer in the list of your eight most preferred contestants, **if you believe her/his performance was worthy?** → I Understand

If the presiding officer's performance was not worthy, do not include him/her below!

Rank	Name <i>(print legibly; use first initial if two in chamber have same last name)</i>	School Code
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		
4 th		
5 th		
6 th		
7 th		
8 th		

Print Judge Name:	School/Affiliation:
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Congressional Debate

Master Ballot

Session:	Room:	Chamber Number:
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Please **rank**, in order of preference (1=most preferred; 8=least preferred) the **top eight** legislators in this session. Consider each contestant's holistic performance in the session, including an aggregate consideration of the quality of speaking or presiding. Did the contestant's actions enhance the chamber's ability to conduct legislative business, or did his/her focus on the minutia of procedures and competitive framework detract from time for others to speak?

Are you aware you *may or may not* place the presiding officer in the list of your eight most preferred contestants, **if you believe her/his performance was worthy?** → I Understand

If the presiding officer's performance was not worthy, do not include him/her below!

Rank	Name <i>(print legibly; use first initial if two in chamber have same last name)</i>	School Code
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		
4 th		
5 th		
6 th		
7 th		
8 th		

Print Judge Name:	School/Affiliation:
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Parliamentarian Ballot

Session:

Room:

Chamber No.:

Please **rank**, in order of preference (1=most preferred) **through the total number** of legislators in your chamber. Consider each contestant's holistic performance in the session, including an aggregate consideration of the quality of speaking or presiding. Did the contestant's actions enhance the chamber's ability to conduct legislative business, or did his/her focus on the minutia of procedures and competitive framework detract from time for others to speak?

Rank	Name <i>(print legibly; use first initial if two in chamber have same last name)</i>	School Code
1 st		
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Print Judge Name:

School/Affiliation:

Table of Frequently Used Parliamentary Motions							
Type	Motion	Purpose	Second Required?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Required Vote	May Interrupt?
Privileged	24. Fix time for reassembling	To arrange time of next meeting	Yes	Yes- T	Yes- T	Majority	Yes
	23. Adjourn	To dismiss the meeting	Yes	No	Yes- T	Majority	No
	22. Recess	To dismiss the meeting for a specific length of time	Yes	Yes	Yes- T	Majority	No
	21. Rise to a question of privilege	To make a personal request during debate	No	No	No	Decision of the Chair	Yes
	20. Call for orders of the day	To force consideration of a postponed motion	No	No	No	Decision of the Chair	Yes
Incidental	19. Appeal a decision of the chair	To reverse a decision	Yes	No	No	Majority	Yes
	18. Rise to a point of order or parliamentary procedure	To correct a parliamentary error or ask a question	No	No	No	Decision of the Chair	Yes
	17. Division of the chamber	To verify a voice vote	No	No	No	Decision of the Chair	Yes
	16. Object to the consideration of a question	To suppress action	No	No	No	2/3	Yes
	15. Divide a motion	To consider its parts separately	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	No
	14. Leave to modify or withdraw a motion	To modify or withdraw a motion	No	No	No	Majority	No
	13. Suspend the rules	To take action contrary to standing rules	Yes	No	No	2/3	No
Subsidiary	12. Rescind	To repeal previous action	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3	No
	11. Reconsider	To consider a defeated motion again	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	No
	10. Take from the table	To consider tabled motion	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
	9. Lay on the table	To defer action	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
	8. Previous question	To force an immediate vote	Yes	No	No	2/3	No
	7. Limit or extend debate	To modify freedom of debate	Yes	Yes	Yes- T	2/3	No
	6. Postpone to a certain time	To defer action	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
	5. Refer to a committee *	For further study	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
	4. Amend an amendment °	To modify an amendment	1/3	Yes	No	Majority	No
	3. Amend °	To modify a motion	1/3	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
2. Postpone indefinitely	To suppress action	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	No	
Main	1. Main motion	To introduce a business	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	No

* No. 5 should include:

1. How appointed
2. The number
3. Report when or to what standing committee

T = Time

° Nos. 3 and 4 by:

1. Adding (inserting)
2. Striking (deleting)
3. Substituting

Precedence/Recency Table & Fractions of Parliamentary Voting


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# Votes Cast	Majority	Two-Thirds	One-Third
9	5	6	3
10	6	7	4
11	6	8	4
12	7	8	4
13	7	9	5
14	8	10	5
15	8	10	5
16	9	11	6
17	9	12	6
18	10	12	6

# Votes Cast	Majority	Two-Thirds	One-Third
19	10	13	7
20	11	14	7
21	11	14	7
22	12	15	8
23	12	16	8
24	13	16	8
25	13	17	9
26	14	18	9
27	14	18	9
28	15	19	10

Agenda Report

Chamber No.:	Session: <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary <input type="checkbox"/> Semifinal <input type="checkbox"/> Final
Name of Tournament:	Year:

 Save time! Use this form in lieu of writing everything on a chalkboard/whiteboard.

Order	Docket Number	Title Summary	Vote Record		
			Ayes	Noes	Abstentions
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Parliamentarian: Submit this form to the Congress office at the conclusion of the preliminary, semifinal or final sessions.

Oath of Office

I do solemnly swear
that I will support and defend
the Constitution of the United States
against all enemies, foreign and domestic;
that I will bear true faith and allegiance
to the Constitution;
that I take this obligation freely,
without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion;
and that I will well and faithfully discharge duties
of the office on which I am about to enter,
so help me God.

