



NHSDLC
NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE LEAGUE OF CHINA

JUNIOR WORLD SCHOOL DEBATE (JWSD)

Rulebook

1. Introduction

This rulebook provides the fundamental rules that govern Junior World Schools Debate (Junior WSD) events in National High School Debate League of China (NHSDLC) tournaments.

There are 3 main purposes to the rules.

1. First, the rules contribute to the smooth and effective running of tournaments.
2. Second, the rules are designed to ensure competitive equity for all participants regardless of their school, grade, gender, and other ascriptive characteristics; the rules should foster a competitive experience where the quality of a team's speech should play an almost exclusive rule in determining their competitive success.
3. Third, the rules facilitate the maintenance of an educational debate environment. As an educational activity, participating in debate events should aid the development of an academic skill set that helps debaters succeed.

This rulebook should not determine the winner or loser of a debate tournament except in extreme circumstances. The primary role of a judge is to decide who wins the tournament within the constraints of the rules. At the same time, debaters and judges should be able to determine the application of rules of particular situations in a debate tournament on their own. If disagreement and confusion persist, the relevant parties should immediately contact an NHSDLC staff member. Complaints should be handled similarly.

The Tournament Director always maintains ultimate discretion regarding what consequences should be administered for rule infractions. Consequences will vary depending on the severity of the situation.

In extreme cases, the Tournament Director may determine that a debater should be deducted points, not proceed to elimination rounds, be disqualified from the tournament, or be removed from the national ranking. Ignorance of the rules is not an excuse and will not mitigate potential consequences.

This rulebook will focus on the rules of the NHSDLC Junior WSD circuit instead of concentrating more broadly on the norms that shape the circuit. Rules mandate what debaters must do. In contrast, norms influence the debate community's sense of what debaters should do. This is because NHSDLC believes that the debate community should play an important role in deciding norms for itself.

Debaters are welcome to talk to NHSDLC staff to clarify results and ballots. However, appeals of a judgment are almost never considered. All judgments are final unless there is a reason to believe discrimination took place, or that a technicality error occurred.

2. Rules

2.1 Tournament Conduct

NHSDLC tournaments are a professional and safe environment. If any participant, judge, teacher, parent, person, or animal is exceptionally disruptive to this atmosphere, the NHSDLC reserves the right to remove them from the premises. Threats of violence, verbal abuse, discriminatory behavior, and acts that endanger anyone involved will not be tolerated. If a debater is caught in possession of drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, or any other illicit substance, they will be disqualified from the tournament and removed from the premises without a refund of the entry fee.

The NHSDLC staff have ultimate discretion in determining the application of this rule and the nature of the corresponding consequences.

2.2 Punctuality

NHSDLC staff will do a roll call at the beginning of each day to make sure debaters are present. Also, Debaters must enter their allocated rooms within 15 minutes after the assigned time of the round and motion announcement. NHSDLC staff should be contacted if a debater or judge is not present in their room within 15 minutes.

If judges are late to the round, NHSDLC staff will reassign a new judge to the room once notified.

If debaters have emergencies and may be late to the round, it is their responsibility to notify NHSDLC staff before the round starts. If NHSDLC staff permits, the round will start once the tardy debater has arrived. However, judges will not wait beyond 15 minutes if debaters are late without providing notification, and debaters will automatically forfeit the round after 15 minutes of delay.

For online tournaments, if debaters encounter technical issues during the debate, for instance, dropping out of the room due to bad internet connection, judges will allow maximum 5 minutes of time for the team to adjust and recover for once. After 5 minutes, if the issue is still unresolved, the judge will continue the debate anyway. Debaters are responsible for maintaining adequate technical support for participation.

The NHSDLC staff have the ultimate discretion to determine if the debater that was late has forfeited the tournament.

If a debater forfeits a round due to tardiness, the other team should remain in their assigned room unless they are given explicit permission to leave by NHSDLC staff. A new opponent will be arranged when possible. If a new opponent cannot be arranged, the other team will be paired to a “bye” team, which makes them an automatic win. For the team paired to the “bye” team, the average speaker points of the team in that round will be their average speaker points from other 3 rounds. Hence, their speaker points will not be affected by this “bye”. The team forfeiting will receive no speaker points for the round, but will still be able to attend following rounds, unless they willingly drop out of the tournament. Likewise, their average speaker points will be based on speaker points received from the other 3 rounds.

The “bye” scenario also arises in cases of an odd number of team registrations. In this situation, the team paired to compete against the “bye” will automatically receive a win for that round. The pairing of the “bye team” in this situation is determined through a random pairing process using the Tab room algorithm.

2.3 Language

Debaters must communicate in English during speeches. Judges are instructed not to evaluate speeches made in a different language.

2.4 Spectating

Spectators are not permitted in preliminary rounds. The exception to this rule is if explicit permission is given by the NHSDLC Tournament Director.

Spectating elimination rounds is permitted unless a participating debater chooses to ask spectators to leave. Spectators may not refuse. The exception to this rule is during the finals debate, as finals will be live streamed through NHSDLC platforms and does not require permission from debaters or judges.

If a spectator is disruptive, disrespectful, or otherwise unduly detracts from the debate that is happening, they may also be told to leave by participating debaters, judges, NHSDLC staff, or teachers. Once again, spectators may not refuse.

2.5 Recording

The NHSDLC staff is the only party that has permission to make use of debaters' speeches in any way.

During preliminary rounds, recording by other parties, through the capture of audio, video, transcription, and/or any other means outside of traditional note-taking is strictly prohibited. The use of transcription software/hardware is regarded as academic dishonesty by the NHSDLC's Academic Committee. Anyone caught with an audio or video recording of a preliminary round may be forced to delete them by NHSDLC staff.

During elimination rounds, recording is strictly prohibited unless permission is explicitly given by both teams and participating judges. If there are multiple judges, all judges must consent to the debate being recorded. If any spectator or participant records the debate without first receiving permission, they will be forced to delete their recordings by NHSDLC staff. If they refuse, they will not be allowed to view other debates and may be subject to other penalties at the discretion of NHSDLC staff. The exception to this rule is during the finals debate, as recording is permitted and does not require permission from debaters or judges.

Short videos on WeChat by classmates or parents recording a single speech, or coaches recording strategically valuable portions of a speech are drastically different situations. As such, the NHSDLC will apply this rule within reason. However, it is heavily encouraged to ask all debaters involved for permission before a debate begins if one wishes to record more than a short video. Short videos are defined as videos under 20 seconds. Participating teams always have the right to request that audience members stop recording during a debate, even if they provided permission before the debate. Audience members may not refuse.

2.6 Artificial Intelligence

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) is strictly prohibited in any form during debate rounds. For the purposes of detecting AI usage, the following definition is adopted:

AI usage is defined as a score of 75% or greater when a speech is processed through WinstonAI.

If the WinstonAI score reaches 75% or higher, the DLC will declare that AI has been used. Students found using AI will automatically lose the debate and be suspended from the tournament. The DLC reserves the right to prevent students found using AI from registering for future tournaments that semester.

2.7 Online Tournament Camera rule

To ensure fairness, uphold competitive integrity, and protect students from unsupported allegations, all debaters in online JWSD tournaments are required to use two cameras during the entire round, including preparation time and debate time.

Primary Camera

The primary camera must face the student directly. It must clearly show the student's face and hands throughout the round. This camera must always remain on unless the judge or tournament staff gives permission due to a verified technical issue.

Secondary Camera

In addition to the primary camera, each student must set up a secondary camera positioned behind or diagonally behind them. The purpose of the secondary camera is to provide a clear view of the student's full debating area, including their workspace, hands, notes, visible devices, and immediate surroundings.

The secondary camera should be positioned far enough away to show the student and their workspace clearly, but not so far that the image becomes unclear. The secondary camera must **join the Tencent meeting** for the entire round, including prep time.

Purpose of the Two-Camera Rule

The two-camera requirement is intended to:

- ensure that students are following tournament rules during online rounds;
- give judges and tournament staff a fuller view of the student's debating environment;
- help prevent the use of unauthorized materials, outside assistance, hidden communication, or other unfair advantages;
- provide objective footage if a violation is alleged;
- protect students by allowing tournament staff to investigate claims fairly rather than relying only on accusations.

The secondary camera does not mean that students are assumed to be violating rules. It exists as a safeguard for both competitive fairness and student protection.

Camera Obstruction or Mispositioning

Students may not intentionally block, cover, turn off, move, angle away, or otherwise obstruct either camera during the round. Both cameras must remain positioned correctly so that the judge and tournament staff can clearly see the required areas.

If a student needs to adjust either camera because of a technical issue, they must immediately inform the judge and receive permission before continuing.

First Offense

For a first camera-related issue, the judge or tournament staff may take the following actions:

- give the student a verbal warning;
- pause prep time or the round until the camera is turned on, repositioned, or corrected;
- instruct the student to adjust the primary or secondary camera before the round continues.

Second Offense

For a second camera-related issue, the judge should formally record the violation in the ballot or report it to tournament staff.

In **preliminary rounds**, the violation may affect the speaker points of the student responsible.

In **elimination rounds**, where speaker points are not used, the judge may consider the violation when making their final decision, especially if the round is close. If the judge considers the violation in their decision, they must clearly explain in the ballot whether and how the violation affected the result.

Serious, Repeated, or Deliberate Violations

Serious, repeated, or deliberate violations may be referred to tournament staff for further investigation. Depending on the severity of the violation, tournament staff may impose penalties including, but not limited to:

- official warning;
- loss of speaker points;
- loss of the round;
- disqualification from the current debate;
- suspension from future rounds or tournaments.

Use of Secondary Camera Footage

Secondary camera footage may only be used by tournament staff for tournament integrity purposes, including investigating alleged rule violations. Footage should not be shared publicly, used for non-tournament purposes, or accessed by unauthorized individuals.

If a violation is alleged, tournament staff may review the secondary camera footage to determine whether the student violated the rules or whether the student is innocent of the allegation. Final decisions will be based on the available evidence, the seriousness of the alleged violation, and the judgment of the NHSDLC tournament officials.

3. Tournament Procedure

NHSDLC debate events are most often designed as a two-day tournament. A standard tournament would have four preliminary rounds and four elimination rounds. The exact number of preliminary and elimination rounds can vary depending on the size of the tournament.

3.1 Junior World Schools Debate (WSD)

Junior World Schools Debate (WSD) is a dynamic format combining “prepared” motions with “impromptu” motions, encouraging debaters to focus on specific issues rather than debate theory or procedural arguments. This highly interactive style of debate allows debaters to engage each other, even during speeches.

In the Junior WSD format, the debate occurs between two teams. Each team is allowed to register with 3-5 debaters who prepare and debate together. Teams with more than 3 members are free to choose any configuration of speakers for each preliminary and elimination round, but if a participant wants to appear on the speaker tab, he/she must speak in at least 50% of the preliminary rounds of the competition. Meanwhile, only 3 speakers can compete in a single round. During the round, each participant must deliver one constructive speech. In addition, only the first or second constructive speaker is allowed to deliver the reply speech.

Each team is allocated to either “proposition” or “opposition” on a motion that will be given to them by random draw. They are then required to either provide reasons for or against the motion according to the side they have been allocated.

Motions for Junior WSD are based upon the legislative model. Every motion then begins with the words, “This House”, among these motions, only policy motions “THW” have debaters act as the legislative chamber and defend a policy, whereas other motion types (like THBT or THS) have debaters support something in the abstract, while actor motions (TH, as X, W) sometimes have debaters argue about what non-government actors would do (like “TH, as XX, would ...”).

Motions are debated in a general sense and are not about extreme or isolated examples.

The NHSDLC’s Junior WSD division uses the following format:

Speech	Time	Responsibility of Debater
1st Proposition	4 minutes	Introduce motion, define key terms, set burdens, establish mechanism or model if needed, offer substantive arguments
1st Opposition	4 minutes	Deal with proposed framework by proposition, clash with proposition arguments, offer own substantive arguments
2nd Proposition	4 minutes	Clash, offer new substantive arguments, defend 1st speaker’s points
2nd Opposition	4 minutes	Clash, offer new substantive arguments, defend 1st speaker’s points
3rd Proposition	4 minutes	Clash and summarize key issues
3rd Opposition	4 minutes	Clash and summarize key issues

Opposition Reply	2 minutes	Crystallize the round
Proposition Reply	2 minutes	Crystallize the round

To ensure fairness in debates, all speakers must follow this agreed format and order to present their speeches. These guidelines adjudicate the round.

3.2 Prepared & Impromptu Motions

For preliminary rounds, all JWSD tournaments will now have two prepared motions and two impromptu motions. All elimination round motions will be impromptu.

3.2.1 Electronic Devices

The use of any electronic devices during prep and throughout the course of the debate is **prohibited**, these include phones, laptops, tablets, smart watches, e-readers, or internet-enabled devices, unless expressly permitted by tournament staff for accessibility reasons;

Any use of the internet, AI tools, messaging apps, shared documents, or electronic databases during preparation is also prohibited.

3.2.2 Prepared Motions

A prepared motion is one in which you have been given the motion and side you are debating on in advance of the day. Prepared motions will be announced 2-4 weeks in advance of the tournament.

In prepared debates, teams will have 10 minutes to prepare for the debate once the motion has been released. The side of the debate (Affirmative or negative) for each team will be released in the pairing for each round. Teams are no longer allowed to use the internet during prepared motion prep time.

Allowed material

During prepared motions debaters are permitted to bring a printed copy of their speech and/or rebuttal blocks. Other than these documents all rules listed in the 3.2.3.1 Material rules section apply.

3.2.3 Impromptu Motions

An impromptu (un-prepared) motion is a motion that teams receive prior to the round at the same time as you are given the side of the debate. In this instance, teams will only have limited preparation time to think of arguments and examples for your side. In impromptu debates, teams will have 20 minutes to prepare for the debate once the motion has been released.

Speakers must not consult any other individuals after they receive the impromptu motion but prepare the motion independently. Receiving coaching support is forbidden during the preparation time and during the round.

If debaters are caught communicating with coaches (or in any other way consulting external individuals and receiving external support), judges and by extension the NHSDLC Staff will have the discretion to enforce a punishment such as an immediate lose for that round.

Students are **NOT** allowed to use the internet or any electronic devices during preparation time. These include Laptops, Phones, Tablets, Smart watches, electronic dictionaries, etc.

3.2.3.1 Materials Allowed During JWSD Impromptu Motion Preparation

For impromptu motions in the JWSD division, debaters may only use materials that are expressly permitted by the tournament rules. The purpose of this rule is to preserve fairness between teams while still allowing students to consult neutral reference materials during preparation.

Permitted Materials

During preparation time, debaters may use:

- Blank paper or notebooks for writing preparation notes;
- Pens, pencils, highlighters, and other basic writing tools;
- Printed or physical reference books, provided they meet the definition below;

Definition of a Reference Book

A “reference book” means a published, publicly available book whose primary purpose is to provide general background information, definitions, facts, or explanations.

Examples of permitted reference books include:

- Dictionaries;
- Thesauruses;
- Atlases;
- Encyclopedias;
- Almanacs;
- General knowledge books;

Published books on history, politics, economics, science, philosophy, culture, or current affairs, provided they are not prepared specifically for debate competition use.

A reference book must be general in nature. It must not be a debate brief, case file, motion-preparation packet, argument bank, or collection of prepared debate materials.

Prohibited Materials

Debaters may not use any material that gives them a prepared competitive advantage on specific motions, topics, or debate arguments.

The following materials are **prohibited**:

- Printed debate cases, speeches, scripts, rebuttal blocks, argument extensions, weighing blocks, or reply speech templates;
- Motion-specific research packets or prep files; Debate briefs, topic analyses, clash sheets, or prepared argument banks such as **The Big Debate**.

- Printed materials prepared by coaches, schools, teammates, parents, or third-party debate programs for the purpose of competition preparation;
- Handwritten or printed notes containing pre-prepared arguments, examples, evidence, models, definitions, or rebuttals for likely impromptu motions;

Notes Written During Preparation

Debaters may write notes during the official preparation time after the motion has been released. These notes may be used during the round.

However, students may not bring pre-written notes into the preparation room if those notes contain prepared arguments, examples, models, definitions, rebuttals, or topic-specific material.

Inspection of Materials

Tournament staff and the judge will inspect any materials brought into the preparation room or competition room. If a debater is unsure whether a material is permitted, they must ask tournament staff before using it.

Failure to disclose questionable materials before the round may be treated as a rules violation.

Violations

If a debater or team uses prohibited materials during impromptu preparation, tournament staff may impose penalties depending on the seriousness of the violation. Penalties may include:

- A warning;
- Loss of preparation materials;
- Speaker point penalties;
- A loss for the round;
- Disqualification from the tournament in serious or deliberate cases.

The tournament director has final discretion in determining whether a material violates this rule and what penalty is appropriate.

Guiding Principle

The guiding principle is that students may consult neutral, general reference sources, but they may not use prepared debate materials. Impromptu debate should test students' ability to think, organize, and argue after receiving the motion, not their access to pre-written cases or hidden prep files.

3.3 Speech Time & Preparation Time

Each team must obey the time limits of speeches. When time is up, speakers may finish a sentence they have already begun speaking but may not begin a new one. Any ambiguity in what reasonably constitutes a concluding sentence will be determined by the judge.

There is no preparation time within a WSD round. Each speech follows directly after the last speech is finished.

3.4 Speaker Roles

Each speaker in the debate has a different role. These rules are intended to facilitate as fair a debate as possible, both by ensuring that clarity in the topic up for debate is established and to ensure that both teams have a reasonable chance to engage with the other side's arguments.

3.4.1 First Speakers

The first speaker of the proposition is responsible for:

- Defining the motion
- Outlining the arguments that proposition will bring (their team's case)
- Explaining which speakers will present which of those arguments
- Presenting part of the case for their side

Similarly, the first speaker of the opposition is responsible for:

- Challenging the definition and providing a new one (if they think that the proposed definition is unfair)
- Outlining the arguments that proposition will bring (their team's case)
- Explaining which speakers will present which of those arguments
- Responding to the arguments of the first proposition (rebuttal)
- Presenting part of that case for their side

Defining the motion is about giving a clear explanation of what the motion means to ensure that all speakers and judges are clear on the topic being debated. If the two teams argue about very different things, then it becomes hard to pin down what exactly the disagreements between the teams are.

If the opposition speaker believes the proposed definition is unfair or reduced to a tautology, then they are entitled to challenge the definition. Opposition speakers must explain why it is unfair and provide an alternative definition that their side believes reasonable given the above parameters. It should be noted that this is quite rare and will often lead to a very messy debate when it does happen. It is often best to simply accept the definition in front of you and debate the topic on its merits if possible.

3.4.2 Second Speakers

The second speakers in the debate are responsible for:

- Continuing to defend their definition (if required)
- Continuing the argumentation presented by their team, including defense of their previous speaker's points from the rebuttal the other team has made
- Offering rebuttal to the other team's case
- Making new arguments to support your case

3.4.3 Third Speakers

The third speaker's role is to respond to the other team as well as weighing arguments and impacts. The bulk of the speech should be dedicated to defeating the arguments brought by the other team in detail, whilst also defending the case that your teammates have brought from the attacks that the other team has already made. It is technically permissible to dedicate 1 minute of time to additional arguments in support of your case, however this must be flagged in the first speech, and the emphasis should still be placed on rebuttal. The third speaker, when defending the case, should explain the "impacting" of the case -- explain to the judge the relevance, urgency, and importance of the arguments proven by the team. Moreover, weighing is important in third speeches, which is to provide reasons why your argument is more important than other arguments in the debate.

3.4.4 Reply Speeches

The reply speech must be delivered by either the first or second speaker of your team; it cannot be delivered by the same person that delivered the third speech.

It is also worth remembering that the order switches after the first three speeches of each team, so the opposition reply speaker gives their speech straight after the opposition third speaker and the proposition reply speech is the final one of the debates. The reply speech is intended to explain why their side has already won the debate. They do this by boiling the debate down to the two or three overarching points of contention (often called the clashes of the debate) and presenting why their team's side won those points.

3.5 Points of Information (POI)

During the first three main speeches of each team, speakers from the opposing team may offer a "Point of Information" (POIs) between 00:30 (30 seconds after the speech starts) and 03:30 of the speech (these timings will be indicated by an audible signal from the judging table, normally a soft bang on the table or a clap).

A POI is a short (up to 15 seconds) interjection in which one of the three members of the opposing team can ask a question or make an objection to the person currently delivering their main speech. It is up to the speaker to accept or decline a POI that is offered, but speakers are expected to accept one POIs in their speech. Failure to take a POI can result in a lower speaker score or flip a close comparison between teams at the discretion of the judge.

3.6 Iron-person Policy

If a team member cannot debate in Preliminary Rounds for any emergencies, a team can have two members speaking ('iron-person') for only one round out of the 4 Preliminary Rounds and still be break-eligible. However, when doing so, the team must inform the judge and NHSDLC staff before the debate starts if it wants to have iron person in that round. The absent speaker will use his/her average speaker score from the other three pre-elimination rounds as his/her speaker score for this absent round. The speech of the iron-person speaker will be scored like all other substantive speeches. However, teams cannot have iron person in any elimination rounds.

3.7 Adjudicators

The adjudicator begins the debate by introducing the motion, the rules, and the names of the debaters.

The adjudicator ensures that every participant follows the rules of the debate. They will call each speaker to come forward when it is he/she to speak and will thank each speaker at the conclusion of his/her speech.

During the debate, the adjudicator monitors the time that each speaker takes to deliver their speech. They would signal the key moments in a speech, most commonly by ringing a bell at the beginning of the speech and when there is one minute, or thirty seconds left.

At the end of the debate, judges will disclose the winner and loser of the debate and provide oral feedback to student. The final round of the tournament is the only silent round where results are not immediately announced.

3.7.1 Panelists

In Junior WSD, panelists will serve as adjudicators alongside the chair. At the end of the debate, each judge will independently reach a decision. A unanimous decision is not required. Each judge should provide feedback explaining why they voted for a particular team, with the exception of the final round.

3.7.2 Elimination Round Judge:

In the elimination round, each room will have at least three adjudicators (one chair with two or more panelists). The panelists will also deliberate the result with the chair. In case of disagreement, they can vote on the result, and the team with more votes will win the round and advance.

3.8 Evidence

In WSD, evidence is used sparingly. In contrast to Public Forum debate, the concept of “last name”, “date” for presenting evidence does not exist. Instead, research is most useful to find examples of historical precedent to prove your argument true and learn from experts about the conceptual underpinnings of your arguments.

4. Rubrics

At the end of the debate, the judge will indicate on the ballot which team won the round and assign speaker points. The first three speeches are scored on a scale of 60-80 with the reply speech being scored on a 30-40 point scale. The total number of points for each team is then tallied, and the winning team must have more points than the losing team. Ties and low point wins are not permitted.

CONSTRUCTIVE SPEECHES (80)				
POINTS	32	32	16	80
STANDARD	Content	Style	Strategy	Overall
Exceptional	32	32	16	80
Extremely Good	30-31	30-31	14-15	74-79
Good	28-29	28-29	14	70-73
Satisfactory	27	27	13-14	67-69
Competent	26	26	13	65-66
Poor	25	25	12-13	61-64
Minimal Quality	24	24	12	60

REPLY SPEECHES (40)				
POINTS	16	16	8	40
STANDARD	Content	Style	Strategy	Overall
Exceptional	16	16	8	40
Extremely Good	15-16	15-16	8	37-39
Good	14-15	14-15	8	35-36
Satisfactory	13	13	7-8	33-34
Competent	13	13	7	32-33
Poor	12	12	6-7	31-32
Minimal Quality	12	12	6	30

4.1.1 Content

Content is the strength of the argumentation presented. This also covers the quality of the rebuttal and ability to defeat opposing arguments. It marks the extent to which the strength of the arguments compels judges to support or oppose the motion. It is intended to be divorced from the style with which the argument is delivered. A speaker with a high content mark will present arguments that are highly relevant, with clear explanations and logic, and be succinct in flagging the impacts of their arguments. They will be consistent and thorough in their explanation of why their set of beliefs are the strongest arguments in the debate.

4.1.2 Style

Style is the ability to deliver arguments persuasively. There is no one particular style that will be appropriate for all speakers and all debates, just as there is no one set of arguments that will win all debates. However, it does encompass a number of general elements that improve the impact of a speech. These include how a speaker uses their voice, their use of gestures, their use of rhetorical techniques and their engagement with the audience. What is being considered is the extent to which these things are used to augment or hinder the persuasiveness of the speaker.

4.1.3 Strategy

Strategy encompasses two things. The first is their structure and timing, the second is their understanding of the issues of the debate.

Structure and timing mean a speaker who fills their time and does not under or over speak. It also means having a clear progression of points within the speech which shows a clear sense of priorities in their argumentation.

Understanding the issues of the debate follows on from this clear sense of understanding what the key issues in any given debate are. They will be able to understand which arguments and parts of an argument they must respond to in their speeches (even if their responses are not strong); they will understand what the important things to prove within their arguments are (even if this is not always successful). Thus, if a speaker is clearly attempting to do the correct things in terms of argumentation but not proving the things they set out, they may receive a high strategy mark and a lower content mark.

Judge Name:		Round:	
Motion:			
Proposition Team:			
Opposition Team:			
THE WINNER OF THE DEBATE IS:			
REPRESENTING THE: (CIRCLE ONE)		PROPOSITION	OPPOSITION

Reasons for Decision (RFD) : (Please provide detailed reasoning, referring to arguments that debaters presented in the round)