

Parliamentary Procedure

Scoring Guidelines

Guidelines for Scoring Debate

1. The top two debates for each team member will be tabulated.
2. It is essential that judges observe and maintain consistent criteria in scoring debate for the duration of the event.
3. Judges must overlook personal opinions and beliefs and score the debate in an unbiased manner.
4. Characteristics of effective debate include
 - a. Completeness of thought (debate should include two or more points.)
 - b. Logical reasoning
 - c. Clear statement of the speakers position
 - d. Conviction of delivery
 - e. Concise and effective statement of debate
5. A suggested grading scale is as follows:

Excellent	13-15 points
Good	9-12 points
Average	6-8 points
Poor	0-5 points
6. An excellent debate would be characterized by a truly stirring delivery and brilliant in terms of information provided and/or suggestions for action offered. Poor debate would be characterized by a lack of effective delivery, poor grammar, reasoning, and substance. An example might be: "I think this is a good idea."
7. Most debate would fall in the range of 6-12 points. An example of a debate might be: "I think this is a very significant motion which should be adopted for the following reasons (new, informative, and logically related.)" Each debate should have a logical conclusion. Good debate is characterized by effective delivery, substance, creative, and visionary thought delivered in a convincing and compelling manner.



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Guidelines for Scoring the Chair (60 points)

1. Ability to preside
 - a. State motions correctly
 - b. Follow rules of debate
 - c. Keep members informed
 - d. Put motions to a vote
 - e. Announce results of a vote
 - f. Use of gavel
 - g. Awareness of business on floor

2. Leadership
 - a. Stage presence
 - b. Poise
 - c. Self-confidence
 - d. Politeness
 - e. Voice

Excellent	51-60
Good	41-50
Average	31-40
Poor	0-30



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Guidelines for Scoring General Effect (40 points)

1. Conclusions reached (20 points)

Does the meeting determine who, what, when, where, and how in relation to the main motion?

2. Clarity of business transactions (10 points)

The outcome and path forward for the main motion are clear.

3. Reality of the presentation (10 points)

The degree to which the presentation reflects a realistic business meeting of an organization.

