Congress Rules & Topics

We will not use priority cards. The presiding officer position will be held by a person who is of high school age or older. The tournament will provide POs for every round.

Students are allowed to use manuscripts to present their arguments. Students are encouraged to take notes during the round and use their notes while speaking.

Every student will be given the opportunity to speak before a competitor is given a chance to speak twice.

Congress sessions are 60 minutes (max). At the end of 60 minutes, a vote will be taken. Competitors may motion to have a vote taken prior to the 60 minute time limit.

Speeches will be 3 minutes with 1 minute allowed for cross examination.

 Topics must be debated in the round they are assigned. Motions cannot be made to debate a different topic.

Elementary School Topic

Round 1: Resolved: Cell phones should be banned from all elementary school classrooms.

Round 2: Resolved: Schools should not have dress codes.

Round 3: Resolved: Schools should ban homework.

Round 4: All Confederate monuments should be taken down and put in museums.

Middle & High School Topics

Round 1: Resolved: School administrators should be allowed to deny controversial speakers from speaking on their campuses.

Round 2: Schools should not have dress codes.

Round 3: Resolved: California should pass a law that fines pedestrian for using cell phones while in crosswalks.

Round 4: All Confederate monuments should be taken down and put in museums.