

Judge Rules

Speaker Points

While judging each of the speakers, you will be asked to allot them speaker points to judge how they performed. The amount of points you can award go up to 25, however the scale should be **17-25**. **There can be no ties for speaker points**. A 25 is an almost perfect speech with excellent timing, pacing, performance, etc.

By judging with speaker points, it allows the tab room to break ties from the rankings over multiple rounds.

Commenting on Performances

As part of your evaluation of the performances, competitors find ballots with constructive criticism the most valuable. Alongside the rank and speaker points, writing what you liked about a speech and what you thought could use more work provides a valuable tool for the competitors as they try to grow.

A perfect judging ballot combines brevity and constructive criticism.

What did you enjoy and wish you saw more of? What specific content did you find the most valuable towards your assessment? What do you think the competitor could improve on the most? How was the pacing of the speech?

Judging with Limited Competitors

For this or any other tournament, there is a chance that not enough competitors sign up for an event/events. This means that there is not a full room of competitors or there is not a good way to shuffle them such that they would be judged fairly from round to round. If this happens, the tournament has a few options to provide a fair and fun round for the competitors.

Collapsing Novice and Open

If there are not enough competitors signed up for events to allow for fair judging, the tournament may put novice and open competitors into the same rounds. There is a chance that elementary school, middle school, and high school competitors may be in the same round.

Collapsing Events

If there are not enough competitors signed up for events, the tournament may combine multiple events into the same room. An example would be Impromptu and Informative in the same room. During the round, competitors would give their speeches as if they were in an Impromptu round or an Informative round (depending on what event they signed up for at the tournament) and competing against one another.

Even though the competitors may be competing in different events, a judge of such a round will be ranking all the competitors in such a round against each other. As the judge of that round, you would be **evaluating the speeches and writing comments for the competitors based on *their* own events** even though they will be in the same round.