

SPAR – “SPontaneous ARgumentation”

DIRECTIONS

- Debaters will be assigned to the Pro or Con side prior to the introduction of the topics.
 - Have debaters play rock-paper-scissors to decide pro / con (winner picks sides)
- Each pair will receive three potential topics.
- The PRO will strike one topic first, then the CON.
- After the topic is selected, there is 2-total minutes of prep before the debate begins.
- PRO speaker will give 2-minute constructive speech in favor of the resolution.
- CON speaker will give 2-minute constructive speech opposing of the resolution.
- Following the opening statements there will be a 4-minute “crossfire” where the pair question each other and take questions from their opponent, and audience members.
- Two rebuttal speeches follow: first a two-minute PRO rebuttal, then a two-minute CON rebuttal. End of debate.
- NO PREP TIME ALLOWED during the debate.
- This event will be open to the public, with coaches, judges, high school and middle school students invited to participate.

Special Circumstances

- If two competitors are from the same school, attempt to shuffle the order to avoid same school debates.
- IF there are an odd number of competitors, ask one of the previous speakers to volunteer to go again.

Judging

- Evaluate the round like an individual event. Rank best speakers higher.
- A speaker who “lost” their debate can still score higher than a winner of one of the other debates if you judge them to be a better speaker.

So, in short...After the Topic Strike:

- 2 Minute Prep
- 2 Minute PRO
- 2 Minute CON
- 4 Minute Crossfire
- 2 Minutes PRO
- 2 Minutes CON