



Montana High School Association
 1 South Dakota Avenue
 Helena, MT 59601

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

Tournament Date:		Tournament Location:	
Round/Flight:	Room:	Division:	Affiliation/Occupation:
Judge Name:			
Resolution/Topic:			

EVERY round begins with a coin toss; the winning team has the option of choosing either the side (pro or con) or the speaking order (first or second) in the round; the losing team makes the remaining choice, either side or speaking order.

AFTER the coin toss, record the following (the team on the left speaks first and should sit to the judge's left):

First Team			Second Team		
Code:	Side: <input type="checkbox"/> Pro <input type="checkbox"/> Con	Points	Code:	Side: <input type="checkbox"/> Pro <input type="checkbox"/> Con	Points
Speaker 1 Name:			Speaker 2 Name:		
Speaker 3 Name:			Speaker 4 Name:		

Rate each speaker: < 20 Unethical/Inappropriate Behavior 20-23 Below Average 24-26 Average 27-28 Above Average 29-30 Outstanding

Winning Team: <input type="checkbox"/> Pro <input type="checkbox"/> Con	Team/Code:	Low Point Win Check: <input type="checkbox"/> Initial ____
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- ❖ Judges should decide the round as it is debated, not based on their personal beliefs.
- ❖ Debaters should advocate or reject the resolution in manner clear to the non-specialist citizen judge (i.e., jury). Clash of ideas is essential to debate.
- ❖ Debaters should display solid logic and reasoning, advocate a position, utilize evidence, and communicate clear ideas using professional decorum.
- ❖ Neither the pro nor con is permitted to offer a plan or counterplan, defined as a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation. Rather, they should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.
- ❖ Crossfire time should be dedicated to questions and answers rather than reading evidence. Evidence may be referred to extemporaneously.
- ❖ No new arguments may be introduced in the Final Focus; however, debaters may include new evidence to support prior arguments.

Comments to Debaters:

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Reason for Decision:

Order/Time Limits of Speeches	
Speaker 1	4 min.
Speaker 2	4 min.
Crossfire(1 & 2)*	3 min.
Speaker 3	4 min.
Speaker 4	4 min.
Crossfire (3 & 4)*	3 min.
Speaker 1 Summary	2 min.
Speaker 2 Summary	2 min.
Grand Crossfire (all)	3 min.
Speaker 3 Final Focus	2 min.
Speaker 4 Final Focus	2 min.
2 minutes of Prep Time per side	
*The first question is asked by the earlier speaker.	