



**ADJUDICATION SEMINAR:
NUDC KOPERTIS 3 2018**

ADJUDICATION CORE

ASTRI – BOBY – JANE

ADJUDICATOR

- Adjudicator assume the role of an **average reasonable person**
- A person who has average knowledge of the topic under debate but expertise knowledge of the rules for competitive debating
 - Not an expert on issues
 - Read the news regularly
 - Understand debating rules
- Your role is to act like a moderate voter deciding their stance on a proposed policy.
 - Balance of information between two contrasting party
 - Open-minded
 - Detach yourself from personal preference



WHAT MUST AN ADJUDICATOR DO?

- ◉ Weigh the arguments and responses presented to **decide the winner**
 - ◉ To evaluate and assess the significance and relevance of arguments presented.
- ◉ Assign the speaker score that you think is the most representative
- ◉ Provide a verbal adjudication to explain the reason behind your decision
 - ◉ Provide a balance adjudication (assess both teams fairly and equally)
- ◉ Main focus of assessment: how persuasive was the team to make me, as an adjudicator, to vote for them?



ASSESSMENT OF THE DEBATE

- Use a holistic approach to the debate.
 - Weigh all the material brought up (rebuttals, arguments, POIs) & how significant these points were in **persuading you to vote for them**.
- Be comparative— explain to teams why they are in that specific position
 - Provide a clear reasoning why they were superior to other team(s) and why they were inferior to some other
 - Do not nit-pick (i.e.: I give the winning to OG because of argument A)
- Always justify your reasoning by explaining the **impact** of a certain point that led you to believe that the said point was persuasive.



ASSESSMENT OF THE DEBATE

- Assessing arguments
 - Possible criteria of scrutiny:
 - The depth of logical analysis
 - The significance of the argument
 - The strength and relevance of evidences provided
 - The relevance of an argument toward the teams' stance, or the contribution of an argument in reaching the team's intended goal
 - Criteria are made as guidelines to assess arguments. You should appreciate teams who give more effort to make their case more persuasive and convincing.



ASSESSMENT OF THE DEBATE

○ Assessing responses

- Possible criteria of scrutiny:
 - How effective it proves that the opponent's arguments will not happen
 - How effective it proves that the opponent's impacts (harm/benefit) will not take place
 - How effective it proves that the opponent's arguments are irrelevant and insignificant to the intended goal/team's stance
 - How effective it shows that the opponent's arguments are internally inconsistent
 - In short: how effective it oppose the logic behind an argument
- Questioning is not the same with responding. The burden to answer that question also lies within the team who initially raised it.



ASSESSMENT OF THE DEBATE

○ Assessing manner

- The things you should look at when assessing the manner of a speaker:
 - Clarity
 - Intonation and volume
 - Diction and effective use of words
- Manner should be assessed to the degree of how it impacts the content of the speech. What does this mean? **Never give a team a victory based mainly on their manner.**
 - A speaker with exceptional manner should deserve an appreciation.
 - A speaker whose manner is impossibly hard to comprehend may be penalized

MISCELLANEOUS

- Contribution = misleading term. It's all about quality of arguments and responses.
- 'Air time' = The strength of an argument is not dependent on how much it's being talked about.
- Role Fulfilment = You don't credit people from doing their job! You credit someone that performs **BEYOND** their job.



WHEN DOES A CLOSING'S DEPTH EXTENSION TRUMP THE OPENING'S CASE?

- This is a tricky question, and is very disputable between the best adjudicators. But there are several indicators to a winning depth extension.
 1. When it has covered a big hole of logic that the Opening missed in their delivery of that argument
 2. When it provides exclusivity of case that the Opening did not provide
 3. When it provides a comparative edge compared to the Opponent's case, that Opening did not provide



A MORE IN DEPTH OUTLOOK ON ASSESSING THE DEBATE (1)

○ Opening Government

- Definition -> to make it clear what the debate is about
- Don't penalize OG for an insufficient definition beyond the problem it actually arises
- Where such problems arise, do give the other teams the benefit of the doubt

○ Reasonable burden on engagement

- Reasonable = matched with the dynamics and strength of the previously said ideas (ex OG comparison to CO, and OO)
- Scrutiny on direct responses to stronger material




A MORE IN DEPTH OUTLOOK ON ASSESSING THE DEBATE (2)

- Rules
 - Rules are not meant to be followed because they are rules, but because they facilitate fair debate. The purpose of the rules justify the application, not the other way around
- The general penalty is to not give credit at all!
 - Sometimes teams attempt sneaky strategies to appear more persuasive (ex: pushing BoPs)
- Equity
 - Take it out of adjudication.
 - Report to the Adjudication Core if a violation occurred.



A MORE IN DEPTH OUTLOOK ON ASSESSING THE DEBATE (3)

≡ **PROPOSITION FIAT**

- ≡ The government teams are allowed to assume that the policy will pass. It is NOT a valid opposition line to argue that a parliament will not pass the policy.
 - ≡ A government team however CANNOT stipulate the way that other actors will react.
 - ≡ Ex: THBT United Nations should intervene in Syria
 - ✓ the government can assume that United Nations will do the policy.
 - ✓ the government team cannot assume other actors outside the UN will be supportive of the policy
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CONFERRING: THE PROCESS

- Discuss the decision (ranks and scores) with the other members of the panel until a consensus is reached (everyone agrees on the rank and scores given to each team/speaker).
- Changing decision doesn't mean that you are a bad adjudicator. It is allowed in order to achieve the consensus.

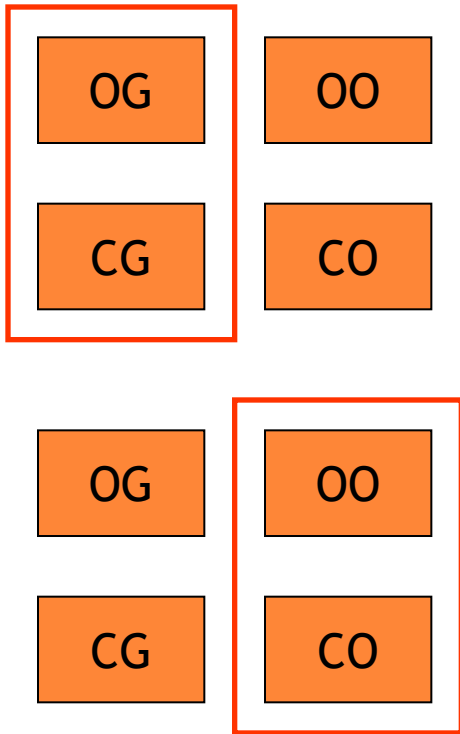


- If a consensus is not reached after a 15-minute discussion, the decision should be taken by voting. If the number of the votes are even, the Chair judgee will be the tie-breaker.
- The chair will fill in the Adjudication Sheet and give it to the runner.

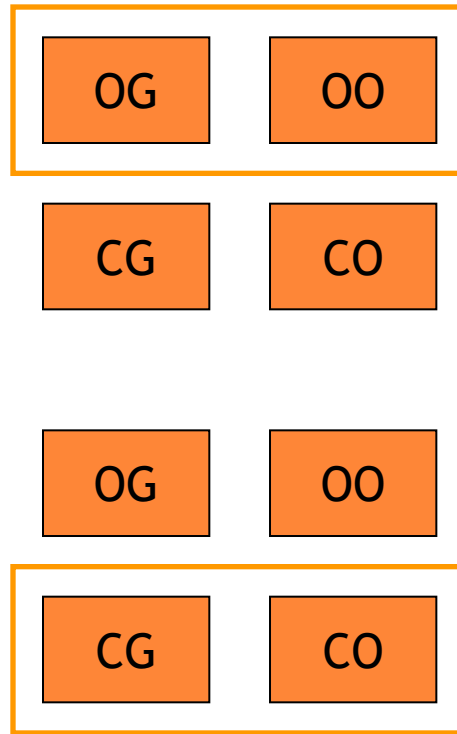


POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF DEBATE

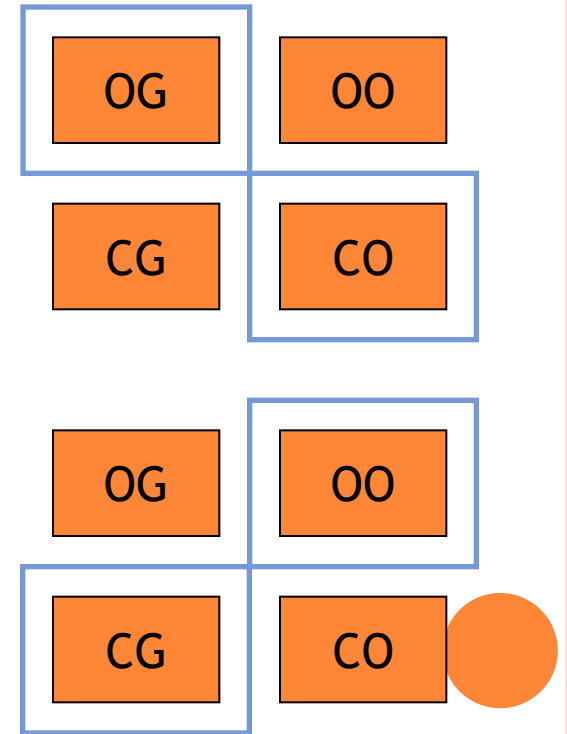
Bench Winning



Opening/Closing



Crossing Floor



SCORING (TEAMS)

Team Rank:

- 1st position got 3 points
- 2nd position got 2 points
- 3rd position got 1 point; and
- 4th position got NO point

Team Score:

- The winning team must be the highest total team score compared to others (No Low Point Wins)
- There can never be a draw!



SPEAKER SCORING RANGE

Score	Description
60 - 64	The speaker is often relevant, but rarely makes full arguments. Frequently unclear and confusing; really problematic structure/lack thereof; some awareness of role.
65 - 69	Relevant arguments are frequently made, but with very rudimentary explanation— mostly in the form of assertions without any follow-up substantiation. The speaker is clear enough to be understood the vast majority of the time.
70 - 74	Arguments are generally relevant, and some explanation of them given, but there may be obvious gaps in logic, seen as simplistic argumentation. May sometimes be difficult to follow.

Score	Description
75 - 79	Arguments are almost exclusively relevant, and frequently persuasive. Occasionally, but not often, the speaker may slip into: i) deficits in explanation, ii) simplistic argumentation vulnerable to competent responses or iii) peripheral or irrelevant arguments.
80 - 84	Relevant and pertinent arguments address key issues in the round with sufficient explanation. The speech is clear and persuasive. Perhaps slight issues with balancing argumentation and refutation and/or engagement in the debate.
85 – 90	Very good, central arguments engage well with the most important issues on the table and are highly compelling; sophisticated responses would be required to refute them. Delivery is clear and manner very persuasive. Role fulfillment and structure probably flawless.

SCORING SPEAKERS

- There is no formula
- Closest approximation we can help you with is in the test debate
- Be comparative among speakers
- Also be comparative among rounds



DELIVERING VERBAL

- Always prep before you deliver!

A verbal adjudication is not a debate speech. It should not take too long.

You are not arguing but showing the debaters how did you perceive the debate.

- Again, there is no single style to verbal adjudication. What is important is justifying the decision.
- Don't merely parrot lines.
- Separate evaluation from constructive feedback.
- **Do NOT disclose the speaker scores! You are only allowed to disclose the level or quality of the debate you perceived.**



PARTICIPATING IN DEBATES

Clash Policy

- 'Clashes' are conflicts that make it improper for some judges to judge particular speakers.
- They arise in the following situations:
 - Romantic Relationships (or the expectation of)
 - Attendance at the Same University/Institution.
 - Substantial Involvement with Another Debating Society.
 - Other Circumstances Giving Rise to a Presumption of Actual or Potential Unfairness.
- Judges have already been consulted on their clashes. If new clashes arise, or some have been missed, please notify the Adjudication Core at once.

Q&A

- Any questions?

Happy Adjudicating!

