

**ARTICLE XXXV
Policy Debate**

Section 1. Entries.

Clause 1. The policy debate style will be Two-Person.

Clause 2. Each member school may enter six two-person teams in the State Contest. All entries will use codes and no school names will be used.

Clause 3. The entry fee will be forty (\$40) per team. If more than 85 entries are received in Policy Debate, it will be divided into two separate pods and they will be divided by the numbers of entries starting with the largest schools and then going down the list. When the pod is at half, then the second pod will start. This will happen after all entries are received. If a school enters late, their entry will be placed in the pod that is within their enrollment.

Clause 4. Each member school will pay a “refundable” judges bond of \$200. This bond must be received by the State Office prior to the state tournament and accompany the tournament entry forms. The refund will occur after the completion of your school’s judging obligations.

Section 2. Selections and Materials. Question for Debate. The question for debate will be based on the National Federation of State High School Associations question for high schools and will be announced in May.

Section 3. Length.

Clause 1. Time limits and order of speaking:

Constructive

First Affirmative 8 min.

Cross examination by negative speaker..... 3 min.

First Negative 8 min.

Cross examination by affirmative speaker 3 min.

Second Affirmative 8 min.

Cross examination by the other negative 3 min.

Second Negative 8 min.

Cross examination by the other affirmative 3 min.

Rebuttal

First Negative 5 min.

First Affirmative 5 min.

Second Negative 5 min.

Second Affirmative 5 min.

Clause 2. Each side (affirmative and negative) will have eight minutes of preparation time during the debate. If either side goes over it’s allotted time of eight minutes, the time will come out of its next speech.

Section 4. Preparation and Presentation

Clause 1. Each team will be prepared to debate both sides of the question.

Clause 2. In case of illness a student may be substituted during the tournament but not during a round already underway. The substitute must complete the tournament. If a debater becomes sick after the round has started, the judge will allow a ten minute break before declaring the round a forfeit.

Clause 3. On-Line registration will be completed no later than Wednesday, three and one half weeks prior to the date of the tournament and the fees will be mailed to the State Office.

Clause 4. Dates and sites will be determined by the State Office. The pairings will be set by the Tournament Manager.

Clause 5. Each school must provide a qualified Policy judge for every four (or part thereof) debaters entered. Students who are first year judges just out of high school will be allowed to judge at the State Debate Tournament if deemed qualified by the tournament manager. These judges may represent their own school or the IHSSA as a hired judge. An individual must contact the division manager to get the approval for this judge before they are allowed to use the student. Judges must be available for a minimum of one round after all policy entries from that school have been eliminated. If a school cannot provide enough judges, the fee will be two hundred dollars (\$200) for each judge not provided. If deemed qualified by the Tournament Manager, judges furnished by the schools may be assigned to other areas of competition. A judge experience/preference form will be required from each judge prior to judging the State Debate Tournament. These forms will be included in the State Entry Mailing.

Clause 6. All teams will compete in five preliminary rounds. After the fifth round, all teams with a 5-0 or 4-1 record will be seeded to elimination round(s). After the fifth round the top teams will advance to elimination rounds based on the following formula: 33 to 60 entries - 16 teams will advance to octo finals, 32 or less teams – 8 teams will advance to quarterfinals. All advancing must have at least a 3-2 record. 3 schools must be in the division to qualify for sweepstakes point. Additional teams may be added to the elimination round at the discretion of the Tournament Manager. Pairings will be high versus low. If teams from the same school are meeting, the coach from that school may have them debate or may (before the end of that round) tell the Tournament Manager which team will advance. If a bye is necessary, the team with the best record from the preliminary rounds will receive it. Elimination will have panels of three judges. No congress judges will be used in elimination round panels unless they have completed a judge experience form.

Clause 7. Results of the preliminary rounds will be posted before the elimination rounds are set. Results of elimination rounds will be posted or announced after each round. Ballots will be available after the results have been posted or announced. Oral disclosure of the winner in Policy and L-D will take place in all elimination rounds.

Clause 8. The consolation match for 3rd and 4th place will no longer take place. The runner up in each semifinal match will be given 3rd place points.

Clause 9. Appropriate awards will be given.

Clause 10. Falsification of evidence will be handled as follows: If evidence is questioned, a protest must be filed with a member of the Debate Committee or Executive Committee prior to the start of the next round and must be documented by some original source (including handbooks). If the evidence is deemed false by those members present from the Debate or Executive Committees, the team which used the falsified evidence will lose the questioned round.

Clause 11. The IHSSA State Debate Tournament is a public event, governed by the rules and regulations of the IHSSA. All rounds and events are open to observers. Observers are allowed to flow or take notes during any event provided they are not disruptive.

Clause 12. Competitors may record during the rounds for use in that round. All recordings must be destroyed following the round.

Clause 13. Contestants may use electronic devices (including laptop computers, tablets, and/or cell phones) to access the internet during sessions with the following conditions:

- a. Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information for competitive advantage from non-competitors (coaches, assistant coaches, other non-competing students) inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs.
- b. Internet access may be used to retrieve files, exchange evidence and/or arguments, research arguments, and partner to partner communication, and communication between other participants in the round. These electronic device guidelines do not limit communication between debate partners during the debate round.

Clause 14. If students are suspected of violating these rules a protest must be filed with the Contest Manager prior to the start of the next round. If the student(s) are found in violation of the rule, they will lose the round in question.

Clause 15. Coaches and observers are not allowed to confront judges, but instead direct concerns to the designated Ombudsman of the Tournament.

CASEBOOK

Questions - Answers

1. Q. If our school has both a Senior High membership and a Junior membership, how many teams may we enter?
A. You may enter 6 teams per school. However, all of the debaters on the junior high entry must be ninth graders, and none of the debaters on the senior high entry may be ninth graders. Each membership will be treated as a separate school.
2. Q. Does the eight minute prep rule mean eight minutes per speaker?
A. No. The time allowed is eight minutes per side. The members may allot that time as they wish.
3. Q. Are 'ins and outs' allowed at the IHSSA state tournament?
A. No.
4. Q. May a team run "Maverick"?
A. No.