

**ARTICLE XXXVIII**  
**Public Forum**

**Section 1. Entries.**

Clause 1. Each member school may enter six two-person teams in the State Contest.

Clause 2. The entry fee will be thirty dollars (\$30) per team. If more than 60 entries are received in Public Forum, 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 3. Each member school will pay a “refundable” judges bond of \$200.00. 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 State Office will make known the questions for debate to entering schools upon receipt of registrations materials. The January Resolution from the NSDA will be used. Prior to each round the teams will flip a coin. The team winning the coin toss may choose either: Side of Topic or Order of Speaking. The team losing the coin toss may choose speaker order (if the winner chooses side) or side (if the winner chooses speaker order). The con may speak first arguing the resolution before any pro speech has taken place.

**Section 3. Length**

Clause 1. The time limit and order of speaking will be as follows:

Team A Speaker 1	4 minutes
Team B Speaker 1	4 minutes
Crossfire (between A1 & B1)	3 minutes
Team A Speaker 2	4 minutes
Team B Speaker 2	4 minutes
Crossfire (between A2 & B2)	3 minutes
A1 Summary	3 minutes
B1 Summary	3minutes
Grand Crossfire (all speakers)	3 minutes
A2 Final Focus	2 minutes
B2 Final Focus	2 minutes

Clause 2. Each side will be allowed a total of 3 minutes preparation time during the debate. If either side goes over its allotted time of three minutes, the overtime will come out of the debater’s next speech.

**Section 4. Preparation and Presentation**

Clause 1. Each team must 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 begun, 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. Pairings will be set by the Tournament Manager.