



The Christian School Speech & Debate League

A Ministry of the Institute for Principle Studies

OFFICIAL PERSUASIVE SPEECH RULES

I. Format

- A. Each competitor's speeches may not exceed 10 minutes in length.
- B. There shall be a minimum of two competitors and maximum of eight competitors per room.

II. Content

- A. The topic will be of the student's choosing. The speech must be an original work written by the student.
- B. Speeches should be memorized. Competitors that use a script or notes will be placed a minimum of one rank lower.
- C. Competitors may not use any props, visual aids, or electronic devices.
- D. Outside sources, evidence, and quotations should be clearly cited. Evidence used must be presented based on the context of the article quoted maintaining the author's original intent.

III. Judging

- A. Rounds will have one or more judges.
- B. Judges may consist of anyone who is over the age of 16 and not competing in the Logos Forensic Association at any tournament during that tournament year.

IV. Dress Code

- A. Competitors must dress both modestly and business professionally. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - 1. Gentlemen should wear either suits, or sport coats with slacks; collared shirts and ties; and dress shoes.
 - 2. Ladies should wear dresses, skirts, or suits; tops with a modest neck line; and dress shoes. Skirt lengths should cover the knees when standing.

V. Disciplinary Action

In the event that there is an infraction of the rules, the tournament director should be notified. The tournament director may review the case and make a decision based on the circumstances. Disciplinary options may include a warning, the loss of the round where the infraction occurred, or removal from the tournament.