

An Overview of all DUDL Events

DUDL Policy Debate(CX)

Policy debate is an extracurricular activity where two teams of two people competitively discuss issues of United States governmental policy. Each year, a yearlong topic is determined and teams debate whether that topic, or “resolution,” is a good or bad idea. The affirmative will advocate for the resolution by proposing a plan. Conversely, the negative will argue against the affirmative plan by proving that the affirmative has not met their prima facie burden and thus a policy change is not warranted; that a better policy option exists; that the plan is philosophically unsound; or, that the plan is procedurally unfair.

The topic this year-

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reduce Direct Commercial Sales and/or Foreign Military Sales of arms from the United States.

How to judge DUDL debate?

- The judge must ultimately vote for the team that presented the better arguments. While there is quite a bit of jargon in policy debate, the activity is, at heart, about persuasion. The judge must set aside their own personal opinions about the topic and evaluate the debater’s positions.
- Flow (take notes) – Write down debaters’ arguments in shorthand. In order to evaluate the arguments and logic presented in the debate, you need to have a detailed list of the argument.
- Be an objective observer, evaluate the arguments not the style
- Time the debate: see time limits on the next page.

Filling out debate ballots:

- Before rounds begin, ballots are handed out. Ballots will have which teams you are observing and in what room. When you get to your room with both teams there, have the students tell you which speaker position they are and fill in if they are 1st or 2nd of their side.
- During the round, judges should note of how well each speaker delivers his/her speech. On the ballot the judge will assign speaker points; *points are ranked out of 30, with the typical range being 25-30.* Debate is about who made the the better argument so a judge me, give the win to the side with fewer speaker points win- this is called a low-point win, judges will clarify this on the ballot.
- On the ballot, judges must specify which school won and what side they were as well as providing a signature to verify their decision
- Students get these ballots after tournaments so judges will have provided feedback and and comments as to how they evaluated the debate.

After the Round

- At DUDL, we ask judges to give an oral critique of the round. Many students are debating for the first time ever and while constructive criticism is necessary, positive feedback will also be provided.
- Judges will fill out ballots and return them to the registration table.

Time Limits of Policy Debate

Speech	Time	General Purpose
1 Affirmative Constructive (1AC)	8 minutes	Present the affirmative case
The second negative asks the 1AC questions	3 minutes	Ask questions, clarify arguments, set up positions
1 Negative Constructive (1NC)	8 minutes	Present the negative “off-case” and attack the affirmative
The first affirmative asks the 1NC questions	3 minutes	Ask questions, clarify arguments, set up positions
2AC	8 minutes	Attack negative positions and rebuild the affirmative case
The first negative asks the 2AC questions	3 minutes	Ask questions, clarify arguments, set up positions
2NC[1]	8 minutes	Develop some of the negative positions and defend them against the affirmatives attack
The second affirmative asks the 2NC questions	3 minutes	Ask questions, clarify arguments, set up positions
1 Negative Rebuttal (1NR)	5 minutes	Develop a couple of the negative positions and defend them against the affirmatives attack
1 Affirmative Rebuttal (1AR)	5 minutes	Rebuild the affirmative case and answer the positions developed in the “negative block.”
2NR	5 minutes	Summarize the round, pick a negative positions, and explain why the negative should win

[1]The 2NC and the 1NR are often referred to as the “negative block” and are treated as one long speech. The negative should divide its positions up between these two speeches.

Big Questions Debate(BQ)- As stated on the NSDA website.

Big Questions is a debate format supported by a grant from the John Templeton Foundation. High school and middle school students debate complex worldview questions. Big Questions debate format involves opposing contestants debating a topic concerning the intersection of science, philosophy, and religion. Students can compete as individuals or as a team, this means rounds can be 1 vs. 1, 2 vs. 2, or 1 vs. 2. Topics will address deeply held beliefs that often go unexamined. Students are assigned a side of the topic before each round and present cases, engage in rebuttal and refutation, and participate in a question period. The topic this year- **Resolved: Objective morality exists.**

Time Limits of Policy Debate

Speech	Time	General Purpose
Affirmative Constructive –	5 minutes	Present the affirmative case
Negative Constructive –	5 minutes	Present the negative case
Question Segment	3 minutes	Aff asks the 1st question. Following the 1st question, both speakers ask each other questions freely
Affirmative Rebuttal –	4 minutes	“Attack” the negative case
Negative Rebuttal –	4 minutes	“Attack” the affirmative case
Question Segment	3 minutes	A asks the 1st question. Following the 1st question, both speakers ask each other questions freely
Affirmative Consolidation	3 minutes	Debaters reduce the debate to core elements and identify areas they are winning and strengthen the analysis and argumentation
Negative Consolidation	3 minutes	Debaters reduce the debate to core elements and identify areas they are winning and strengthen the analysis and argumentation
Affirmative Rationale	3 minutes	Summary of central argument(s) and how they have proven them in this debate. No new arguments.
Negative Rationale	3 minutes	Summary of central argument(s) and how they have proven them in this debate. No new arguments.
Prep Time	3 minutes	Both teams receive 3 minutes of prep time to be used at any time.

2019-20 DUDL Speech Competition

In 2019-20 we are offering Impromptu, Drama, Poetry, and Student Congress at every tournament. Oratory will be offered as the consolation event at tournaments two and five. We will offer all speech events as main events - Impromptu, Poetry, Oratory, and Student Congress - at the December and March tournaments.

Tournament One - Impromptu, Drama, Poetry

Tournament Two - Impromptu, Drama, Poetry (Oratory Consolation)

Tournament Three - Impromptu, Drama, Poetry, Oratory

Tournament Four - Impromptu, Drama, Poetry (Alternate Debate Consolation)

Tournament Five - Impromptu, Drama, Poetry (Oratory Consolation)

City Championship - Impromptu, Drama, Poetry, Oratory

DUDL Original Oratory

In this event, competitors have written original pieces. Although many orations deal with a current problem and propose a solution, the judge is expressly reminded that this is not the only acceptable form of oratory. The oration may simply alert the audience to a threatening danger, strengthen its devotion to an accepted cause, or eulogize a person. The orator should be given free choice of subject and judged solely on the effectiveness of its development and presentation. The composition should be considered carefully for its rhetoric and diction. The use of appropriate figures of speech, similes and metaphors, balanced sentences, allusions, and other rhetorical devices to make the oration more effective should be noted especially. Delivery should be judged for mastery of the usual mechanics of speech -- poise, quality and use of voice, bodily expressiveness, and for the qualities of directness and sincerity which impress the oration upon the minds of the audience. An orator should not be penalized for a few seconds overtime. No particular style of delivery is to be set up as the one correct style to which all contestants must conform. Rather, each contestant is to be judged upon the effectiveness of his/her delivery, free to choose or develop whatever style will best give him/her that effectiveness with his/her particular oration.

The time limit in this Original Oratory competition is 10 minutes with a 30 second "grace period". Speakers should be encouraged to speak for at least 3 minutes. If the judges in the round agree that the student has gone beyond the "grace period", the student may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last based on time. The ranking is up to each individual judge's discretion. Speaker points are ranked out of 100, with the typical range being 70-100. If you have any questions/concerns, or the rules are questioned during the round, please stop the competition and consult a tournament official.

Judges consider thought, composition, creativity, and delivery. The orator should not be expected to solve any of the great problems of the day. Rather, s/he should be expected to discuss intelligently, with a degree of originality, in an interesting manner, and with some profit to his/her audience the topic s/he has chosen. Any appropriate subject may be chosen but the orator must be truthful. Any non-factual reference, especially a personal one, MUST be so identified.

NOTE: DUDL encourages students to write speeches that are persuasive in nature. This should not be improvised. Students who are taking the time to write (in advance) interesting speeches which express an opinion on relevant issues are rewarded. DUDL is supportive of the use of poetry as a narrative device.

DUDL Impromptu

Impromptu is a speech event where students draw a topic and present an organized speech on that topic with limited preparation.

When the judge has all competitors present, the judge will call the first speaker up and hand them the envelope with speaker one written on it (these will be in the folders provided to judges when given a ballot.) Speakers will present in the order on the ballot unless a competitor is double entered in other DUDL speech events and needs to leave early or arrive late to go the next round.

Each student shall draw three topics from the envelope provided to them in the round and immediately select one topic. Timing begins the moment the selection of the topic has been made. No sources may be consulted during the preparation time. The speaker may make notes on the provided index card during the two-minute preparation. The speaker may use up to 5 minutes of time for preparation to present a minimum of a two minute speech, or the student may use as little preparation time as they wish and present a speech up to seven minutes long. Student speeches must be a minimum of two minutes and no longer than seven minutes. All speakers in the round should remain in the room to watch the other speeches unless a competitor is double entered in other DUDL speech events and needs to leave early or arrive late to go the next round. Speaker points are ranked out of 100, with the typical range being 70-100. The following are considered when ranking speakers and assessing speaker points.

Content

- Originality and creativity in approaching the subject matter
- Effective Structure
- Clarity and effectiveness of argument/message/theme

Delivery

- To what degree did the speaker achieve one or more of the following: informed, entertained, persuaded, inspired, encouraged, and argued?
- How natural or practiced was the delivery?
- Vocal delivery pitch, pace and volume
- Gestures and body language
- Emotion – humorous, moving, thought provoking

Entertainment

- Engagement – to what degree did the performance connect with the audience
- Did they laugh, were they moved, provoked?
- Charisma
- Could the speaker have varied pace more?
- Did the gestures match the speech?
- A speaker who is more than 30 seconds over the time limit may be penalized

DUDL Drama

Drama gives students the opportunity to select, interpret, and perform a piece of literature. This literature can be humorous or dramatic in nature and may be entered as a single competitor entry or duo. Prose, Plays, and screenplays may be used in the Drama category. Poetry may not be entered in the Drama category. Literature in the Drama category and must be published* and cannot be self-authored. Presentations may not use physical objects or costuming. Although gestures or pantomime may be used, they should be used with restraint and the performance must begin and end from the center stage area during the presentations, the contestant/team must name the author and the book or magazine from which the cutting was made. Competitors must use the same piece for the entire tournament and may keep a piece all competition year. Students may use the same piece for the entire school year, or can change the piece for each tournament. Students cannot reuse the same piece beyond one competition year. *Material does not have to be memorized, but memorization is encouraged.*

Selection:

Is the material appropriate for the student? Does the material meet the rules of the category?

Is there an emotional/intellectual understanding of the material?

Introduction:

Effective, explanatory, attention-getting, sets mood/feeling

Vocal elements:

Vocalization - Volume, emphasis, intensity, diction, inflection, mumbling, speed/pacing, expressiveness, projection, enunciation, pitch

Phrasing/pacing - Fluid, choppy, flowing, rhythmic, hesitant

Physical presentation:

Eye contact - consistent, effective

Facial expressiveness/gestures - natural, appropriate, expressive

Speaker presence - Confident, poised, energetic, polished, lackadaisical, comfortable with material

Interpretation:

Character development - strong, appropriate, consistent, interesting, multiple characters are distinguishable

Emotion - appropriate to character/selection, believable, intensity, tone

Transitions - fluid, explanatory

DUDL Poetry

Poetry gives students the opportunity to interpret and perform poetic literature. The Poetry category will now include both original poetry authored by the performer and published* poetry. Material does not have to be memorized, but memorization is encouraged..

Competitors will enter room as a group. Some competitors might be “double entered” in other speaking events and have to arrive late, or leave early. Students may watch the other competitors perform. Please consider the following when judging the speakers. Competitors may enter as an individual only. Speaker points are ranked out of 100, with the typical range being 70-100.

Introduction:

Does the introduction state the title of the piece?
Is it effective, explanatory, attention-getting?
Does it set the right mood/feeling?

Literary Merit:

Does the material demonstrate a creative and compelling use of language?
Does the author/performer possess a unique literary voice/perspective?
Does the poem have an impact on the audience?

Performance:

Vocalization - Volume, emphasis, intensity, diction, inflection, mumbling, speed/pacing, expressiveness, projection, enunciation, pitch

Phrasing/pacing - Fluid, choppy, flowing, rhythmic, hesitant

Eye contact - consistent, effective

Facial expressiveness/gestures - natural, appropriate, expressive

Speaker presence - Confident, poised, energetic, polished, lackadaisical, comfortable with material

Emotion - appropriate to selection, believable, intensity, tone

Transitions - fluid, explanatory

DUDL Student Congress

Student Congress permits students to participate in a mock legislative session using parliamentary procedure. Legislation is prepared by the students in advance of the tournament and students debate the merits of the legislation presented. Legislation may be written on any topic. All schools with students entered in student congress must submit a minimum of one bill or resolution for inclusion in the docket. The deadline for all legislation will be 5pm on Thursday a week before any given tournament. This will allow for Congress Dockets to be released the Friday before the upcoming tournament. The following table is the 2019-20 schedule with specific dates.

Tournament	Legislation Due Date	Docket Release Date
Season Opener: 10/5/19	9/26/2019	9/27/2019
Tournament 2: 11/16/19	11/7/2019	11/8/2019
*Tournament 3: 12/13-14/19	12/5/2019	12/6/2019
Tournament 4: 1/25/20	1/16/2020	1/17/2020
Tournament 5: 2/22/20	2/13/2020	2/14/2020
City Championships: 3/13-14/20	3/5/2020	3/6/2020
*Please note that the submission deadline for this tournament are for both congressional sessions on 12/13 and 12/14.		

When the session begins, the judge will take nominations for Presiding Officer (PO). S/he can take up to 3 nominees. The nominees may make a brief statement to the chamber as to why s/he should be elected. The nominees are sent into the hall while remaining students vote for the P.O. Students should fill out their placards. The PO completes the seating chart.

The speech order:

Introductory proponent (authorship) (3 mins), followed by 2-minute mandatory questioning period.
Introductory opponent (3 mins), followed by a 2-minute mandatory questioning period.
Proponent (3 mins), followed by 2-minute mandatory questioning period.
Opponent (3 mins). followed by 2-minute mandatory questioning period

- Authorship speeches are scored.
- There are many different ways to “score” congress. For our purposes, we will be awarding the top three students based on the calculation of total points given to each student. The Presiding officer will not be included in the top three.
- **Scoring speeches are based on: Content, Organization, Evidence, Language, Argument and Refutation/ Delivery.**
- Judges will write comments and feedback on ballots.
- If there are more than 30 students entered, and judging capacity permits, two chambers are used.
- Each chamber is assigned one judge
- In the event there is not enough legislation submitted, DUDL provides legislation to fill the Docket.