

Direct Questioning In Congressional Debate Finals at State and Local Tournaments. (Option1)

On Page 29 add

8. At the State Tournament, the final round will include a direct questioning period, as described below. (Though not mandatory, Invitational Qualifying Tournaments are urged to use the direct questioning format in the final round.)

a) In the Final Round of Congressional debate, Speeches are four minutes, with two-minute questioning of speakers introducing legislation as well as the first negative, and one minute of questioning for subsequent speakers. Each questioner has 30 seconds within the one or two minutes to engage in direct questioning with the speaker. During direct questioning, all questioning periods are broken into 30-second segments, with one questioner per segment, who may ask multiple questions of the speaker during that segment.

Rationale: This is modeled after the how we do Extemporaneous speaking in TFA, and is modeled after the Tournament of Champions Congress procedures for Semis and Finals. This encourages better debate, by requiring longer speeches, and a detailed cross examination which encourages the speaker to defend their position. It also provides an opportunity for the questioner to demonstrate their debate skills and provide more information for the judge to rank the contestants. It makes the final round more awesome.

Respectfully Submitted,
Greg McGee
Mayde Creek High School

Direct Questioning In Congressional Debate Finals at Local Tournaments. (Option 2)

On Page 29 add

8. At the discretion of the tournament director, the final round at Invitational Qualifying Tournaments may include a direct questioning period, as described below.

a) In the Final Round of Congressional debate, Speeches are four minutes, with two-minute questioning of speakers introducing legislation as well as the first negative, and one minute of questioning for subsequent speakers. Each questioner has 30 seconds within the one or two minutes to engage in direct questioning with the speaker. During direct questioning, all questioning periods are broken into 30-second segments, with one questioner per segment, who may ask multiple questions of the speaker during that segment.

Rationale: Direct Questioning is still awesome, but if the body wants to experiment with it before changing Congress at the State meets, this option allows them to do so.

Respectfully Submitted,
Greg McGee
Mayde Creek High School

I propose that the qualifying point system be moved back to 10 points instead of 12 points to qualify for the State tournament.

Rationale: It is my understanding that the increase of points to qualify was to make it harder to qualify for the State tournament and thus reduce the size of State. Instead, schools just add more tournaments to their schedules to qualify their students. We are now possibly adding a Regional qualifying tournament thus using another weekend and giving more students the opportunity to qualify for State. . There seems to be contradictions in the system as it stands.

Glenda Ferguson- Coppell High School