

Association for Global Debate

Public Forum Round Guide for Judges and Debaters

1. Topic ("Resolution"):

YES or NO- Resolved: The death penalty should be abolished in China.

The team that says "yes" to the topic is called the **affirmative**, or **pro**. The team that says "no" to the topic is called the **negative**, or **con**.

2. Scoring System-

Public Forum debate rewards teams with wins and individual speakers with high speaker points. Winning the debate is a matter of making convincing logical arguments that prove the topic true or false. Being awarded good speaker points is a matter of making smart or interesting arguments and displaying a polite, professional demeanor.

3. Coin Flip

Coin Flip: At the start of each debate, competitors will flip a coin to decide what side they will advocate and what the speaking order will be. The winner of the coin flip will choose whether they want to affirm or negate the resolution, or speak first or last. The loser of the coin flip will make the remaining choice)

ROUND STRUCTURE:

Speech	Speaker	Time Allowed
Team A Constructive	Speaker 1	5 minutes
Team B Constructive	Speaker 2	5 minutes
Crossfire	Speaker 1 and 2	3 minutes
Team A Rebuttal	Speaker 3	4 minutes
Team B Rebuttal	Speaker 4	4 minutes
Crossfire	Speaker 3 and 4	3 minutes
Team A Summary	Speaker 1	2 minutes
Team B Summary	Speaker 2	2 minutes
Grand Crossfire	All Speakers	3 minutes
Team A Final Focus	Speaker 3	2 minutes
Team B Final Focus	Speaker 4	2 minutes

Team A: Speaker 1 and Speaker 3

Team B: Speaker 2 and Speaker 4

***Each team may use 4 minutes of preparation time before or after any speech, in any increments.