**Rules and Important Notes**

1. If a chamber runs out of legislation on the docket, they may debate legislation from previous sessions. The docket for 2025 shall be: Round 1: 6 & 1, Round 2: 4 & 7, Semifinals: 5, 3, & 9. Finals: 2, 8, 10.
2. There is no “minimum cycle” requirement; legislation can be voted on or tabled at any time.
3. Motions to suspend the rules (such as abolishing the questioning time or abolishing the docket) will not be recognized. **If any student breaks or attempts to break the rules, judges should penalize the competitor as they see fit.**
4. Chamber votes for the Presiding Officer are final; **the P.O. also cannot be impeached. P.O.’s are eligible for judges to rank amongst the best 8 competitors in the room.**
5. If the Presiding Officer steps down between sessions 1 and 2, they should be added as last on the precedence chart.
6. The Presiding Officer is a competitor, and should be treated as much. They should not advanced simply because they are P.O., nor should they be disregarded for continuation. Rather, they should be judged and ranked based on how well they keep the chamber in order and preside over the session.
7. **Precedence and recency will be maintained throughout the preliminary sessions;** they will only reset between the semifinal and final session.
8. Preliminary chambers should recess/adjourn 15 minutes before the next session is set to begin. Sessions may begin before all competitors are present and any student who is late may enter the chamber between speeches. Neither judges nor the P.O. should penalize a student for being late. **Friday: Round 1 should be 3:30 - 4:45pm, Round 2 should be 5:00 - 6:15pm. Saturday: Semifinal should be 8:00 - 9:15am, Finals should be 1:00 - 2:15pm.**
9. In the event a student speaks on the wrong side called for, the chamber should continue as if the speech was correct and the judge may choose whether to penalize the speaker. If a student speaks on the wrong piece of legislation, they speech should be counted for precedence, but the competitor should receive zero points for not paying attention.
10. The questioning period during the first cycle of each legislation will be two minutes. Any questioning periods following will be one minute. The questioning period cannot be skipped by the chamber. However, if not enough questions are on the floor to fill the time, questioning may end early.
11. All chambers will be open; a competitor needing to leave (bathroom, etc.) may simply ask the P.O. for a “Point of Personal Privilege” and they will be granted access to leave. When re-entering, they should wait until the current speech has ended.