

MIDDLE SCHOOL EXTEMP DEBATE

JUDGE TRAINING || ONE PAGERS || MS-ED

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DEBATE
categories

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT IN MS-ED?

If you are at a tournament as any type of judge, there is a chance that you will judge Middle School Extemporaneous Debate. In this category, two speakers are given a topic 30 minutes before the round. One has the affirmative side and the other has the negative side, and they will each debate their side of the argument.

The resolutions are appropriate for middle schoolers, and a couple of examples are below.

Resolved: Students in grades K-12 should go to school year-round.

Resolved: Middle school sports should have a no-cut policy.

There are time limits in this category, and those are listed on the right. Simply set a stopwatch (the kids may also do this) to keep track.

If a speaker does not use their entire time, you must allow the time to lapse anyway. For example, if a speaker only uses 1:32 of their 2 minute opposition rebuttal, you sit in silence for the remaining 28 seconds.

Hold up a fist when time is up (see photo).



At the end of the round, you will leave the following:

Comments (like in other categories)

Quality points (between 20 and 30 - the winner should have more points)

Reason for Decision (RFD) - explanation of why the winner of the round won

Time Limits

Speech	Time Limit	Purpose
Proposition Constructive	2 minutes	The debater in favor of the resolution presents his or her case/position in support of the topic.
Cross Examination of Proposition	1 minute	The opposition debater asks the proposition questions.
Opposition Constructive	2 minutes	The debater against the resolution or the proposition's case presents his or her case/position.
Cross Examination of Opposition	1 minute	The proposition debater asks the opposition questions.
Mandatory Prep Time	1 minute	Both debaters have one minute to prepare their rebuttals.
Proposition Rebuttal	2 minutes	The proposition debater refutes the main idea of the opposition and supports their main ideas.
Opposition Rebuttal	2 minutes	The opposition debater refutes the main idea of the proposition and supports their main ideas.
Mandatory Prep Time	1 minute	Both debaters have one minute to prepare their rebuttals.
Proposition Rebuttal	2 minutes	In this final speech the proposition crystallizes the round for the judge and tries to establish sufficient reason for a vote in favor of the resolution.
Opposition Rebuttal	2 minutes	In this final speech the opposition crystallizes the round for the judge and tries to establish sufficient reason for a vote against the proposition's case and/or the resolution.