



BIOMEDICAL DEBATE

Purpose: To provide Health Science students with an opportunity to develop and demonstrate skills in debating a biomedical issue.

Description of Event: This event will consist of a Round One written test and a Round Two debate round. The debate round follows a modified Lincoln-Douglas debate format. The topic for both rounds will be announced annually. Teams of 3-4 members will participate in the Round One written test. The teams with the highest average score from on the test will qualify for the debate round. Debate round pairings and position (either the affirmative or negative) are based on random selection.

2011-12 Topic: **Social Media: Is it Good or Bad for your Health?**

Teams who draw the affirmative will debate the benefits of social media on health. Teams who draw the negative will debate that social media is harmful to your health. In doing some preliminary research, it looks like there are many sites and experts who believe that social media contributes to depression, low self-esteem, cyberbullying, etc. Other sites take the opposite stand, saying that social media de-stigmatizes mental illness, and provides an avenue for support groups for various health concerns through twitter, etc.

Dress Code: Competitors shall wear the HOSA uniform or proper business attire. Bonus points will be awarded for proper dress in both the preliminary and debate rounds. All team members must be properly dressed to receive bonus points.

- Rules and Procedures**
1. Competitors in this event must be active members of HOSA in good standing in the category in which they are registered to compete (Secondary or Postsecondary/Collegiate).
 2. The annual debate topic will be selected each summer and will be announced in HOSA publications.
 3. Each team will consist of 3-4 team members.
 4. **NEW FOR 2011-12:** The Round One test will be a one hour, 50-item multiple choice test designed to evaluate overall knowledge and understanding of the debate topic. There will not be a test plan or recommended resources. Instead, competitors are encouraged to learn as much as they can about the topic. The test will be developed to measure broad concepts as described in a variety of Internet resources. Test scores are used to qualify teams for the debate round (Round Two) and are not carried over to Round Two.
 5. The top scoring teams from Round One will be randomly paired for the Round Two debate. Debate pairings will be posted at a designated time and place.
 6. Alternate team selection process: All teams will fill out a contact card during the Round One written test. The first, second and third alternate teams will be posted with the debate round finalists. In the event a team does not show up to debate at their scheduled time, the first alternate team will be called and will have 30 minutes to present themselves for the debate. If they cannot be reached or cannot arrive in proper attire in the time allowed, the next alternate team will be called.

ROUND TWO – DEBATE ROUND

7. Debate teams will draw for the affirmative or negative immediately before entering the competition room. Teams would have two (2) minutes to prepare outside the competition room. At least three (3) team members must speak in the debate.
8. Teams will be permitted to bring prepared materials (Containers/folders with notes, printed pages, books and bound materials) to the presentation area in hard copy or on a laptop computer using battery power. Electricity will NOT be provided.
9. Props will NOT be allowed.
10. The following specific pattern will be followed during the debate:
 - **Affirmative Constructive Speech** (4 minutes). The speaker for the affirmative presents her or his arguments.
 - **Negative Cross-Examination** (2 minutes). The speaker(s) for the negative question the affirmative speaker on the points she or he made in her or his constructive speech.
 - **Negative Constructive Speech** (4 minutes). The speaker for the negative presents his or her arguments.
 - **Affirmative Cross-Examination** (2 minutes). The speaker(s) for the affirmative question the negative speaker on the points she or he made in her or his constructive speech.
 - **Affirmative Rebuttal** (3 minutes). The affirmative speaker rebuts the points made by the negative speaker.
 - **Negative Rebuttal** (4 minutes). The negative speaker rebuts the points made by the affirmative speaker.
 - **Final Affirmative Rebuttal** (1 minute). The affirmative speaker again rebuts.

** The full time noted above will be provided. If a team chooses not to use any or all of the time allowed, the opposing team shall still have the full amount of time that would have passed. However, the team whose turn it is may choose to begin their segment of the debate when ready, and the timekeeper will give them the amount of time listed above. (A team does not receive extra time for starting early.)*
11. For the debate presentation, there will be two tables with chairs in the front of the room, one assigned to the affirmative and one to the negative. A speaker's podium will be positioned between the two tables and will face the judges.
12. During the constructive speeches and rebuttals, the speaker will stand at the podium. During the cross-examination, the team member(s) asking the questions will stand at their table and the speaker whose constructive speech is being cross-examined will remain at the podium. Interruption of the speaker by the questioner during the cross-examination is allowed.
13. One speaker is permitted during the constructive speeches and one speaker is permitted during the rebuttals. Multiple speakers are permitted during cross-examination.
14. The Section Leader serves as the facilitator for the debate. He/she introduces the teams to the judges, announces each part of the debate, and helps to keep the event flowing according to the guidelines.

15. A timekeeper will keep time for each part of the debate and will call time at the end of the maximum amount of time allowed. Speakers must immediately stop speaking when time is called.
16. Thirty (30) seconds will be allowed between each part of the debate to allow teams to discuss strategy and for judges to rate the prior performance. After the thirty (30) seconds, the Section Leader will be responsible for calling the next speaker to the podium and announcing each part of the debate to the judges as an introduction. The timekeeper will begin time when the speaker is at the podium and the speaker has been announced.
17. Teams are permitted to discuss and write notes during all parts of the debate, however, table decorum will be evaluated on the rating sheet with the intent that teams will conduct themselves in a professional manner without distracting the other team.
18. In addition to rating each part of the debate, each judge will determine his or her "winner" of the debate based on the total presentation, evidence and persuasiveness, and will award that team 10 points on the rating sheet.
19. Should a tie occur in the ranking of teams, the Round One test score average will be used as the tie breaker.
20.
 - A. In the event of an odd number of teams in a division, the lowest scoring team from the Round One test may be left out of the debate pairings.
 - B. If there are only 3 teams, each team will debate the other two for a total of 3 debates. The scores from the two debates will be combined to determine final placing.
 - C. Other options may be considered to allow a fair event experience.
 - D. At the NLC, if there are fewer than 5 teams in a division, the teams will skip the Round One test and move directly to the debate round.
21. Competitors must be familiar with and adhere to the "**General Rules and Regulations of the National HOSA Competitive Events Program.**"

Required Personnel

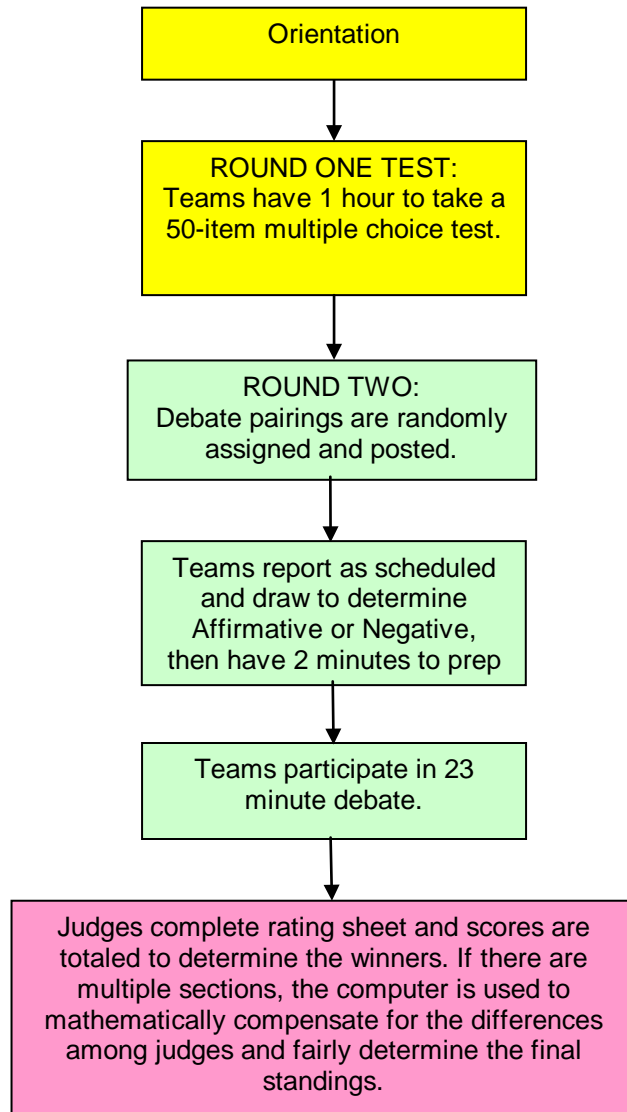
1. One Event Manager per event
2. One Section Leader per section
3. One-three judges per section
4. One-two event assistants per section
5. One timekeeper per section
6. Preparation room attendant(s)

Facilities, Equipment and Materials (Per Section)

1. Round One Written Test: One testing room, test booklets and scantron forms.
- *** 2. Wrist watch or stopwatch for each team member. (optional)
3. Debate round: One presentation room per section with two tables for teams, one podium and one judges' table.
4. Calculators, note pads, pencils for judges
5. Certificates, event evaluations and pencils (per competitor)
6. Stopwatch(s) (For event personnel.)
7. Cards for drawing affirmative or negative (one per section)

8. Affirmative/Negative signs for team tables per section
9. One affirmative and one negative rating sheet per judge per team
10. Topic card – one per section for debate round
11. Contact cards to be filled out by teams during Round One test
- *** 12. Print copy of the event guidelines for the event orientation (one per team).
- *** 13. Prepared topic materials (Containers/folders with notes, printed pages, books and bound materials) for the presentation round in hard copy or on a laptop computer using battery power.
- *** 14. 8½ x 11" paper and note cards (optional - for use by team members)

Event Flow Chart



BIOMEDICAL DEBATE AFFIRMATIVE RATING SHEET

Section: _____
Team #: _____

Division _____ SS _____ PS _____
Judge's Signature: _____

	Superior	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Points Awarded
1. Affirmative Constructive Speech	10	8	6	4	2	
• Arguments & Evidence (Persuasiveness)	10	8	6	4	2	
• Flow & logic of speech	5	4	3	2	1	
• Relevance of arguments	5	4	3	2	1	
• Presentation						
2. Response to Negative Cross-Exam	15	12	9	6	3	
• Quality of responses						
3. <i>Negative Constructive Speech</i>						----
4. Affirmative Cross-Examination	5	4	3	2	1	
• Quality of questions						
5. Affirmative Rebuttal	10	8	6	4	2	
• Evidence and effectiveness	5	4	3	2	1	
• Clarification of argument	5	4	3	2	1	
• Relevance of rebuttal	5	4	3	2	1	
• Presentation						
6. <i>Negative Rebuttal</i>						-----
7. Final Affirmation Rebuttal	10	8	6	4	2	
• Presentation and content						
8. Decorum, professional behavior toward other team, and at least 3 members spoke in debate	5	4	3	2	1	
9. Debate winner	10					
TOTAL POINTS --- Possible/Awarded	100					

BIOMEDICAL DEBATE NEGATIVE RATING SHEET

Section _____
Team # _____

Division _____ SS _____ PS _____
Judge's Signature _____

	Superior	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Points Awarded
1. <i>Affirmative Constructive Speech</i>						---
2. Negative Cross-Examination • Quality of questions	5	4	3	2	1	
3. Negative Constructive Speech • Arguments & Evidence (Persuasiveness) • Flow & logic of speech • Relevance of arguments • Presentation	10 10 5 5	8 8 4 4	6 6 3 3	4 4 2 2	2 2 1 1	
4. Affirmative Cross-Examination • Quality of responses	15	12	9	6	3	
5. <i>Affirmative Rebuttal</i>						---
6. Negative Rebuttal • Evidence and effectiveness • Presentation • Relevance of rebuttal • Clarification of argument	10 15 5 5	12 8 4 4	9 6 3 3	6 4 2 2	3 2 1 1	
7. <i>Final Affirmative Rebuttal</i>						
8. Decorum, professional behavior toward other team, and at least 3 members spoke in debate	5	4	3	2	1	
9. Debate winner	10					
TOTAL POINTS --- Possible/Awarded	100					

BIOMEDICAL DEBATE SCRIPT

Section Leader addresses judges:

**AFFIRMATIVE
CONSTRUCTIVE** "This debate is between team _____ in the Affirmative and team _____ in the Negative. Team _____ will begin with the Affirmative Constructive Speech. You will have four minutes."

[At the end of four minutes time, stand and call **TIME**. All speaking must end. Allow thirty seconds for transition. At the end of thirty seconds, announce.....]

**NEGATIVE
CROSS-EXAM** "Team _____ will begin the Negative Cross-Examination. You will have 2 minutes."

[At the end of two minutes time, stand and call **TIME**. All speaking must end. Allow thirty seconds for transition. At the end of thirty seconds, announce.....]

**NEGATIVE
CONSTRUCTIVE** "Team _____ will begin the Negative Constructive Speech. You will have 4 minutes."

[At the end of four minutes time, stand and call **TIME**. All speaking must end. Allow thirty seconds for transition. At the end of thirty seconds, announce.....]

**AFFIRMATIVE
CROSS-EXAM** "Team _____ will begin the Affirmative Cross-Examination. You will have 2 minutes."

[At the end of two minutes time, stand and call **TIME**. All speaking must end. Allow thirty seconds for transition. At the end of thirty seconds, announce.....]

**AFFIRMATIVE
REBUTTAL** "Team _____ will begin the Affirmative Rebuttal. You will have 3 minutes."

[At the end of 3 minutes time, stand and call **TIME**. All speaking must end. Allow thirty seconds for transition. At the end of thirty seconds, announce.....]

**NEGATIVE
REBUTTAL** "Team _____ will begin the Negative Rebuttal. You will have 4 minutes."

[At the end of 4 minutes time, stand and call **TIME**. All speaking must end. Allow thirty seconds for transition. At the end of thirty seconds, announce.....]

**FINAL
AFFIRMATIVE
REBUTTAL** "Team _____ will begin the Final Affirmative Rebuttal. You will have 1 minute."

[At the end of 1 minute time, stand and call **TIME**. All speaking must end. Thank both teams and escort them out of the room.]