



Policy Debate Overview:

Round Format

A policy round will have an affirmative team of two speakers and a negative team of two speakers. The tournament tab staff will determine which team is affirmative and which team is negative prior to posting the schematics. It shall be the prerogative of the individual team members to determine the speaking order in cross-examination and rebuttal. No fixed order is mandatory. Each debater shall present a rebuttal, cross-examine, and be cross-examined.

Affirmative Constructive	8 minutes
Negative Cross Examination	3 minutes (Neg speaker asks questions; Aff answers)
Negative Constructive	8 minutes
Affirmative Cross Examination	3 minutes (Aff speaker asks Neg speaker questions; Neg answers)
Affirmative Constructive	8 minutes
Negative Cross Examination	3 minutes (Neg speaker asks questions; Aff answers)
Negative Constructive	8 minutes
Affirmative Cross Examination	3 minutes (Aff speaker asks Neg speaker questions; Neg answers)
Negative Rebuttal	5 minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	5 minutes
Negative Rebuttal	5 minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	5 minutes

[5 minutes of prep. Time for each team, taken at their discretion between speeches.]

Technology Use

The use of laptop computers in Policy, Public Forum, Lincoln-Douglas, and Congress is permitted at the ISSDA State Tournament. Computers with built-in wireless capability may be used only if the wireless capability is disabled. It is the responsibility of the contestant to disable the equipment. Internet connections (Ethernet or phone) during rounds of competition are not permitted. Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information from any source (coaches or assistants included) inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs. Internet access, use of e-mail, instant messaging, texting, social media or other means of receiving information from sources inside or outside of the competition room are prohibited. (This does not prohibit non-electronic communication between debate partners during prep time if applicable.)

All content above is based on the ISSDA Tournament Manual.