

## THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER A DEBATE ROUND

1. Enter into the building, find **POSTINGS** in a common area
  - a. **Postings:** sheets of paper lining the wall, these papers will have event titles at the top of the sheet
    - i. Find your event and find your name and code: this will tell you who, where, and when you are debating
2. Have **EVERYTHING** before you go to your round
  - a. Cases, evidence, debate box, pens, paper, water bottles, timers etc.
3. Be early to your room, **NEVER** go into the room before your judge
  - a. Sit outside the door until they arrive, then hold the door open for them
4. (Flip a coin for sides if need be) Ask the judge, "Do you prefer for us to sit on a particular side?"
  - a. Example: Their ballot may have Aff on the left column and Neg on the right, so they may want you to sit on the corresponding sides
5. If their desks aren't set up yet, pull together a desk for yourself and your partner (if applicable) off to the right or left-hand side, and put a desk in the middle for a podium\*
  - a. \* **THIS IS WHERE YOU GIVE EVERY SPEECH**



6. As you are setting up your desk, **WRITE YOUR CODE ON THE BOARD**

Side you are on (AFF/PRO or NEG/CON)	Your Debate Code
Speaker #	Last name
Speaker #	Last Name

We give this to you

**PF:** Write if you are Pro or Con  
**LD and CX:** Write if you are Aff or Neg

**PF:** Write if you are Speaker 1 and 3 (Pro) or 2 and 4 (Con)  
**LD:** Write if you are Speaker 1 (Aff) or Speaker 2 (Neg)  
**CX:** Write if you are 1AC and 2AC (Aff) or 1NC and 2NC (Neg)

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7. As you set up and write your code ask the judge **2 QUESTIONS**:
  - a. **"Would you like roadmaps on or off the clock?"**
    - i. **Roadmap**: a summary you give before **EVERY** speech (besides reading your case), tell them your exact speech structure
      1. **Example**: First, I will be going over my opponent's case, attacking contentions by contention. Then, I will go back to my case to reaffirm our contentions.
    - ii. If roadmaps are **OFF-CLOCK**: give your roadmap, then start your timer
    - iii. If roadmaps are **ON-CLOCK**: start your time, then give a quick roadmap
  - b. **"Do you have any paradigms?"**
    - i. **Paradigm**: what they would like to see or hear throughout the debate, their expectations of you
      1. This will indicate to you how much experience they have
        - a. If you have a **Lay Judge** (they know nothing about debate), you should make sure to explain absolutely everything to them.
          - i. Assume they know **NOTHING**: for example, explain what a Value and Value Criterion is; explain what Topicality, Disadvantages, and so on
        - b. Whether they ask or not **ALWAYS SIGNPOST**
          - i. **Signpost**: tell them where you are **at all times**. Tell them exactly what contention you are talking about, or exactly what piece of evidence you are talking about.
  8. After each speech, **IMMEDIATELY** get up to give your speech unless you are taking prep time
    - a. No one is going to tell you that it is your time to speak. You just get up and speak.
  9. Before **EVERY** speech make sure to ask if everyone is ready
    - a. "Partner ready? (look at them and nod) Opponents ready? (look at them and nod) And most importantly is the judge ready? (look at them and smile) Then I'll begin." **THEN** you may start your speech.
  10. During **EVERY** speech and questioning period **ALWAYS** look at your judge and **NOT** your opponents
    - a. **ALWAYS** refer to your partner by "my partner" and your opponents as "my opponents" as well as "my partner and myself", do **NOT** use anyone's first name
  11. Time **EVERY** speech, that is your sole responsibility
    - a. Take **ALL** of your prep time. Before your speeches only, tell the judge, "I'm going to take some prep time." Time yourself, and tell the judge how much prep time you have used once you are done and get up to speak.
  12. After **EVERY** debate, no matter how it went, shake your opponent's hand and say, "Good debate." Or "Great job." Something to that extent.
    - a. Afterward, **MOST IMPORTANTLY**, thank your judge for their time. Ask if they are okay with a handshake, many people may say no. If they do, just thank them graciously.
    - b. **Clean up** after yourself, and wish your opponents good luck in their other rounds. Then you may leave the room.
  13. **DO NOT**:

## **THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER A DEBATE ROUND**

- a. Use your phone during the round, shut it off for the duration of your round
- b. Have an attitude with your judge or opponents, be tactful at all times
  - i. Things may get heated, be professional at all times
- c. Curse or yell
- d. Use internet while you are in a round
- e. Talk badly about other teams at any point
  - i. People are around you at all times: in the bathroom, in the classrooms, in hallways, so on
  - ii. If you are upset, find a coach and ask them to walk and talk with you
- f. Talk during your opponent's speeches
  - i. Always whisper and write notes to each other
- g. Act immaturely: you are representing yourself and your school