

GROUP DISCUSSION

Group Discussion is an event in which students discuss and argue a topic set at the beginning of the round. The topics will present an issue, designed to introduce a variety of conflicting opinions. Students will be given the generic nature of the issue in the invitation, with a specific focus to be discussed at the start of the round. Students should research the topic in advance and may bring notes and outside resources into the competition. After the topic is revealed, students will be given 5 minutes to formulate their argument, draw for speaking order, and then each shall be given 2 minutes to deliver an opening statement. Then an open discussion period of up to 15 minutes shall follow in which the issue is discussed and criteria for a resolution or recommendation are established, followed by another period of open discussion of up to 15 minutes to present and discuss possible solutions that meet those criteria. The students will then have 1 minute to prepare their final arguments and 2 minutes to present their final argument in the reverse order of their opening.

PLEASE CHECK ONE BOX IN EACH ROW	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Developing
Effective use of opening, closing statements					
Stays on topic					
Use of evidence, reasoning, citations					
Understands subject					
Poise, confidence					
Articulate and fluent delivery					
Engagement with group members to further goals of group					
Approaches discussion from a non-adversarial perspective					
Respects the time and ideas of opponents					
Student's position evolves over the course of the discussion					

WRITE COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS BELOW AND ON THE OTHER SIDE:

Please be sure to include BOTH praise and constructive suggestions.

Question: _____

Speaker Code: _____

Round (circle): 1 2 3 semi final

Rank (1 is best): _____

Speaker Points: (80-85 – Fair | 86-90 – Good | 91-95 – Excellent | 96-100 – Superior)

Points: _____

Judge School: _____

Judge Signature: _____

Judge Code: _____