



Competition Rules Board Meeting, November 16, 2021

Location and Time: Online, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. CT

Call to Order/Welcome/Record of Approved Competition Rules Board Minutes

On November 16, 2021, Competition Rules Board meeting minutes will be read into the record. Minutes are available for discussion, as requested by Competition Rules Board members.

National Tournament Congress Legislation Collection Procedure Change

The Executive Director will present a potential change to the legislation collection procedure used for the National Tournament Congressional Debate docket. The proposed change is to expand the number of student voices that are represented in the legislation collection process by allowing non-qualifiers to submit legislation, removing authorship speeches, and allowing students to vote on legislation that makes the National Tournament docket.

Direct Questioning in Congressional Debate

The Competition Rules Board will discuss whether direct questioning in Congressional Debate should be the only format of questioning permitted at the 2022 National Tournament and district tournaments beginning in 2022-2023. Direct questioning was used in every round of the 2020 and 2021 National Tournaments.

Elimination Round Judge Selection Protocols and/or Standards Follow-Up

The Competition Rules Board will review and assess feedback received from a working group of diverse stakeholders and coach representatives about National Tournament judge selection procedures for semifinal and final rounds.

Preset Randomized Recency in Congressional Debate

The Competition Rules Board will discuss whether randomized recency numbers should be assigned to competitors in Congressional Debate at the 2022 National Tournament and district tournaments beginning in 2022-2023. Random recency numbers were preset before every round of the 2020 and 2021 National Tournaments.

National Tournament Equity Officer Training

The Executive Director and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will assess the training needs of National Tournament equity officers and prepare to meet those training needs before the 2022 National Tournament.

Review Unified Manual Format Revision Outputs

The Competition Rules Board will review the formatting of the completed parts of the revised Unified Manual for final approval.

Flexibility in National Tournament Debate Penalties

The Executive Director will propose that to create parity with alternate penalty options in speech, the National Tournament Director and Adjudication Panels should gain the ability to reduce the penalty of a rule infraction in debate based on the severity of the violation. For example, the National Tournament Director could choose to assign loss of round instead of disqualification.

Require Written Feedback on National Tournament Ballots

The Executive Director will propose a pilot year of a requirement that all judges must leave written feedback on National Tournament ballots or risk loss of judge bond.

Adjournment