

CANADIAN NATIONAL DEBATE FORMAT SPEAKER ROLES – Simplified for Jr. Debaters

SPEAKER:	TIME:	PURPOSE / ROLE:
1 st Proposition	Constructive speech 6 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce the resolution • Define the main terms in the resolution • State and explain your team’s case line (theme) • Explain who will cover what • Present 2 or 3 arguments in favour of the resolution • Conclude by summarizing the Proposition team’s approach
1 st Opposition	Constructive speech 6 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State and explain the Opposition team’s case line • Explain who will cover what • Clash with the Proposition by explaining the problems you see in their case and in the arguments raised by the 1st Proposition • Present 1 or 2 arguments against the resolution • Conclude by summarizing the Opposition case
2 nd Proposition	Constructive speech 6 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clash with the Opposition by explaining the problems that you see in the arguments raised by the 1st Opposition • Present 1 or 2 more arguments in favour of the resolution • Conclude by rebuilding and defending the whole Proposition case
2 nd Opposition	Constructive speech 6 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clash with Proposition by explaining the problems with the arguments raised by the 2nd Proposition • Present 1 or 2 more arguments against the resolution • Conclude by rebuilding and defending the Opposition case • Do NOT give an overall summary of the debate since the 1st Opp. will do that in the next speech
1 st Opposition	Summary rebuttal 3 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize the key themes of the debate • Focus on areas of disagreement between the two sides, not on the small details of the debate – focus on the “crux” of the debate • Show why the Opposition has presented the most persuasive case in the debate
1 st Proposition	Summary rebuttal 3 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize the key themes of the debate • Focus on major areas of disagreement, not on the small details of the debate – focus on the “crux” of the debate • Show why the Proposition has the stronger case

POINTS OF INFORMATION: Each debater should try to ask at least two questions and should try to answer at least two questions during the constructive speeches. The first and last minute of each constructive speech and the summary rebuttals are “protected time” and may not be interrupted by POIs.