

De La Salle World Affairs Debate and Public Speaking Competition

Friday, December 7, 2012

Extemporaneous Speaking Rules

Time: 3 to 5 minutes

- Each participant will draw three topics and choose one, 30 minutes before speaking.
- Topics for the first round will be based on major international stories covered in newspapers, news magazines and on-line news sources during the one month prior to the tournament beginning on November 1, 2012. The second round will deal with prominent national news stories and events also in the news during the previous six months.
- Topics will be framed in question form.
- Tournament organizers will provide an isolated facility for the competitors to use as a “preparation room” known as a “lock-up room.”
- Competitors may not bring in any research material nor will the host school provide any research material.
- Speeches must be based on competitors’ own knowledge of the subject.
- During the speech, a competitor may refer only to notes prepared during the preparation period.
- These notes must be on a 3 x 5 index card.
- The host school will provide the cards.
- The speaker will have to speak for 3 to 5 minutes.
- There will be a time penalty of 2 points for speeches which are up to 30 seconds under 3 minutes or up to 30 seconds over 5 minutes.
- There will be a time penalty of 10 points for speeches under 2 minutes and 30 seconds or over 5 minutes.