

Connecticut Middle School Debate League

Timers' Instructions

Round: _____ Room Number: _____ Judge's Name: _____

Enter school and speaker names before the debate begins.

PROP School:	POIs asked	POIs answered	Length of speech
1st:			
2nd:			
3rd:			

OPP School:	POIs asked	POIs answered	Length of speech
1st:			
2nd:			
3rd:			

1. Seat the PROP team to your and the judge's LEFT and the OPP team to your RIGHT. Ask debaters to sit in speaking order with the first speaker sitting furthest away from you and the judge. (Seat position will help you to know who is offering POIs.)
2. Explain time signals to debaters.
3. Start timing when the speaker begins speaking.
4. Stop the clock if someone asks a Point of Clarification (POC). Resume after the POC conversation is finished.
5. Points of Information - POIs
 - a. The first and last minute of Constructive Speeches are protected time - POIs may not be offered.
 - b. During Constructive Speeches, clap or knock on the desk at 1 minute and 4 minutes to indicate when protected time ends and starts again.
 - c. If a debater rises during protected time, say "protected time" and he or she should sit down again. Do not stop the clock.
 - d. Record how many POIs each debater offered and answered in the chart above.
6. Indicate to the speaker how much time he or she has remaining. Every speech has a 15 second grace period.
 - a. 2 fingers for 2 minutes left
 - b. 1 finger for 1 minute left
 - c. the letter c for 30 seconds left
 - d. hand flat for time's up
 - e. 5 fingers for 5 seconds of grace period left
7. Say "time's up" when the 15 second grace period is up. The judge will stop flowing and the debater should stop speaking.
8. Prep time
 - a. Wait until the speaker has returned his his or her seat before beginning prep time.
 - b. Tell debaters when prep time is beginning.
 - c. Always give prep time – even if debaters say they don't want it or need it.
9. Record the speaker's time in the chart above and tell it to the judge after each speech.