# **ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE**

#### Overview:

#### **Teams:**

No. of teams per college: A maximum of two people per college can participate in the debate. No. of participants per team: 3 + 1 adjudicator

Please note that each participating team will be required to send in one adjudicator.

### **Duration of the event:**

The event will be a two day event, per the description below:

- Day 1 will consist of the preliminary rounds. The four highest scoring teams in the prelims will move on to the next round, the semis.
- Day 2 will consist of semifinals, finals and closing ceremony.

## **Tournament Structure:**

- Day 1 will consist of the preliminary round, wherein the top 4 scoring teams will qualify for Day 2.
- Day 2 will consist of the four teams qualified from Day 1 competing in the semi finals and the finals.

Mode: Offline

**Prizes worth** 

## **GUIDELINES:**

### Format of the debate:

- Each debating match will consist of two teams; one to propose onto the motion and one to oppose the motion. Each team will consist of three members, namely The Prime Minister and the Leader of Opposition, the Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Leader of Opposition, and the whips of each team.
- Debaters will speak in the following order and for the following time durations:
  - Prime Minister (7 minutes)
  - Leader of Opposition (7 minutes)
  - Deputy Prime Minister (7 minutes)
  - Deputy Leader of Opposition (7 minutes)
  - Government Whip (7 minutes)
  - Opposition Whip (7 minutes)
  - Government Reply Speech (5 minutes)
  - Opposition Reply Speech (5 minutes)

#### Motions:

- The motions will reflect a well known theme, which will be informed to the participants on the day of the debate. The teams will then be provided with three motions conforming to the theme allocated to that particular theme.
- Following the release of the motions, each team will be required to rank the motions, in order of preference. If the third preference of each team is immediately dropped. In case there is a clear winner, that motion is adopted for the debate.
- For the event wherein this is not the case, the motion will be decided per the result of coin toss.

#### • Timings:

- The organizing committee will provide for the provision of a timekeeper to assist the adjudication procedure. The timekeeper will tap at the end of the first minute, and at the beginning of the last minute.
- Any point made after 7 minutes 15 seconds will be considered null and void, and will not contribute to the debate.

#### Points of Information

- Points of Information may be raised only in the period between the 1st and 6th minutes of the speech.
- Upon a Point of Information being accepted by the speaker, the point must be phrased as a question or clarification, ideally encapsulated within 15-20 seconds. ○ Points of Information should allow for the speaker to hold some chance of phrasing a proper reply.
- After a Point of Information has been raised, no further clarifications may be offered by the informant, and nor may the speaker holding the floors ask for any such clarification, unless the situation be such that the Point raised be inaudible and incomprehensible. In such a case, the informant would be required to repeat the same Point of Information, without any modifications.

## **Definition:**

- A definition is an interpretation of the motion. The 1st speaker of the affirmative team needs to provide this in the early minutes of his/her speech, in order to set a clear parameter of the debate. Per their interpretation of the motion, the affirmative team is allowed to set location, time period and demographic restrictions upon the definition, as long as the restrictions do not excessively limit the scope of debate.
- The opposing team also has the luxury to challenge the definition set by the affirmative, per the powers:

- Challenge: Via this power, the opposition is allowed to challenge the definition, arguing it to be unreasonable. They should then proceed to provide a corrected alternative to the definition.
- Broaden: The Proposition's definition may have omitted to define a word in the motion that the Opposition considers pivotal. In this case, the Opposition can offer a definition of this word, so long as it meets the standards of reasonableness established.
- The luxury of challenging the definition is vested only to the leader of opposition. Subsequent speakers are strictly permitted a purely clarificatory role (if any) in this regard.

## Characteristic Feature of a Speech:

- Matter: Matter refers to the substance used in the debate to support/oppose the motion being debated upon.
- Manner: Manner refers to the presentation and delivery style of a speaker. This includes the way in which the speaker presents the audience with the matter described above.
- Method: Method shall be composed of Individual Method and Team Method, and refers to the overall structure and organization of the argument presented on an individual level, and on the team level, respectively.

#### **General Guidelines:**

• Teams failing to turn up for their debates on time, will be awarded a loss by the widest possible margin. Failure to turn up for two consecutive debates will result in disqualification from the event.

**Event Coordinator:** 

Pourush (9818337899)

#### **ANNEX A: Adjudication and Marking**

- At the end of every debate, the adjudicator will be required to fill in their adjudication forms, and present an adjudication speech.
- The adjudicator will be required to mark each and every speech per the following criteria: Matter: To be marked out of 40, with a floor of 28 points, and a ceiling of 32.
- Manner: To be marked out of 40, with a floor of 28 points, and a ceiling of 32.
  Method: To be marked out of 20, with a floor of 13 points, and a ceiling of 17.
- Per the above criteria, each participant will be awarded a net score out of a 100 points, according to which, the worst speech in the history of debating will fetch a net of 81 points, whereas the best will fetch a perfect 100 score.
- The reply speeches are to be marked out of a total of 50 points, following the criteria described above after dividing the numbers by 2.
- o Per this specification, the worst reply speech in the history of debating will fetch a score of 34.5 out of 50, whereas the best will fetch a score of 40.5 out of 50.
- Level of knowledge of an adjudicator is expected to be that of an "average person", per the definition below:
  - An average reasonable person is a fairly well-informed citizen of the globe with an average understanding of global and regional issues, and a basic understanding of popular disciplines and logic. The adjudicator must set aside his/her exceptional personal preferences, experiences, opinions or expert knowledge, which will not be shared by an average reasonable person. An adjudicator is supposed to be a jack-of-all-trades and master of none.
- Assessing Points of Information: POIs are to be assessed on the basis of the threat they pose to the argument of the debater, along with the structure and organization of the POI.

#### **ANNEX B: Determining Team Rankings**

The team ranks, used for determining the teams to qualify for semifinals, finals and ultimately for deciding the winner of the tournament, shall be determined per the following criteria, in priority order as specified below:

- 1. No. of victories: Each Victory will be taken as +1 to the team's overall record, whereas a loss will be awarded a 0.
- 2. Team Score: The average score of the team.
- 3. Margin: The difference between the scores of said team and their opponents.