



# Rubric for Apologetics

[See Sample Ballot](#)

## **Content:** Consider topic, ideas, thesis

*Contact Tournament Administration (Compliance staff) for concerns regarding NCFCA Mission Alignment rules.*

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- 1 - Beginning: States the topic and minimally adheres to it. Inadequate content. Minimal or ineffective Scriptural support.
  - 2 - Developing: States the topic and somewhat adheres to it. Some Scriptural support to defend the thesis.
  - 3 - Capable: Adheres to the stated topic with a logical or creative defense. Adequate thesis support from Scripture, examples, and/or other credible sources.
  - 4 - Proficient: Closely adheres to the stated topic with a well-reasoned defense of the thesis. Robust support from Scripture, examples, and/or other credible sources.
  - 5 - Excellent: Develops the stated topic through a compelling or convincing thesis. Outstanding variety and depth of support, including Scripture, examples, and/or other credible sources.

## **Organization & Citations:** Consider clarity through organization and citations

*Contact Tournament Administration (Compliance staff) for concerns regarding Academic Integrity rules.*

- 1 - Beginning: Confusing or little structure. Unclear introduction and/or conclusion. Missing or unclear verbal citations when needed.
- 2 - Developing: Some structure with transitions. Unbalanced introduction and/or conclusion. Some missing verbal citations when needed.
- 3 - Capable: Clear structure with transitions for introduction, conclusion, and points. Somewhat consistent use of clear verbal citations when needed.
- 4 - Proficient: Engaging introduction and conclusion with balanced points and smooth transitions. Consistently clear citations when needed.
- 5 - Excellent: Captivating introduction, balanced points, and conclusion. Coherent flow; uses time effectively. Skillful, clear citations when needed.

## **Vocal Delivery:** Consider articulation, pronunciation, volume, rate, pitch, style, tone

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- 1 - Beginning: Mumbling, halting, or lack of vocal energy. Mispronunciations. Minimum vocal variation or inappropriate volume, rate, pitch or tone.
  - 2 - Developing: Some mumbling, mispronunciation, or verbal pauses. Inconsistent effectiveness of volume, rate, and/or articulation that needs continued practice.
  - 3 - Capable: Generally accurate articulation and pronunciation. Sincere style with vocal variation appropriate for the content. Minimal distractions.
  - 4 - Proficient: Overall command of energy, volume, rate, and articulation that enhances the content. Winsome, conversational style, without distractions.
  - 5 - Excellent: Powerful, memorable, and/or highly impactful vocal style. Expert vocal variation and control that magnifies the message.

## **Physical Delivery: Consider poise, professionalism, movement, gestures, eye contact, facial expressions**

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- 1 - Beginning: Nervous or stiff manner. Distracting, habitual movements (e.g. tapping, pacing, swaying). Minimum eye contact.
- 2 - Developing: Inconsistent physical control or poise. Moments of distracting movements with the face, hands, body, or use of space.
- 3 - Capable: Poised, effective use of body and space. Good posture and energy. Generally appropriate gestures, eye contact, and facial expressions.
- 4 - Proficient: Confident, professional control of posture, gestures, eye contact, and facial expressions to engage the audience.
- 5 - Excellent: Compelling, masterful use of space, movement, gestures, and expression that enthrall the audience.

## **Impact: Consider mind, emotion, relevance, connection, speaker**

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- 1 - Beginning: Speaker attempts to build audience connection or credibility through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.
- 2 - Developing: Speaker builds some audience connection and credibility through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.
- 3 - Capable: Speaker builds consistent audience connection and credibility. impact through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.
- 4 - Proficient: Speaker establishes meaningful audience connection and credibility through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.
- 5 - Excellent: Speaker establishes profound audience connection and credibility through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.

# Sample Ballot for Apologetics

Please use the [rubric](#) for descriptions of each speaker rank. (View [ballot demonstration](#) .

## Ballot - Apologetics, Room #

**Competitor:**

Topic

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**Judge:**

Speech Length

:

Timer Issue

Y / N

Content

1 2 3 4 5

Rank

Organization & Citations

1 2 3 4 5

Total Score

Vocal Delivery

1 2 3 4 5

Physical Delivery

1 2 3 4 5

Impact

1 2 3 4 5

Comments

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## Speech Ballot Sample

Judges will see all speech competitors' ballots simultaneously.

**Ballot - Digital Presentation, Room # M123**

**Verify & Submit**

Competitor	1st Speaker / Time	Competitor	2nd Speaker / 10:15	Competitor	3rd Speaker / 10:30	Competitor	4th Speaker / 10:45
Topic		Topic		Topic		Topic	
Speech Length mm:ss	Timer Issue						
Scripts or Notes used		Scripts or Notes used		Scripts or Notes used		Scripts or Notes used	
Category 1		Category 1		Category 1		Category 1	
Category 2	Rank						
Category 3	Total Score						
Category 4		Category 4		Category 4		Category 4	
Category 5		Category 5		Category 5		Category 5	
Comments		Comments		Comments		Comments	
Competitor	5th Speaker / 11:00	Competitor	6th Speaker / 11:15	Competitor	7th Speaker / 11:30	Competitor	8th Speaker / 11:45
Topic		Topic		Topic		Topic	
Speech Length mm:ss	Timer Issue						
Scripts or Notes used		Scripts or Notes used		Scripts or Notes used		Scripts or Notes used	
Category 1		Category 1		Category 1		Category 1	
Category 2	Rank						
Category 3	Total Score						
Category 4		Category 4		Category 4		Category 4	
Category 5		Category 5		Category 5		Category 5	
Comments		Comments		Comments		Comments	