

# 2020 Debate Guidelines

**Purpose of Debate** Debate is an impromptu public speaking program consisting of two individuals or teams presenting arguments on a variety of topics. The intent of Jaycee Debate is to:

**A. Develop the ability to be persuasive about your thoughts, opinions, or passion B. Improve the ability to think quick on your feet C. Improve the ability to find creative arguments when faced with difficult situations**

**Team vs. Individual** The North Carolina Jaycees offer members the opportunity to participate in the debate program on an individual bases, although a team of three is required to compete at the national level. If a group of three or more participants are interested in competing as a team please notify the competitions program manager as soon as possible. Individual participants may be paired together to form a team for national or state competition.

## 2020 Debate Topics

- Should working from home continue after the pandemic
- Should students be required to take standardized tests this year
- Is telling a white lie good or bad
- Is Artificial Life a threat to Humanity
- Is Online or In person shopping better
- Is it better to give or to receive

## The Debate Process

- Participants will be asked to pull a random number to determine their competition number.
- Participant numbers will be used to determine who will be paired against each other in the competition brackets.
- Competition will be on a single-elimination basis with the winners moving on to the next level/bracket of competition.

## Before Each Round

- As topic will be selected at random for each round of competition.
- A coin will be tossed
- The participant winning the coin toss has 30 seconds to a) choose which side (affirmative/negative) of the argument they would like to debate.
- Each competitor will be presented with the topic at the same time and be allotted 4 minutes to prepare their comments.

**The Debate**

- Affirmative Constructive- 3 Minutes
- Negative Cross Examination -3 Minutes
- Negative Constructive- 4 Minutes
- Affirmative Cross Examination- 4 Minutes
- Affirmative Rebuttal- 2 Minute
- Negative Rebuttal- 2 Minute

- During rebuttals, NO NEW MATERIAL MAY BE INTRODUCED; the speaker may only rebut material already presented. In the event that new material is introduced during rebuttal arguments, it is the responsibility of the opposing participant to identify the infraction and convey the information to the judges.
- Each participant will be allowed one one-minute time out between rounds throughout the match.
- Debate will end when all the speeches have been completed.
- Participants will then leave the room while the judges finish their scoring sheets.

### **Judging**

- Participants will be judged on their understanding of the topic, quality of their content, delivery, logic and development of their argument.
- Points may be deducted for going over time and/or unprofessional behavior.
- Scores from all judging sheets will be combined to determine the winner of the debate match.
- The Debate Judging Form can be found on the Resources Center page of the NCJC Website.
- The overall winning competitor for the year will be recognized at the NC Jaycees Year End Convention and is eligible to compete at the National Year End Convention.

### **Debate Rules**

- Must be of Jaycee age and in “Good Standing,” per the bylaws.
- Participants may not compete on the State level if they would be excluded from competing at the National Convention according to National eligibility requirements. Current and past national officers, past international winners and the current state competition program manager are **NOT eligible** to compete.
- Participants must be present to compete or they forfeit.
- Participants should take care not to identify their chapter during the debate.
- Participants should dress in business attire and should not wear anything identifying their local chapter.
  - Notes may not be taken into competition, but you may use the notes you create during the 4 minute preparation time. Props are not allowed.
- The competition may be open to observers.
- If a winner cannot attend the next level of competition in which they are eligible to advance, the second place winner shall be given the option to advance to the next level of competition.
- You may compete in more than one competition category (speak up, write up and debate) at a convention.
- Chapters may enter more than one competitor to state competition.

**Please Submit State Level Competition Registration:**

*Lexi Kam 2020 NC Jaycee Competitions Program*  
Manager [competitions@ncjaycees.org](mailto:competitions@ncjaycees.org) Deadline Friday  
January 29th, 2021

## **2020 Debate Registration**

Registration Due: *Friday January 29th, 2021*

Competitions will be held virtually during the week of 2020 NC Jaycee Year End Convention on Monday February 1st at 7:00 pm.

Chapter Name:

Participant Name:

Phone Number:

Email:

**Please Submit State Level Competition Registration:**

*Lexi Kam 2020 NC Jaycee Competitions Program*  
Manager [competitions@ncjaycees.org](mailto:competitions@ncjaycees.org) Friday January  
29th, 2021