



Coolidge Debate Basic Rules (1v1 Format)

Students

1. Do not use the Internet during a round. If you have prepared materials stored online, please download those materials to your local device (e.g., laptop, tablet, phone) before the round begins. Please put your device(s) in airplane mode during the round.
2. Do not introduce brand new lines of argumentation in your rebuttal speeches. Doing so could cause you to lose the round and/or lose speaker points. (Judges are instructed to disregard new arguments in rebuttals. This is not the same as automatic disqualification.)
3. Do not go off-topic. You are allowed (and encouraged) to go beyond the arguments and evidence presented in the Coolidge Foundation's research brief, but please debate the intended resolution. Debating a completely different topic, redefining key terms in highly esoteric ways, or running "kritik" arguments will likely cause you to lose the round and/or lose speaker points. Our judges are instructed to reward traditional, on-topic debating.
4. You may only ask to take prep time before one of your own speeches.
5. Debaters in a bye round may only observe another round if it is the last round of the day.

Parents & Observers

1. Observers are welcome and encouraged to watch any round, however debaters and judges may limit observers if they wish. If you would like to observe a round, ask the judge if it is okay before the round has started. Different rules may be in effect for virtual tournaments.
2. Do not enter the room after a round has started.
3. Please do not distract the debaters during the round.

Everyone

1. No audio or video recording of a round is allowed.