



SCORING CONGRESS

Congress is intended to emulate the U.S. Congress. In theory, the contest combines the best aspects of debate, oratory, and extemporaneous speaking within the structure of parliamentary procedure.

SCORING

The parliamentarian remains the same throughout Session I and II. Individual scorers, however, will consider the results of each individual session assigned to score.

A ballot should be completed for all members of Congress whether they spoke during the session or not. Scorers shall not confer with others about their selection or reasons for ranking before submitting their decisions.

POINT ASSIGNMENT

- ❖ **Competitors may have 5 scored speeches per session.** They might speak more than 5 times during the session, but only their first 5 speeches should be scored. Consult the **Congressional Debate Rubric: Speaking** for criteria.
- ❖ Amendment speeches are scored.
- ❖ **Speakers may receive up to six points per speech.** Complete a **Speech Evaluation** form for each individual student.
- ❖ **The presiding officer may receive up to six points per clock hour** based on his/her ability in that capacity. Use the **Presiding Office Evaluation** form.
- ❖ **Rank the students at the end of each session,** unless instructed otherwise by the Clerk. Use the **Master Ballot** for the overall ranking of legislators.
- ❖ There can be **no ties** for placement.
- ❖ Provide as much constructive criticism as possible for each of the student's speeches.

Scorers will rank the highest scoring participants 1 through 8 (one being the best) at the end of each session. Ties in the individual rounds will be broken by the Parliamentarian preference, at the end of the second session. *Don't forget to rank the presiding officer, as he or she warrants.*

The parliamentarian and scorers will submit completed scoring sheets to the congressional clerk.