

Igawa's Notes for Workshop

The Nature and Purpose of Student Congress

Allows you a chance to practice most of the skills used in political discussion and public speaking.

- Mechanics of Student Congress

 - Bill preparation

 - Parliamentary procedure

Mimics real life legislative assemblies

Uses

- Oratory

- Radio

- Extemporaneous Speaking

- Impromptu Speaking

Participation in discussion, debates and parliamentary situations

Parliamentary Procedure

- How to state a question in correct parliamentary language

- How to take a vote

- Which types of votes to use

- How to announce the result and effect of vote

- Presiding Officers should know

 - How and why used

The Mechanics of Student Congress

You are appointed to a house or senate.

Length of session determined by tournament

Order

- Call to order

- Roll call

- Announcements

- Election of Chair

- Setting up Docket

- Session for debate

- (Voting)

- Adjournment / Awards

Student Congress Procedures

Allows all members to participate.

Parliamentary procedure is key to moving congress along.

Debate

Speeches

3 minutes author, aff, neg

5 speeches per day

Given on precedence

Etiquette

Senator or Representative

Mr. or Madame Chairperson

Rise for recognition

Chairperson recognizes next speaker

Never argue with chair or judge

Parliamentary Procedure

Ensure the rule of the majority and guard the rights of the minority.

Don't show off – get as many debate speeches in as possible.

“I move to/for....”

“Second”

Bills, Resolutions and Amendments

Bills are laws

Resolutions are proposition of value or fact / beliefs

Amendments are written out and specific to parts

Preparation for Student Congress

Individual

Understand that there are multiple view points to consider.

Do not alienate others

Research your topics

Keep your evidence organized

Have a prepared authorship speech

Strategies for Success in Student Congress

Interpersonal Skills

Debate is through skillful speeches not personal attacks

Get to know members from other schools

Debate

Limitations on presentations (5 speeches)

1st aff or neg speech or wait

Bandwagon

Extension or amplification of a point

Persuade – rate, vocal variety, gestures intonation and volume, pauses
humor, analogies, similes, metaphors, paradoxes and other rhetorical devices

Attitude

Respect it, others and yourself

Enjoy what you are doing

Handouts:

Modified version of Chad's Guide to Student Congress

Table of Most Frequently Used Parliamentary Motions.