

ROUND _____

JUDGE NAME _____

SPONTANEOUS ARGUMENTATION (SpAr) BALLOT

AFFIRMATIVE competitor _____ SPEAKER POINTS _____

NEGATIVE competitor _____ SPEAKER POINTS _____

PLEASE GIVE SPEAKER POINTS from 10-20 points and FILL IN THE SPACE ABOVE.

10-13 Below Average 14-16 Average 17-18 Above Average 19-20 Outstanding

OVERVIEW: Spontaneous Argumentation is a miniature form of debate in which the student competes against another student on a topic drawn in the round. The purpose of spontaneous argumentation is to allow students the opportunity to form arguments and support a position on an assigned topic with a minimum amount of preparation, while taking time to clash with opposing arguments. Judges will determine a winner based upon arguments that they feel “won” the round. Speaker points will be based on reasoning of arguments, clash with opposing arguments and delivery. **Judges should decide the round as it is debated, not based on their personal beliefs.**

A 3-minute Clash period follows the initial arguments, during which each student asks the other questions and also responds to those asked of her or him. No one “owns” the clash period and there will be **NO questions allowed from the audience.** Clash of ideas is essential to debate, so debaters should point out flaws in each other’s arguments, as well as presenting their own arguments. Debaters should display solid logic and reasoning, advocate a position, and communicate clear ideas using professional decorum. No new arguments may be introduced in the final speeches. Judges are encouraged to take notes to help them remember what was presented.

RULES: Debaters will be assigned affirmative or negative on a topic (e.g. via coin toss). One topic will be given to the competitors by the judge. 1 minute of prep time then begins. Judges will give time signals to the competitors. At the end of the debate, the judge will determine the winner and give speaker points to each debater, up to 20 speaker points. Judges will determine a winner based upon effective argumentation. Judge should not reveal the results to the competitors at the end of the round.

In my opinion, the better argumentation was done by

AFF / NEG _____ **Competitor** _____

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS FOR THE DEBATERS:

TIME SIGNALS

Maximum time

Prep Time	1:00
Affirmative	2:00
Negative	2:00
Clash	3:00
Negative close	1:00
Affirmative close	1:00

REASON FOR DECISION (What argument/s won?):

JUDGE SIGNATURE _____