



2.6.4. Students completing at least one year or more, at an institution that gives credits at the tertiary levels for entry into another tertiary institution at the third year or above, are ineligible even if they meet the age criteria.

2.7.

2.7.1. Every team at the tournament must be accompanied by a team Coach, which can also participate in position of a Judge or a Team Manager.

2.7.2. All team Coaches or Team Managers must be aged 18 or above.

2.7.3. Each organisation which sends a team to the tournament shall appoint a Coach, Judge or registered observer from that country to serve as their Team Manager, who shall be responsible for looking after the welfare of their team members and ensuring their compliance with the Code of Ethics.

2.7.4. All Team Managers must be aged 18 or older and must have reached majority in the nation the team represents.

3. THE DRAW

3.1.

3.1.1. If the total number of teams at the Heart of Europe Tournament is ten or less, every team shall debate every other team in the preliminary rounds.

3.1.2. If the total number of teams at the tournament is more than ten, every team shall debate eight other teams in the preliminary rounds. The draw for the preliminary debates is to be conducted by the Chief Judge using a system to achieve fair sets of opponents for all teams.

3.1.3. As far as possible, each team shall have the same number of debates on any day as any other teams. A team may not debate more than three times in a day in the preliminary rounds unless the team agrees prior to the start of the Tournament.

3.2.

3.2.1. At the end of the preliminary rounds, teams shall be ranked according to the number of wins. If teams are tied on the same number of wins, they shall be separated on the following priority:

3.2.1.1. number of adjudications in favour of the team; then

3.2.1.2. average Judges' scores for each team; then

3.2.1.3. total score

3.2.2. If the total number of teams is twelve or less, the top four teams shall debate in Semi- Finals, with the top team against the fourth and the second team against the third. The winners of the Semi-Finals compete in the Grand Final.

3.2.3.

3.2.3.1. If the total number of teams is more than twelve, the top eight teams shall debate in Quarter-Finals as follows:

○ Quarter-Final A - Team 1 and Team 8

○ Quarter-Final B - Team 2 and Team 7

○ Quarter-Final C - Team 3 and Team 6

○ Quarter-Final D - Team 4 and Team 5

3.2.3.2. The winners of the Quarter-Finals debate in Semi-Finals with the winner of Quarter-Final A against the winner of Quarter-Final D and the winner of Quarter-Final B against the winner of Quarter-Final C.

3.2.3.3. If the total number of teams is more than 24, the top 16 teams shall debate in Octo- Finals as follows:

○ Octo-Final A - Team 1 and Team 16

○ Octo-Final B - Team 2 and Team 15



- Octo-Final C - Team 3 and Team 14
- Octo-Final D - Team 4 and Team 13
- Octo-Final E - Team 5 and Team 12
- Octo-Final F - Team 6 and Team 11
- Octo-Final G - Team 7 and Team 10
- Octo-Final H - Team 8 and Team 9

3.2.3.4. The winners of the Octo-Finals debate in the Quarter-Finals as follows:

- Quarter-Final A - Winner of Octo-Final A and winner of Octo-Final H
- Quarter-Final B - Winner of Octo-Final B and winner of Octo-Final G
- Quarter-Final C - Winner of Octo-Final C and winner of Octo-Final F
- Quarter-Final D - Winner of Octo-Final D and winner of Octo-Final E

3.2.3.5. The winners of the Quarter-Finals debate in Semi-Finals with the winner of Quarter-Final A against the winner of Quarter-Final D, and the winner of Quarter-Final B against the winner of Quarter-Final C. The winners of the Semi-Finals compete in the Grand Final.

3.3. At the end of the tournament, teams' final rankings shall be determined as follows:

- 3.3.1. the winners and runners-up shall be ranked 1 and 2 respectively;
- 3.3.2. all other teams shall be ranked according the round of the tournament the team reached and, where equal, their preliminary round ranking (in accordance with rule 3.2.1.);

3.4.

- 3.4.1. Octo-Finals, Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals shall be Impromptu Debates.
- 3.4.2. The Grand Final shall be on a topic announced at the same time as the topics for the prepared debates in the preliminary rounds. At the end of the second Semi-Final, the two teams in the Grand Final shall toss to decide which team shall take the affirmative.

3.5.

- 3.5.1. If a team withdraws after the draw has been sent to the teams, the Chief Organiser may make a new draw only if:
 - 3.5.1.1. to do so would not alter the sides nor topics for any team, or
 - 3.5.1.2. all teams affected by the new draw agree.
- 3.5.2. Where a new draw has not been made, all teams who would have debated against the team that has withdrawn are taken to have won the debate by forfeit if they win at least a majority of their other debates, but are otherwise taken to have lost the debate by forfeit.

3.6. Where a team has either won or lost a debate by forfeit, the team will be taken to have received the following number of Judges in its favour for that debate:

- 3.6.1. if the average number of Judges in its favour in its other debates is higher than 2.5, it receives 3 Judges for that debate;
- 3.6.2. if the average number of Judges in its favour in its other debates is higher than 1.5 but less than or equal to 2.5, it receives 2 Judges for that debate.
- 3.6.3. if the average number of Judges in its favour in its other debates is higher than 0.5 but less than or equal to 1.5, it receives 1 Judge for that debate;
- 3.6.4. if the average number of Judges in its favour in its other debates is less than or equal to 0.5, it receives no Judges for that debate.



- 5.5.1. the Judge has misdirected him/herself as to one or more of the rules of debate to a significant extent;
- 5.5.2. the Judge has made remarks prior to, during or after a debate in a way that raises significant doubt as to his or her impartiality for that debate.
- 5.6. Upon receipt of a complaint pursuant to rule 5.4., the Chief Judge shall determine:
 - 5.6.1. whether the complaint can be resolved without further investigation; or
 - 5.6.2. whether the complaint requires further investigation in which case the Chief Judge shall undertake such further investigation including but not limited to talking to:
 - 5.6.2.1. the Judge who is the subject of the complaint; and
 - 5.6.2.2. other Judges on the panel with that Judge; and/or
 - 5.6.2.3. Coaches present at the debate; and/or
 - 5.6.2.4. such other persons as the Chief Judge shall deem appropriate.
- 5.7. In conjunction with the Chief Judge's panel, the Chief Judge shall determine the complaint by:
 - 5.7.1. dismissing the complaint; or
 - 5.7.2. upholding the complaint and:
 - 5.7.2.1. taking no further action; or
 - 5.7.2.2. counselling the Judge; or
 - 5.7.2.3. directing that the Judge undergo further training prior to acting further as a Judge at the tournament; or
 - 5.7.2.4. standing the Judge down for such portion of the tournament as the Chief Judge shall deem appropriate; or
 - 5.7.2.5. referring the matter to the Complaints Officer.
- 5.8. No determination pursuant to rule 5.7.2. shall be made without the further investigation to which rule 5.6.1. refers and in particular, without first speaking to the Judge who is the subject of the complaint.
- 5.9. Where a complaint has been determined according to rule 5.7.1., the Chief Judge shall advise the following people:
 - 5.9.1. the person or persons who made the complaint, either in writing if the complaint was in writing or verbally if the complaint was made verbally.
 - 5.9.2. Where the determination according to rule 5.7.1. is the result of the further investigation to which rule 15.6.1. refers, the Judge who was the subject of the complaint shall be advised in writing.
- 5.10. Where any complaint has been determined pursuant to rule 15.7.2., the Chief Judge shall advise the following people in writing:
 - 5.10.1. the person or persons who made the complaint;
 - 5.10.2. the Judge who was the subject of the complaint;
 - 5.10.3. the Chief Judge of the immediate following tournament.
- 5.11. Notwithstanding rules 15.4. – 15.10., no result of any debate shall be overturned.

6. MOTIONS

- 6.1. There shall be a Motions Committee for a tournament.
 - 6.1.2. The Motions Committee shall consist of:
 - 6.1.2.1. two members nominated by the Organising Committee, and
 - 6.1.2.2. Chief Judge
- 6.2. A Coach of a team at a tournament is not eligible to be a member of the Motions Committee for that tournament.
- 6.3. The Motions Committee shall select all motions for debate at the tournament
- 6.4. . At least eight weeks prior to the start of the tournament, the Motions Committee shall forward to the Chief Organiser the list of motions it has selected for prepared debates including the Grand Final.



- 6.5. The Chief Organiser in cooperation with Registration Officer shall forthwith notify all teams of the prepared motions for debate.
- 6.6. At least one day before the start of a Tournament the Motions Committee shall give to the Chief Organiser a set of motions for the impromptu preliminary rounds.
- 6.7. That set of motions shall include at least one more motion than is required for the preliminary rounds.
- 6.8. At least one day before the announcement of the draw for the Octo-Finals, Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals, the Motions Committee shall give to the Chief Organiser a set of motions for those debates.

7. LANGUAGE

- 7.1. All tournament debates shall be in English.
- 7.2. Special awards shall be given to:
 - 7.2.1. the highest-ranked English-as-a-foreign-language (EFL) team, and
- 7.3. Individual team members shall be classified as follows:
 - 7.3.1. as an EFL speaker if:
 - 7.3.1.1. they do not come from a first-language English-speaking family, and
 - 7.3.1.2. they attend a school where English is not used as the main medium of instruction.
- 7.4. Teams shall be classified as follows:
 - 7.4.1. As an EFL team if:
 - 7.4.1.1. English is not an official language of the country, and
 - 7.4.1.2. All or all-but-one of the team members meet the criteria for being classified as an EFL speaker in accordance with rule 7.3.1..
- 7.5. If a team wishes to be eligible for the EFL award (in accordance with rule 7.2.), the Coach must submit a form to the Chief Organiser via Registration Officer prior the start of the Tournaments outlining the family and educational linguistic backgrounds of each of the debaters on the team.
- 7.6. Based on the information in the forms submitted in accordance with rule 7.5. and any other information available, the Chief Judge shall determine which teams participating in the tournament are to be classified as EFL teams in accordance with rule 7.4.. The Chief Judge shall publish a list of the teams eligible for the EFL awards ("the published list") no later than the end of the first day of debates during the tournament.
- 7.7. Any team may appeal against the inclusion or exclusion from the published list of any team, including their own.
- 7.8. the appeal shall be in written form and submitted by the Coach to the Chief Judge. The Chief Judge shall convey any written appeals to the members of the Organising Committee.
- 7.9. The Organising Committee shall consider any appeal prior to the announcement of the winners of the EFL awards. If the Committee feels there is sufficient justification (in accordance with these Rules) it may amend the published list by a simple majority vote.
- 7.10. A team that reaches the Grand Final of the Tournament shall be eligible for the EFL and ESL awards.
- 7.11. In addition to the special awards given to the highest-ranked EFL team, special awards shall also be given to all teams having reached the Semi-Finals or Grand Final of the Tournaments.

8. IMPROMPTU DEBATES

- 8.1. At the discretion of the Chief Organiser, up to one-half of the debates for any team in the preliminary rounds may be impromptu debates, provided that every team has as close as possible to the same number of impromptu debates as every other team in the preliminary rounds.



- 8.2. The preparation time and procedure for impromptu debates are in the discretion of the Chief Organiser, provided that:
- 8.2.1. both teams in an impromptu debate receive the topic (or choice of topics) at the same time,
 - 8.2.2. both teams in an impromptu debate are given similar preparation rooms and conditions.
- 8.3. Where the preparation time allowed for an impromptu debate is longer than half an hour, only the members of the team may take part in the preparation.
- 8.4. Teams may not bring any handwritten, printed or published materials with them into their preparation room for impromptu debates, with the exception of an English Language dictionary, a bilingual dictionary, and a single-volume encyclopaedia or almanac per team.
- 8.5. A person taking part in the preparation of an impromptu debate may not use during the preparation a telephone, computer or any other device capable of communicating or accessing information outside the preparation room.

9. DATES AND VENUES OF FORTHCOMING TOURNAMENT

- 9.1. Tournaments should be held annually where possible and should be held either wholly within the period 1 July to 31 August.