



# Public Forum Debate

Event Rules, Policies and Procedures  
for The 2008 Princeton Classic  
Updated: 30 November 2008

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Due to the early date of The Princeton Classic, the resolution will be the **November** NFL Public Forum Resolution.

## Timings and Breaks

The Open Division of Public Forum will follow the standard 4-4-3-4-4-3-2-2-3-1-1 format. Debaters will have 3 minutes of prep time. Ties will be broken based on record, adjusted points, total points, double-adjusted points, judge variance, opponents' record, and flip of a coin, in that order. The break will be to Triple-Octofinals Open Public Forum debate. The TOC bid for The 2008 Princeton Classic has been awarded at Octofinals.

## Pairings

In order to expedite the tournament, for Friday night only, we will be practicing Single-Flighting for preliminary rounds at the High School. Round 3 and 4 will be back-to-back, High-Low and High-High, based on Rounds 1 and 2. On Saturday, we will practice double-flighting for Rounds 5 and 6. Rounds 5 and 6 will be High-High. We will break to a double-octo, double-flighted round. On Sunday, we will practice single-flighting of Octos, Quarters, Semis, and Finals.

## Evidence and Laptops

We encourage debaters not to spend an over-amount of time on picayune nit-picking. Questioning evidence is certainly acceptable; but, realizing the nature of debate, one team's warrant has any number of counter-warrants. We do not expect Public Forum teams to carry around bins of evidence to present the hard copy of the warrant to which they are referring. Therefore, The Princeton Classic distinctly discourages Public Forum teams asking their opponents in a round, "Do you have a card on that?" Failure to produce the hardcopy evidence of a disputed point should not factor into the decision on the round made by the judge, nor should take up any time during the round. No laptops will be allowed in rounds.

## Speaker Points

Judges, please assign scores of 30-49 to each SPEAKER. A 49 is for the best possible speaker, 45-48 for excellent, 40-44 for above average, 35-40 for average, 30-34 for poor. Scores that are below 30 are unusual and should be explained on the ballot.

## Judging

Due to time constraints, we ask that no judges provide oral critique until the ballot has been returned to Tab. For the purpose of fairness, we ask that no judge disclose decisions until elimination rounds.

In the effort to balance-out Public Forum judging with lay judges, we will ensure that there will be community judges, college students, and speech judges in the Public Forum pool.

Schools whose judges fail to appear for an assigned round will be fined \$25 for a prelim or \$50 for an elim. Judges who are fined may work off the fine by judging rounds beyond their assignment. However, competitors from any school with outstanding fines will not advance to eliminations, nor may the school pick up awards or ballots. PF hires cost \$95.00 per covered entry.