Ranking Speakers

* Speakers are ranked from 1st place to 7th place.
* No ties allowed
* Comments on individual ballots are appreciated: Why did they get their rank?
* I usually put the title or topic of the speaker on individual ballots

STICKY NOTE METHOD

1. Materials needed: small tab sticky notes, folder (to hide), pencil
2. As each speaker comes up, write the code on a sticky note and stick it on the folder.
3. If the speaker is better than the last, it goes above, otherwise it goes below.
4. Close or turn the folder over between speakers to preserve privacy.
5. If nosy competitors is an issue, put the sticky notes in reverse order – best at the bottom

DOT METHOD

1. Materials needed: pencil, ballot
2. The first speaker gets a dot
3. If the second speaker is better, it gets a dot and the first speaker gets two dots
4. If the third speaker is better than one, but not as good as the other, it gets two dots, and add a dot to previous speaker
5. At the end, you should have the speakers ranked from 1 dot (first place) down

GRID METHOD

1. Materials needed: pencil, scratch paper
2. Before the round, make a grid on your paper like this:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Speaker 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaker 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaker 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaker 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaker 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaker 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaker 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. The first speaker gets first place. After the second speaker, rank both speakers.
2. After each speaker, rank all the speakers who have gone. For example, after 5 speakers your grid might look something like this:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Speaker 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 |  |  |
| Speaker 2 |  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |  |  |
| Speaker 3 |  |  | 3 | 4 | 5 |  |  |
| Speaker 4 |  |  |  | 1 | 1 |  |  |
| Speaker 5 |  |  |  |  | 3 |  |  |
| Speaker 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Speaker 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. After all speakers have gone, use your last column results to rank speakers on the ballot.

Rule violations

* Note any possible violations on your ballot, even if another judge has noted it theirs
* Rank them as if they had not violated (It’s not your job to penalize them)
* Confirmed rule violations will not get first rank
* If you have a question that may affect your decision, take the ballot back to the judges’ room and ask the organizers about it, not students or fellow judges who are judging the round. Once you’ve turned in your ballot, you can ask experienced judges any questions you might still have.

Need a Tie Breaker?

* Which of the two speeches would you want to see again?
* If it were between just those two, which speaker would you want to go to State?
* Which of the two speakers stumbled the least?
* Which of the two speeches seemed more organized? Cohesive? Memorized?
* If you REALLY can’t decide – eeny meeney miny moe always works as a last resort.