

Name: Neal White

School: Plano Senior High School

Region: 2

Email Address: neal.white@pisd.edu

Rationale for Amendment: The TFA Constitution is currently worded in a fashion that suggests that IQT hosts must require four minute speeches in Congressional Debate final rounds, but may choose whether or not to utilize direct questioning. This change would allow hosts to decide whether or not they want to have three minutes speeches with traditional questioning, or four minute speeches with direct questioning, in their Congressional debate final rounds.

Section of Constitution Where Change Occurs: Standing Rules: Competition Event Guide

Page Number of Change: 51-52

Add, Delete, or Amend: Amend

Implementation Timeframe: Immediately upon passage

Proposed Change: The following three paragraphs are from the “Floor Debate” section under “Congressional Debate.” Highlighted words will be added. Words with a red strikethrough will be removed.

*h. Two minutes of questioning shall follow the first pro and the first con speech, and all other speeches on legislation will be followed by 1 minute of questioning. At the State Tournament, the final round will include a direct questioning period **and four minute speeches**, as described below. (Though not mandatory, Invitational Qualifying Tournaments are **able** ~~urged~~ to use the direct questioning **and four minute speech** format in the final round.)*

*3. In the **State Tournament** final round **format** ~~of Congressional debate~~, speeches are four minutes, with two-minute questioning of speakers introducing legislation as well as the first negative, and one minute of questioning for subsequent speakers. Each questioner has 30 seconds within the one or two minutes to engage in direct questioning with the speaker. During direct questioning, all questioning periods are broken into 30-second segments, with one questioner per segment, who may ask multiple questions of the speaker during that segment. The Presiding Officer must track and select questioners based on recency the same way speakers are recognized. Recency for speaker should be tracked independently of questioners.*

*4. Tournament directors must declare in their tournament invitations if **the State Tournament final round format** ~~direct-questioning~~ is being used.*