

**Midnordic Youth
Council Conference
23.4.2010 Vaasa**

**SPEECH AND DEBATING
COURSE**

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(JCI) since 2002

→ Interest in speaking and debating

Debating

- My favourite!

Debating in Junior Chamber International

- JCI is a worldwide federation of young (24-40 years old) leaders and entrepreneurs
 - with nearly 200 000 members in over 100 countries
- Debating in JCI:
 - Playful competition, not serious stuff at all
 - Way to learn speak, to argue and to have fun
 - Worldwide competition
- **Learning by doing**

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Debating

Are you ready to learn
by doing?

TODAY - debating

- What & background
- What is it in for me?
- How – the rules
- Practicing in groups
- Time for one Debate after lunch

What

- Debate or debating is a formal method of argumentation
- In debating, there are rules for people to discuss
- In debating logic, credibility and humor are important elements
- The outcome of a debate may be decided by audience vote or by judges (or both)

Background

- Debating is popular in English speaking universities and high schools around the world
- Formal debates between candidates for elected office and for instance the U.S presidential election debates, are common
- Can be used also in working life to develop and test ideas

What is in for me?

- Debate is a method to develop one's ability to play from either position with equal ease (favor or against the topic / issue).
- Like lawyers argue forcefully on behalf of their client, even if the facts appear against them.
- Common misconception about debate is that is all about strong beliefs; it is not
- Debate is sophisticated way to be nasty & needle.
- In debating humour is the best weapon.

How

- Debate consist of **two teams** who debate over an issue, more commonly called a topic or proposition
- The issue is presented in the form of statement like
A tractor is more important for the farmer than the farmer's wife
Finnish food is better than Italian food
- A statement which one team will propose (favor; yes) and other will oppose (against; no)

How – teamwork

- Each team consist of **three** persons
- Each team member has a specific role, roles are:

Captain

1st Speaker

2nd Speaker

- The 1st Speaker and 2nd Speaker are debating
- Captain is the team advisor and is introducing the team and speaking the last 'thank you' speech
- The topic is given 15 minutes before the debate starts

The team roles and aim of the each speech

- Captain INTRODUCTION, who are in the team and what is the topic (favor or against it)
- 1st Speaker ARGUMENTS, definition
- 2nd Speaker DEFENCE, shooting down the other team's arguments one by one
- 1st Speaker SUMMARY, closing
- Captain THANK YOU SPEECH

Task in groups

- What makes a good **introduction** speech – GROUP 1
- What makes a good **arguments** speech – GROUP 2
- What makes a good **defence** speech – GROUP 3
- What makes a good **summary** speech – GROUP 4
- What makes a good **thank you** speech – GROUP 1

Preparation time: 5 minutes in groups, each group presents 1-2 main points

	TEAM	SPEAKER	AIM OF THE SPEECH	LENGTH
1	Favor	Captain	INTRODUCTION	0,5 min
	Against	Captain	INTRODUCTION	0,5 min
2	Favor	1st Speaker	ARGUMENTS	1 min
	Against	1st Speaker	ARGUMENTS	1 min
3	Favor	2nd Speaker	DEFENCE	1 min
	Against	2nd Speaker	DEFENCE	1 min
4	Against	3rd Speaker	SUMMARY	1 min
	Favor	3rd Speaker	SUMMARY	1 min
5	Against	Captain	Thank you speech	0,5 min
	Favor	Captain	Thank you speech	0,5 min

Special cases

- **TIMEOUTS**

- Each team is allowed one minute timeout during the debate
- A timeout may be taken any time as long as it's called in between speakers
- The team captain shall indicate to the chairman / judge that his team wishes to use the timeout
- Timekeeper inform when the minute is up

Special cases

POINT OF INFORMATION

- Members of the opposing team may ask a 'point of information' (POI) during speaker's speech
 - Raise your hand or place your hand over your head, stand up and address the speaker saying "A point of information"
 - If the speaker accepts they are permitted to ask a question
 - Note that speaker's time for his speech is running during the POI

Few tips

- Stand up during your speech, speak clearly
- Use the floor
- Use eye contact and humor
- **Listen** carefully to the other teams arguments
- Don't be too sophisticated, use loud comments
- Your team's goal is to WIN
- Use facts, your own experiences and examples

Which team is the winner

- **Judge(s) will evaluate:**
 - **Definition**
 - how clearly the topic was defined, strategy
 - **Content**
 - was the argument communicated logically, points for demonstrating knowledge of the subject
 - **Debating skills**
 - clarity, delivery and intonation of the speaker
 - **Teamwork**
 - **Time keeping** (no overtime allowed!)

*A tractor is more important for the farmer than the
farmer's wife*

Finnish food is better than Italian food