

2023 Canadian Junior National Debating Championships

Toronto, Ontario

Friday, May 12 – Sunday, May 14, 2023

<https://osdu.org/junior-nationals-2023/>

CLARIFICATION OF RULES REGARDING IMPROMPTU TOPICS PREPARATION

This is to clarify the rules regarding preparation for the impromptu rounds at the Junior National Debating Championships. The rules are in effect for all impromptu rounds, which includes rounds three to six for everyone on Saturday, May 13th, and for the break rounds on Sunday, May 14th, from quarters right through to the finals.

For all impromptu rounds, **preparation must be done without any materials or resources, print or electronic, and without assistance of anyone other than your debate partner.**

This means, for example, that you may not use a laptop, Iphone, or any other electronic device, to access stored or online materials, nor can these devices be used to contact anyone by text, phone call or other means. In fact, they really should not even be visible to anyone during the preparation period. You also may not have any print materials such as magazines, newspapers, dictionaries, thesauruses, almanacs, books of quotes, etc. You also are not allowed to have any previously debated cases with you, which you may have prepared or debated previously. **Anything other than blank paper and a pencil / pen is strictly prohibited.**

You must also be sure to note that you may not prepare with other teams from your school, or province, etc; you may prepare only with your specific debate partner. Needless to say, consulting your coach, parents, or provincial representative is also strictly against the rules. However, in the unlikely event of some confusion over the meaning of terms in an impromptu motion, you may **ONLY** ask a member of the Adjudication Team for clarification of the terms.

However, as is customary, we will allow you to use your phones as **timing devices only** for during the actual round if you wish. Please be sure you follow these rules carefully. The spirit of these rules should be clear to everyone. The preparation periods will be monitored and any violations of the rules will be dealt with, and may include disqualification.

Please do not put the organizing committee in the awkward position of having to deal with such incidents. Thank you very much for your co-operation.