

# Competition Structure and Official Rules



**GANDHI  
MEMORIAL TRUST**



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MEMORIAL  
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# COMPETITION STRUCTURE

# PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

- The competition will comprise of **4** preliminary rounds.
- The preliminary rounds are rounds that **all 10 teams** will participate in.
- In each preliminary round, the 10 teams will be paired up against each other. Hence, there will be **5 debates happening simultaneously** at any one round.
  - **Round 1** will have teams paired at random
  - **Round 2** onwards will have teams paired up based on their total of wins and speaker scores – each team will go up against other teams within their same brackets.
  - At the conclusion of Round 4, the total number of wins and speaker scores will be tabulated. **Teams will then be ranked in accordance with the wins and scores tabulated.**
  - The **top 4 teams** will qualify for the semifinals.

## Sample rankings for preliminary rounds

RANK	TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
1		4 or 3	1 or 0
2		3	2
3		3	2
4		3 or 2	3 or 2
5		2	3
6		2	3
7		2 or 1	4 or 3
8		2 or 1	4 or 3
9		1	4
10		1 or 0	5 or 4

# ELIMINATION ROUNDS

- The Semifinals and Finals make up the Elimination Rounds.
- The pairings of the Semifinals will be according to a **folding system**. The 1st ranked team will be going up against the 4th ranked team in one semifinals, and the 2nd ranked team will be going up against the 3rd ranked team in the other semifinals.
- The **winner from each semifinal room will proceed to the Grand Finals** where the two teams will face off to determine the champion of the competition.

## Rankings for preliminary rounds

RANK	TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
1		4 or 3	1 or 0
2		3	2
3		3	2
4		3 or 2	3 or 2



Winner 1

VS

Winner 2

# OFFICIAL RULES

# FORMAT OF COMPETITION

- A single debate shall comprise of 2 teams– one Government and one Opposition team. Each team shall contain 3 debaters , namely:

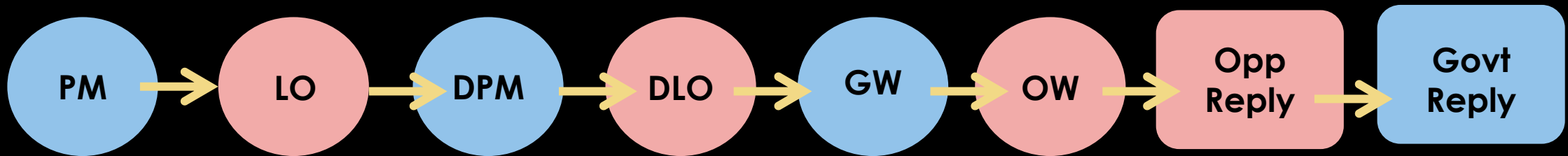
## Government

1. Prime Minister (**PM**)
2. Deputy Prime Minister (**DPM**)
3. Government Whip (**GW**)

## Opposition

1. Leader of Opposition (**LO**)
2. Deputy Leader of Opposition(**DLO**)
3. Opposition Whip (**OW**)

- The sequence of the debate is as follows:



- Each speaker has a time limit of **7 minutes**. Anything said after 7 minutes and 15 seconds will not be accorded for. **Reply speeches may last up to 4 minutes**. Anything said after 4 minutes and 15 seconds will be disregarded.
- The bell will ring once on the first and sixth minute. It will ring twice on the seventh minute.

# COMPOSITION OF TEAMS AND SPEAKER ROLES

- The composition of teams and breakdown of speakers roles are as follows:

Speaker	Government Role	Opposition Role	Role Description
1	Prime Minister ( <b>PM</b> )	Leader of Opposition ( <b>LO</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Establish the case of the government/opposition team by explaining what the proposal/opposition to the proposal is.</li><li>Make arguments in support/against of the motion.</li><li>NOTE: The LO may respond, engage or rebut the government's case.</li></ul>
2	Deputy Prime Minister ( <b>DPM</b> )	Deputy Leader of Opposition ( <b>DLO</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Defend the arguments of the first speakers which has been responded to by the other team.</li><li>Rebut new arguments presented by the the other team.</li><li>Make additional arguments.</li></ul>
3	Government Whip ( <b>GW</b> )	Opposition Whip ( <b>OW</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Summarise the debate and explain what has happened.</li><li>NOTE: No new arguments may be made.</li></ul>
REPLY	Government Reply Speaker	Opposition Reply Speaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Summarise what happened in the debate, why and as a result of the debate, which stance has greater bearing. The distinction with Whip Speakers is that Reply Speakers are not required to re-argue or provide more rebuttals. They merely narrate or explain what happened in the debate.</li><li>May be made by the PM or DPM, and either the LO or the DLO, respectively. Whips are not allowed to give reply speeches.</li></ul>

# MOTIONS

- Motions are released to teams **in advance** by the Competition Administrator.
- Teams will have to argue their stance to each motion in light of the respective Gandhian principle. For details on each Gandhian Principle, please see the attachment on the **11 Vows of Gandhi**.



# POINTS OF INFORMATION

- While a debater is speaking, any member of the opposing team may stand up to offer a point of information (**POI**).
- The speaker offering a POI must do so by standing up and saying, “Point.” or “Point of Information”.
- The speaker may only ask the POI if accepted by the speaker that the POI is being offered to. A POI may not be asked if the speaker has not accepted the POI.
- **A POI can only be offered between the 1<sup>st</sup> minute and the 6<sup>th</sup> minute** (or between the two single rings of the bell).