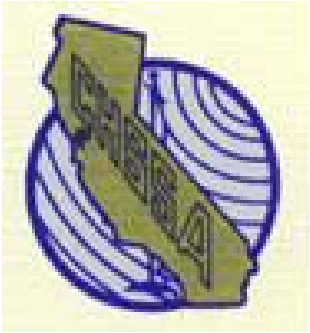# CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL
TED TURNER DEBATE
Proposed Judge Guidelines

by
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These are guidelines only, not rules; they should be used only when appropriate to the debate.

Evidence: Evidence refers not only to statistics, facts and references to authority, but also to items of common or general knowledge.

√ Did each team show connections between particular events or issues and large social, economic, and/or political concerns, trends or developments

√ Did each team supply appropriate and sufficient evidence to support its arguments, and apply that evidence clearly and logically?

√ Did each team adequately explain and/or analyze the evidence offered during the debate?

Analysis and Argumentation:

√ Did each team sufficiently address the topic in an organized and consistent manner?

√ Did each team present logical, reasonable, and convincing arguments?

√ Did each team clearly and effectively discuss, explain and evaluate the issues and arguments offered during the debate?

√ Did each team respond directly to opposing arguments, interpretations, and/or analyses, with clear explanations of the weakness of opposing arguments?

√ Did each team apply clear evaluative criteria to the arguments, interpretations, and/or analyses offered during the debate?

√ Did each team demonstrate an understanding of the social, political, and/or economic issues involved in the debate?

Cross Fire

√ Did each debater provide relevant, focused and brief questions?

√ Did each debater respond effectively to questions?

√ Did each debater demonstrate respect for opponents by cooperating in a polite "give and take" without dominating the discussion?

Presentation:

√ Did each debater communicate in a clear, organized, and understandable manner, presenting an easy listening path to follow?

√ Did each debater exemplify the highest standards of language usage, style and vocabulary, avoiding slang, poor grammar, and mispronunciations?

√ Did the speaker use effective body language (poised stage presence, appropriate gestures, facial expression, sufficient eye contact)?

√ Did the speaker use effective oral presentation skills (volume, diction, rate of delivery), and use understandable and persuasive delivery)?

√ Was each debater respectful and courteous to opponents and judges?