



Contest rules

1 All debaters must be registered pupils in grade 9, 10 or 11 at a recognised high school in South Africa.

2 The contest is restricted to a team of 5 debaters per school.

3 The team members of the previous year's national prize winners (i.e. 1st, 2nd and 3rd) may not re-enter the competition.

4 Winning schools may re-enter, however, with different team members.

5 Dress code for the debaters is strictly school uniform.

6 Debating teams should be at the competition venue 30 minutes before the start of the proceedings. Late arrival may result in a team's disqualification.

7 All content presented by the debaters must be original and the debaters' own work.

8 Debaters are required to participate in English.

9 Provincial competition topics: The workshop facilitators will advise the debaters of the topic, whereafter the debaters will be given until the provincial competition to collect their thoughts on the topic and research their position thoroughly.

10 National competition topics: Facilitators will once again advise the provincial winning debaters of their topic for the final, whereafter debaters will have until the national competition to research and prepare their speeches as before.

11 The contestants are only allowed to prepare written speeches for the opening statements of both the provincial and national final competition. Response and closing statements are unprepared and will be prepared during the competition.

12 Team members are allowed to do research and must upload their final mini-imbizo outcomes papers/remarks during the 2nd round of each contest. Contestants may bring laptops, tablets, smartphones with internet connectivity (additional internet stations will also be available at the venues). Contestants are also allowed to call anyone on the day of the competition that may provide the necessary information.

13 Each provincial winning team will advance to the national finals in Gauteng.

14 The judging panel's decision is final and no discussion or correspondence will be entered into.

