

Rules for Senior and Junior League of Debating Society Germany

Version 04
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Approved by Christopher Sanchez (Chair), Vivian Schreier (Vice Chair)

Change history

Date	Person	Change
24.05.2020	Chris Sanchez, Vivian Schreier, Franziska Mohr, Alexander Seitz	First complete draft
26.08.2020	Franziska Mohr, Vivian Schreier	Finalisation of first version.
27.03.2022	Franziska Mohr	Inclusion of 5 people in Prep-Room Rule in section 3.2 > New Rule 3.2.2.3. and adjustment of 3.2.2.8.
24.08.2023	Vivian Schreier, Amelie Schreier Franziska Mohr, Alexander Seitz,	Inclusion of rule for teams without constant judge > New Rule 2.2.2.3.1. and following > Reference to this rule in 4.1.1.1.
1.09.2024	Christopher Sanchez, Vivian Schreier, Franziska Mohr, Salah El Kaleh, Caroline Pottgiesser, Alexander Seitz	New rules for conferral judging in Senior League > Changes to Rule 5 and its subpoints > New rule 4.3. clarifying the status of the chair judge Addition of appendix 3 describing power pairing algorithm requirements Miscellaneous clarifications: > New Rules 2.1.8. - 2.1.12., concerning registration fees > Clarification in rule 3.4.2. about pairing rules

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">> New rule 6.1.2.4., requiring hosts to inform tab master of judges' allocation> New rules 6.3.3. and 6.3.4., concerning break eligibility> New rule 7.2.1.3., concerning draw modifications in case of two or more teams not being present> New rules 7.3.2.3.1. and 7.3.2.3.2., clarifying replacement procedure for teams lacking speakers in out-rounds
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1. Definitions

- 1.1. A *school* is hereby defined as a secondary educational institution in Germany.
- 1.2. A *team* is hereby defined as a group of at least 3 speakers, registered to attend a tournament.
- 1.3. A *speaker* is hereby defined as an individual, participating in tournaments of Debating Society Germany e. V.
- 1.4. *Preliminary rounds* are hereby defined as the equal amount of rounds debated by all registered teams and tabbed. The preliminary rounds form the basis for the break into out-rounds (see 1.5), as well as the team and individual rankings.
- 1.5. *Out-rounds* are hereby defined as the unfixed number of final rounds after the break. Defeated teams of an out-round are eliminated from the tournament.
- 1.6. The *break* is hereby defined as the number of top ranking teams proceeding from the preliminary to the out-rounds.
- 1.7. The *organisers* are hereby defined as the individual or the group of people appointed by the Debating Society Germany e.V. and responsible for setting up the tournament framework of draw, venues, dates, tab, etc.
- 1.8. The *tab master* is hereby defined as the individual or the group of people appointed by the Debating Society Germany e.V. and responsible for tracking the results of the preliminary rounds.
- 1.9. A *shadow judge* is hereby defined as a trainee judge who sits in a debate and in the judges' discussion, but does not have a counting ballot.
- 1.10. A *swing team* is hereby defined as a team of volunteering individual speakers, filling an empty slot in the draw due to an uneven number of registered teams.
- 1.11. An *ad-hoc mixed team* is hereby defined as a team of volunteering individual speakers, *not necessarily from the same team*, filling in for an absent team.

2. Participation

2.1. Registration

- 2.1.1. Teams register via the Debating Society Germany e. V. [web page](http://www.schoolsdebate.de). (www.schoolsdebate.de)
- 2.1.2. Teams must register by the deadline set by the organisers.
- 2.1.3. Late-comers may be accepted at the discretion of the organisers.
- 2.1.4. Participating teams are encouraged to host one day (two rounds) of preliminary rounds.
- 2.1.5. Breaking teams are encouraged to host out-rounds.
- 2.1.6. The organisers are required to
 - 2.1.6.1. immediately confirm registration,
 - 2.1.6.2. provide all participating teams with the following information at least four weeks before round 1:
 - 2.1.6.2.1. The rules and format of the tournament
 - 2.1.6.2.2. In case of hosting teams the "how-to-host"-manual
 - 2.1.6.2.3. Dates of the tournament
 - 2.1.6.3. announce venues and prepared motions at least four weeks prior to the round(s).
- 2.1.7. If a team wishes to withdraw from a tournament at any point, the team has to inform the organisers as soon as possible.
- 2.1.8. *A registration fee for each team and/or individual participant may be set by the organisers and collected from all registering teams. The registration fee should be calculated to cover all anticipated expenses of running the tournament.*
- 2.1.9. *In addition to the general registration fee, participation fees may also be set for specific rounds of a tournament, if there are specific expenses associated with these rounds.*
- 2.1.10. *All participants must pay the registration fee before a deadline set by the organisers. The deadline should be earlier than the date of the first tournament round, or in the case of round-specific fees, before the date of the respective rounds. The organisers may exclude a*

team or individual participant from the tournament or a specific round if fees were not paid in time.

- 2.1.11. Registration fees are non-refundable. Exceptions may be granted at the discretion of the organisers to withdrawing teams or participants, if the organisers were notified sufficiently ahead of time to allow for all associated costs to be avoided or covered otherwise.

2.2. Eligibility

2.2.1. Schools

2.2.1.1. General

- 2.2.1.1.1. Any German secondary school is eligible to participate with a team.
- 2.2.1.1.2. A school may register at most one team per league and season.
- 2.2.1.1.3. A school that does not have enough speakers for a team may include individual speakers from other schools in their team. This composition has to be announced upon registration and the loan-speaker may not participate in another team. This registered team will be treated like any other team and is eligible to break.

2.2.1.2. Membership

- 2.2.1.2.1. A school may participate in one season of Junior and/or Senior League without being a member of Debating Society Germany e. V.
- 2.2.1.2.2. A school participating for a second season within five consecutive academic years must become a member of Debating Society Germany e. V. prior to, or at the same time as, registering for the tournament.
- 2.2.1.2.3. A school is considered “new” if they have not participated in a Debating Society Germany e. V. tournament in five consecutive academic years.

2.2.1.3. Provision of Judges

- 2.2.1.3.1. Each registered team has to provide at least one judge per round
- 2.2.1.3.2. The judge does not have to be the coach.
- 2.2.1.3.3. If a team cannot provide a judge, they have to inform the organisers as soon as possible.

2.2.2. Speakers

- 2.2.2.1. In general, any pupil enrolled in a German secondary school is eligible to participate in debates of the WSDC format.

2.2.2.2. Specifically eligible to participate in Junior League are pupils who

- 2.2.2.2.1. are in 9th grade or below,
- 2.2.2.2.2. have not debated in Senior League,
- 2.2.2.2.3. Have not judged Junior or Senior League.

2.2.2.3. Specifically eligible to participate in Senior League are pupils who have not judged Senior League.

- 2.2.2.3.1. Exceptions may be granted under the following circumstances. A Senior League debater may judge in Senior League without forfeiting their right to debate in Senior League, if and only if:

- 2.2.2.3.1.1. The team to which they belong cannot provide a judge otherwise (they do not have a teacher coaching them and do not have alumni debaters available).

- 2.2.2.3.1.2. The debater who is judging has informed the organisation committee of the tournament in advance (upon registration) and the organisation committee has given approval.

- 2.2.2.3.1.3. Any such judge may not serve as Chair Judge.

2.2.2.4. A pupil may swap from Junior League to Senior League during an ongoing season but may not return to Junior League (see above).

- 2.2.2.5. A speaker may not change teams within the same league during an ongoing season, except to volunteer for a swing or ad-hoc mixed team.

3. The Format

3.1. General

- 3.1.1. Debates are conducted according to WSDC rules.
- 3.1.2. The WSDC code of conduct applies.

3.2. Type of debate

3.2.1. Prepared debate

- 3.2.1.1. For a prepared debate, the motion will be announced at least four weeks before the debate.
- 3.2.1.2. Teams are allowed to use all resources available to them, including but not limited to more experienced debaters, teachers, the internet, etc.
- 3.2.1.3. Reference material may be brought into the debate for use by the team, but may not be used as props or visual aids during speeches.

3.2.2. Impromptu debate

- 3.2.2.1. For an impromptu debate during preliminary rounds, the motion will be announced one hour before the debate is scheduled to start.
- 3.2.2.2. Preparation time may be extended at the discretion of the organisers.
- 3.2.2.3. Up to five eligible speakers of a team may enter the preparation room for the duration of prep-time.
- 3.2.2.4. Electronic devices and pre-researched personal notes may not be used during the preparation time, except for time-keeping purposes. Speakers are encouraged to hand these things over to their coaches before the announcement of a motion.
- 3.2.2.5. Assistance devices for speakers with disabilities are excluded from the rule above, and may be used at all times.
- 3.2.2.6. Each team is allowed up to two printed works of reference.
- 3.2.2.7. Each team is allowed one bilingual dictionary in addition to the printed works of reference.
- 3.2.2.8. After announcement of the motion, the five members of the prep-team may not communicate with anyone but themselves and the announcer of the motion (for motion clarification), or a member of the OrgComm, until after the round has finished. Communication with the coach, other teams, or the remaining team members who will not enter the prep-room is not allowed.

3.3. Speaking times

- 3.3.1. Speaking time in Senior League is 8 minutes for substantive speeches.
- 3.3.2. Speaking time in Junior League is 6 minutes for substantive speeches.
- 3.3.3. The first and last minute of each substantive speech is protected from points of information.
- 3.3.4. Replies are half as long as substantive speeches (4 minutes in Senior League, 3 minutes in Junior League).
- 3.3.5. There are no points of information during reply speeches.

3.4. The draw

- 3.4.1. The organisers and tab master are required to prepare the draw.
- 3.4.2. Pairings may be based on a prepared draw, or on power pairing. Different rounds of the same tournament may be based on different pairing rules.
- 3.4.3. The format needs to be fixed before registration opens.
- 3.4.4. The preliminary round draw needs to fulfil the following requirements:
 - 3.4.4.1. Teams must not meet each other twice. If motions are re-used in the same tournament, teams must not debate them on the same side twice.
 - 3.4.4.2. There should be an equal amount of prepared and impromptu debates.
 - 3.4.4.3. Teams should debate either side of the house an equal amount of times for prepared and impromptu debates respectively.

- 3.4.4.4. If it is impossible to prepare a draw according to all of these rules, then they should be followed in order of mention.
- 3.4.5. The draw for out-rounds needs to fulfil the following requirements:
 - 3.4.5.1. The number of out-rounds is at the discretion of the organisers and dependent on the amount of teams eligible to break.
 - 3.4.5.2. The first out-round will be debated top-vs.-bottom of the break.
 - 3.4.5.3. In following out-rounds, debates will be paired by setting the winner of highest ranking against the winner of the lowest ranking preceding out-round. For an example, see tournament brackets (Appendix 1: Tournament Bracket, Out-Rounds and Appendix 2: Tournament Bracket, Partial Out-Rounds).
 - 3.4.5.4. The sides in out-rounds are determined by coin-toss.
 - 3.4.5.5. For impromptu out-rounds, the coin-toss is performed in presence of the teams:
 - 3.4.5.5.1. A representative of the higher breaking team or winning team of the higher-ranked preceding out-round chooses heads or tails,
 - 3.4.5.5.2. The winner of the coin-toss chooses the side.
 - 3.4.5.6. For prepared out-rounds, the coin-toss is performed by the organisers.
 - 3.4.5.6.1. Heads = Proposition for higher breaking team or winning team of the higher-ranked preceding out-round.
 - 3.4.5.6.2. Tails = Opposition for higher breaking team or winning team of the higher-ranked preceding out-round.

4. Adjudication

4.1. Eligibility of judges

- 4.1.1. Any former debater, coach or volunteer is eligible to adjudicate a debate, subject to the organisers' discretion.
 - 4.1.1.1. For current debaters, refer to exception 2.2.2.3.1.
- 4.1.2. Judges may not judge a team or school they are affiliated with. Affiliation is hereby defined as
 - 4.1.2.1. being a former or current pupil, intern or teacher at a school,
 - 4.1.2.2. having a close personal relationship with one or multiple individual speakers of the team,
 - 4.1.2.3. having helped the team prepare for any of the rounds of the tournament.

4.2. Number of judges

- 4.2.1. An optimal preliminary round is judged by three judges.
- 4.2.2. In exceptional cases, preliminary rounds may be judged by two judges.
- 4.2.3. If a venue has an insufficient number of judges available to provide three judges for each debate in the same round, then each debate has to be adjudicated by two judges. Exceptions to this rule are at the discretion of the organisers and tab master.
 - 4.2.3.1. Example:
 - 4.2.3.1.1. Venue A has 8 judges available for three debates in round 1.
 - 4.2.3.1.2. Each debate in round 1 will be adjudicated by two judges.
 - 4.2.3.1.3. The two remaining judges may shadow or sit out.
 - 4.2.3.1.4. If a ninth judge becomes available for round 2, then round 2 should be adjudicated by three judges per debate.
- 4.2.4. Out-rounds may be judged by larger panels as long as they are an uneven number and the same number in each room per round.

4.3. Status of chair judge

- 4.3.1. In each debate, one of the judges is named *chair judge* by the organisers or host.
- 4.3.2. The chair judge is tasked with moderating the debate, restoring order if required, facilitating the judges' discussion, and giving the Reason for Decision (RFD) speech to the teams (see also rules 5.6 and 5.7).
- 4.3.3. In case of a two-judges panel, the chair judge's ballot counts as two ballots.

- 4.3.4. Generally, it is the responsibility of the chair judge to give the RFD. This responsibility may be delegated to a volunteering panellist.
- 4.3.5. It is advisable that a dissenting judge does not give the RFD, even if they are the chair judge, to avoid the above mentioned exception.

5. Judging Formats and Ruling

- 5.1. Tournaments may be adjudicated using either traditional “individual” or conferral judging.
- 5.2. The judging format must be the same throughout all rounds of a tournament season, and must be fixed before the first round.
- 5.3. In individual judging, all judges in a room complete and hand in their ballots prior to the judges convening. Judges may not change their decisions or ballots after they have convened.
 - 5.3.1. In individual judging, the judges’ discussion is a chance for judges to exchange their opinions of the debate in order to collect material for the Reason for Decision speech (RFD).
- 5.4. In conferral judging, the judges convene to discuss the debate before finalising their decision and submitting their ballots.
 - 5.4.1. In conferral judging, judges are allowed to freely modify their ballot at any time during the discussion, including changing the winning team, but must also change their awarded points to align with the new result. Low-point wins continue to be invalid.
 - 5.4.2. A judge may insist on a dissenting opinion. Conferral judging does not require a consensus to be reached between all judges.
 - 5.4.3. Before concluding the discussion, the chair judge must ask all judges for their final decision. Only this decision will be announced to the teams.
 - 5.4.4. All ballots must be submitted after the discussion has concluded, but before the result is announced to the teams in the RFD speech. Judges may not change their decision or points after the RFD speech has begun.
- 5.5. Judges are not allowed to change their decision or points after handing in their ballot. The ballot is final.
 - 5.5.1. Exception: The judges mistakenly verbally announce the wrong winner. The team verbally announced is the team that wins. If the verbally announced team does not match with the mathematical winner on the ballot, the judge has to adjust their ballot to reflect the verbally announced result.

6. Results

6.1. General

- 6.1.1. The results are tracked in an official tab by the tab master.
- 6.1.2. The organisers are required to instruct all hosts to
 - 6.1.2.1. Instruct all judges to complete the entire ballot (all boxes).
 - 6.1.2.2. Inform the tab master about the names of all judges in each debate at the venue.
 - 6.1.2.3. Create a safety scan of all completed ballots, if paper ballots are used.
 - 6.1.2.4. Post all original ballots to the tab master’s address, if paper ballots are used.
- 6.1.3. The tab master is required to
 - 6.1.3.1. Immediately check quantity of all received ballots
 - 6.1.3.2. Feedback information on quantity of received ballots to organisers
 - 6.1.3.2.1. Immediately in case of on-site tournaments
 - 6.1.3.2.2. Within two weeks of rounds in case of multiple venues or online tournaments.
 - 6.1.3.3. Check and if necessary correct ballots and tab results (according to their authority as defined in 6.1.3.4)
 - 6.1.3.3.1. Immediately in case of on-site tournaments
 - 6.1.3.3.2. Within four weeks of rounds in case of multiple venues or online tournaments.
 - 6.1.3.4. Feedback information on correctness of ballots to the organisers upon completion of the task.

6.2. Authority of tab master

- 6.2.1. The tab master may correct the following occurrences at their own discretion:
 - 6.2.1.1. Calculation mistakes
 - 6.2.1.2. Points outside of the set range of marks
- 6.2.2. Wherever possible, the tab master should get confirmation of their correction from the judge, in the form of a renewed signature.
- 6.2.3. If a correction causes a mathematical draw or low-point-win, the tab master is required to contact the judge and instruct them to adjust the points given to reflect the verbally announced result. The tab master may offer suggestions.

6.3. Break

- 6.3.1. At the beginning of the tournament, the organisers announce whether the tournament is ranked in groups or over-all.
- 6.3.2. The break is determined by and in the order of
 - 6.3.2.1. total number of wins
 - 6.3.2.2. total number of ballots
 - 6.3.2.3. total number of speaker points
 - 6.3.2.4. In the highly unlikely event of a draw between two teams the tab master and a witness perform a coin-toss to determine the ranking of these two teams.
- 6.3.3. To be eligible for the break, a team must have participated in all preliminary rounds of the tournament. Teams that have missed one or multiple preliminary rounds are ineligible to break and are excluded from the ranking table for the preparation of the draw.
- 6.3.4. Teams that will be unable to debate in the first out-round are ineligible to break and are excluded from the ranking table for the preparation of the draw.
- 6.3.5. After the break,
 - 6.3.5.1. Senior League will have out-rounds.
 - 6.3.5.2. Junior League will have a Final Tournament weekend with a fixed number of teams. To further national outreach, teams outside the tab may be invited at the discretion of the organisers.

6.4. Individual ranking

- 6.4.1. All speaker performances will be tracked in an individual tab, including a speaker's performance as part of a swing or ad-hoc mixed team (see 7.2.1.3).
- 6.4.2. Reply speeches are weighted at 50%.
- 6.4.3. An individual speaker has to participate in a minimum number of rounds to qualify for the individual ranking. The minimums are
 - 6.4.3.1. Senior League: 3 out of 8 preliminary rounds
 - 6.4.3.2. Junior League: 2 out of 6 preliminary rounds
 - 6.4.3.3. Junior League Final Tournament: 2 out of 3 preliminary rounds
- 6.4.4. All individual speakers are eligible to receive a participation confirmation from Debating Society Germany e. V..

7. Special cases procedures

7.1. Lateness or absence of team

- 7.1.1. A team that will be late or not present needs to inform the host of the afflicted round, as well as the tournament organisers as soon as possible.
- 7.1.2. Teams who are not present at the time of motion-announcement may prepare an impromptu debate while travelling, as long as the general rules and restrictions for the preparation time of an impromptu debate are adhered to.
- 7.1.3. If a team can guarantee that they will participate in the round, but will arrive late (traffic jam, public transport, etc) it is at the discretion of the host to postpone the time of the beginning of a round.
- 7.1.4. If a team will not be present within a reasonable time for the debate and the debate can therefore not take place, they will receive a loss, 0 ballots, and 630 points.

- 7.1.5. Should a team not be present unannounced for three rounds of a tournament, they will be disqualified, removed from the draw and ineligible to break.
- 7.1.6. Hosts, organisers and participants assume the draw to be final 5 days before the tournament day. Should, for any reasons, teams cancel their attendance during these 5 days, any claim to reschedule the debate, reorganise the draw or alleviate their scoring or ranking are invalid.

7.2. Mixed Teams

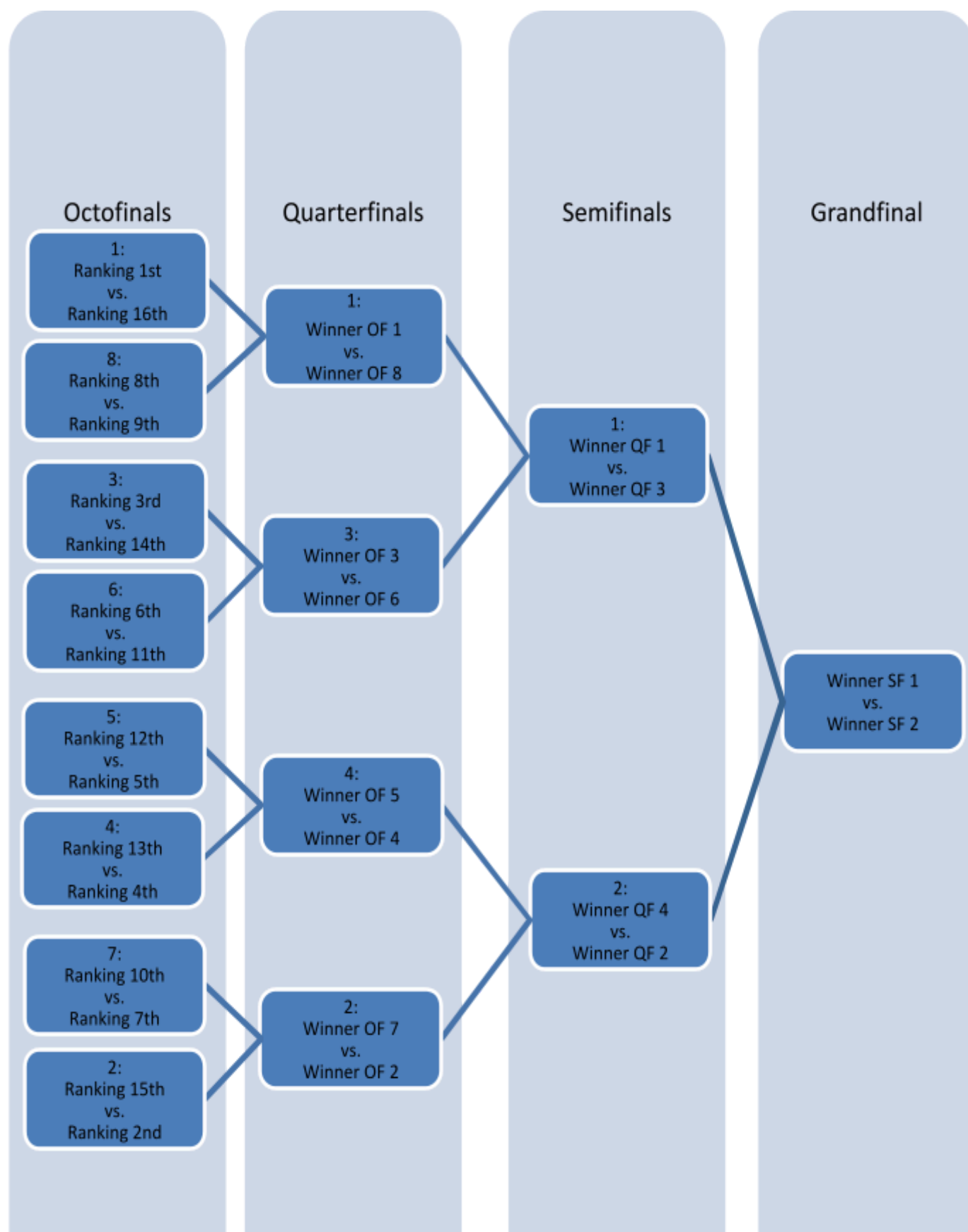
- 7.2.1. There are two types of mixed teams:
 - 7.2.1.1. If an uneven number of teams has registered for a tournament, the organisers will fill the slot in the draw with a “swing team”
 - 7.2.1.1.1. The swing team will be composed of eligible volunteer debaters.
 - 7.2.1.1.2. It is the organisers’ responsibility to inform the teams assigned to the swing team’s venue to provide volunteers.
 - 7.2.1.1.3. A debate involving a swing team is judged normally.
 - 7.2.1.1.4. The swing team is able to win a debate.
 - 7.2.1.1.5. A team up against the swing team is able to lose a debate.
 - 7.2.1.1.6. The swing team is not eligible to break.
 - 7.2.1.1.7. If not enough speakers are available to form a swing team, the debate will not take place. A team up against a non-existent swing team is awarded the average of their wins, ballots and total team points from the other tournament rounds.
 - 7.2.1.2. If a competing team is absent without notifying the host within five days before the debates, an “ad-hoc mixed team” should be formed in order for a debate to take place as a learning opportunity for the planned opponent.
 - 7.2.1.2.1. The ad-hoc mixed team will be composed of eligible volunteer debaters.
 - 7.2.1.2.2. The ad-hoc mixed team is not able to win a debate.
 - 7.2.1.2.3. The ad-hoc mixed team is not eligible to break.
 - 7.2.1.2.4. If not enough speakers are available to form an ad-hoc mixed team, the debate will not take place.
 - 7.2.1.2.5. A team up against the ad-hoc mixed team is automatically awarded a win. The amount of ballots awarded for a debate against an ad-hoc mixed team depends on the amount of ballots the team has received in the other tournament rounds. If they have 50% or more of ballots, they will receive three ballots, if they have less than 50% of ballots, they will receive two ballots. The team will receive the average of their total team points from the other tournament rounds.
 - 7.2.1.3. If two or more competing teams are absent without notifying the organisers within five days before the debates, the organisers may reorganise the draw to include as few swing or mixed teams as possible. Rule 3.4.4.3. may be disregarded for these modifications. In prepared rounds, these modifications may not lead to any team debating on a different side than they were assigned in the original draw.
 - 7.2.1.4. Individual performances of mixed team speakers will be tracked in the individual speaker ranking. In order to reward their voluntary engagement, the points will only be calculated into the average if they improve the overall outcome. The individual speakers need to inform the judges of their “home” team and the judges need to record this information on the ballot in order to facilitate tabbing.

7.3. Missing speakers

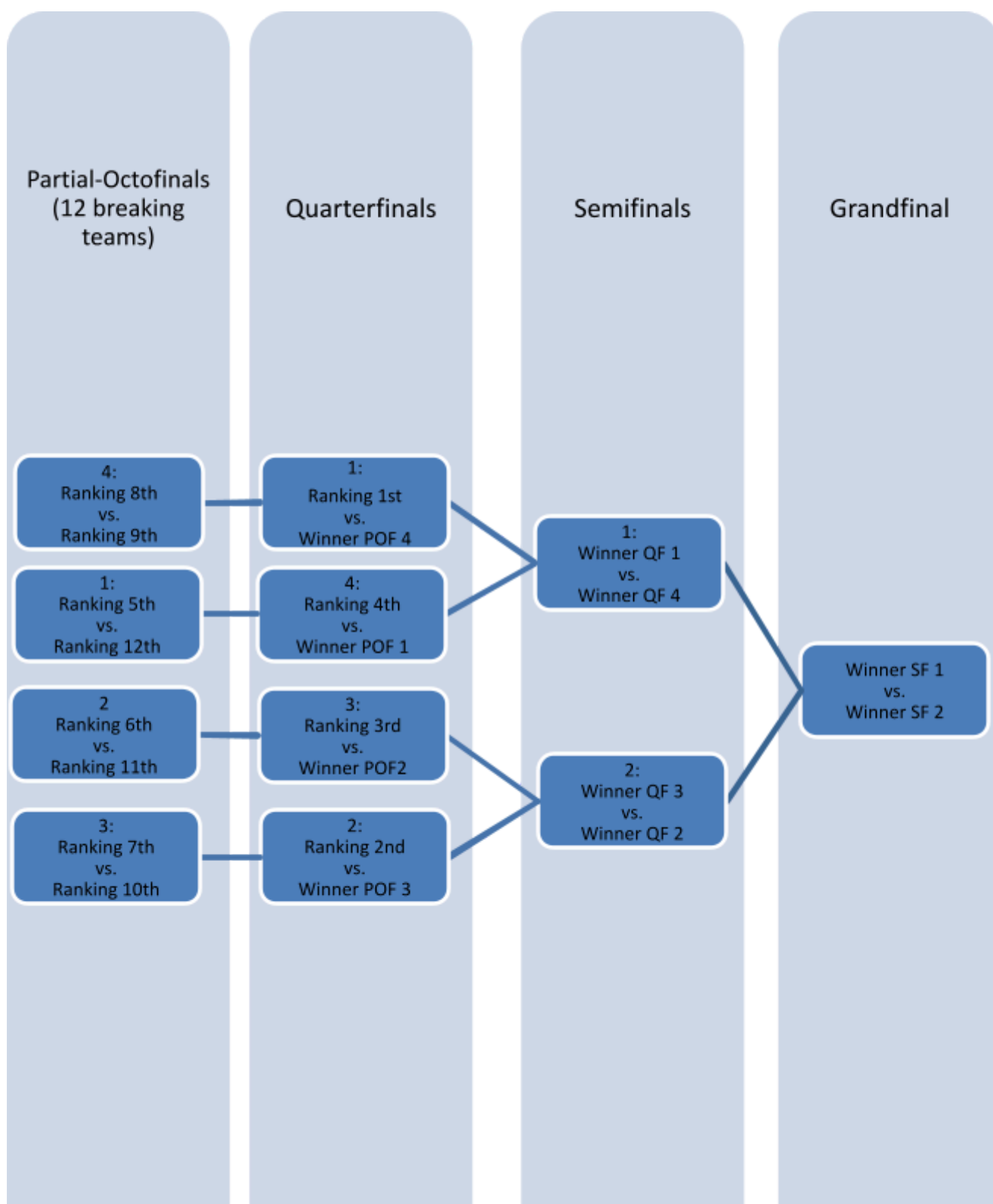
- 7.3.1. Preliminary rounds
 - 7.3.1.1. A team may not debate a round with one speaker. They will forfeit the round.
 - 7.3.1.2. A team may debate a round with two speakers.
 - 7.3.1.2.1. One speaker must give the first and third substantive speech.
 - 7.3.1.2.2. One speaker must give the second substantive and the reply speech.

- 7.3.1.2.3. Prior to the debate, the speaker giving the first and third substantive speeches will announce to the judges which of the two speeches is to be evaluated.
- 7.3.1.2.4. The requested speech will be adjudicated normally.
- 7.3.1.2.5. The other speech will receive 60 points.
- 7.3.1.3. Alternatively, a missing speaker may be substituted for by An eligible volunteer. The loan-speaker will receive 60 points, which will not be calculated into their individual average.
- 7.3.1.4. It is mathematically possible to win a debate with two speakers of the original team and an additional 60 points, if the team still receives a higher amount of total points than their opponent.
- 7.3.2. Out-rounds
 - 7.3.2.1. A team may not debate an out-round with less than 3 speakers.
 - 7.3.2.2. The team must find a substitute speaker who
 - 7.3.2.2.1. Attends an eligible school.
 - 7.3.2.2.2. Has not spoken for another registered team in the same tournament
 - 7.3.2.3. If a team cannot find a substitute speaker for the first out-round, they will be disregarded from the break and the next highest ranking team **that is able to debate the round normally** will move up.
 - 7.3.2.3.1. **The replacement team will debate against the same opponent the original breaking team would have debated against, overriding rule 3.4.5.2.**
 - 7.3.2.3.2. **If multiple breaking teams must be replaced in this way, they will be replaced in descending order of their rank within the break.**
 - 7.3.2.4. If a team cannot find a substitute speaker for a later out-round, they forfeit their debate.

8. Appendix 1: Tournament Bracket, Out-Rounds



9. Appendix 2: Tournament Bracket, Partial Out-Rounds



10. Appendix 3: Requirements For Power Pairing Algorithm

- 10.1. Rounds that are power-paired must strictly follow a predefined power-pairing algorithm.
- 10.2. The algorithm may be administered by a suitable computer programme, or manually by the tab master.
- 10.3. If a computer programme is used, the source code for it must be freely available (open-sourced) to allow verification of the underlying algorithm.
- 10.4. Power pairing may not be used in the first two rounds of a tournament. These must either be paired randomly or manually based on location.
- 10.5. Power-paired rounds may be split into divisions. If this is the case, the divisions should be internally composed of similarly-ranked teams to facilitate power pairing.
- 10.6. Prepared power-paired rounds may be *side-locked*, meaning that the side on which each team will debate is fixed ahead of the pairings.
- 10.7. Rounds that are power-paired must always be paired using the most recent available ranking table.
- 10.8. The ballot and point totals in the ranking table must be adjusted for panel size as follows:
 - 10.8.1. In debates with a single judge, their ballot counts as three ballots.
 - 10.8.2. In debates with two judges, the chair judge's ballot counts as two ballots.
 - 10.8.3. The speaker points awarded by each judge are multiplied by $(3 / n)$, with n being the number of judges in the panel.
- 10.9. Multiple subsequent rounds may be paired based on the same ranking table if there is no time in the tournament schedule to pair each round based on the previous round's results.
- 10.10. Teams must be paired according to the following list of constraints, ordered by descending priority:
 - 10.10.1. If a round is split into divisions, teams may only be paired with other teams from the same division.
 - 10.10.2. If a round is side-locked, teams must debate on the side they were assigned.
 - 10.10.3. Two teams may not debate against each other twice.
 - 10.10.4. A team that has already debated against a swing team or ad-hoc mixed team should not be paired against another such team.
 - 10.10.5. If the draw includes one or multiple swing teams or ad-hoc mixed teams, each of these should be paired against a team that no longer has any numerical chance to break. If this is not possible, they should be paired against a team that is already guaranteed to break.
 - 10.10.6. Teams should debate on either side of the house an equal amount of times for prepared and impromptu debates respectively.
 - 10.10.7. A team that is assigned to debate against another team which has won more previous rounds is said to receive a *pull-up*. A team should not be *pulled up* by more than one win. Multiple one-win *pull-ups* are preferable to a single multiple-win *pull-up*.
 - 10.10.8. A team that has already received one or multiple *pull-ups* should not receive another *pull-up* as long as there is another eligible team that has received no or fewer *pull-ups*.
 - 10.10.9. Each team should debate against another team which has won the same number of debates.
 - 10.10.10. Each team should debate against another team which has won the same number of ballots.
 - 10.10.11. Each team should debate against another team which has received a similar number of speaker points.