



WODC Tips

Getting a team together

Teams for the WODC are unlike other debate teams in that they don't have to be in the same place geographically. Having said that, however, **remember that your debate mate from Australia will be working to a different schedule**, and you only have 24 hours for each stage, so make sure they're available!

Whilst it may seem like a good idea to have as many people in the team as possible, **remember that you have to remain co-ordinated**. The debate that exists on the page after the 24hrs are up is the debate that you will be judged on. If your 12^h team member is half way through having his say when your time is up, this may lead to a rather disjointed debate!

Writing your debate

This is very much up to individual teams. As you have three finite periods of 24 hours (argument, counterargument and summary stages) some may wish to divide these hours up (perhaps according to time zone) and others may want to set a time when they all work on the debate together. Whatever your approach do remember:

Spell-check your debate. There is no facility on the site that does this for you, but you may be marked down for poor spelling, especially if we can't understand you. If necessary write points in word and copy and paste them, or get a friend to proof read for you.

Reference! Unlike in real world debates, in the WODC there is a chance to prove your credibility, providing judges with extra reading materials to back up your arguments. There is a referencing facility on the site - surround your reference with double square brackets '[[...]]' and the text will appear as a footnote. This can be used to provide sources and links for stats or quotes and doing so will definitely strengthen your case.

Summing up

We advise that only one person, perhaps a team captain, sums up the debate. This will give the final debate coherence and prevent the potential problems outlined in 'getting a team together'

Problems or complaints

The competition is the first of its kind and we are running it very much as a pilot project. We can't promise there will be no glitches, but if you could have patience and email us about them we will try to iron them out as quickly and fairly as possible. Also, in the case that any complaints arise over unfair or inappropriate conduct during the competition we ask that you follow the official complaints procedure outlined in the WODC rule document.