

Hong Kong Bar Association Debating Competition (2009-2010)

Rules (English Division)

1. Enrolment

- 1.1. The competition is organized by the Hong Kong Bar Association (“the HKBA”).
- 1.2. The competition is targeted at secondary schools in Hong Kong.
- 1.3. The competition is divided into English and Chinese (Cantonese) divisions. Participation is limited to 16 teams for each division.
- 1.4. Each participating school may send one debating team to compete in each of the English and Chinese (Cantonese) divisions.
- 1.5. If the number of applications received exceeds the vacancies available, participation will be decided in a draw to be conducted by the HKBA. The HKBA will notify the successful applicant schools in due course by e-mail.
- 1.6. The applicant schools which were finalist (champion and first runner up) of last year’s competition is automatically entitled to participate in this year’s competition, without the need to take part in the draw.

2. Mode of Competition

- 2.1. The competition will be conducted on a knockout basis.
- 2.2. The competition comprises preliminary, quarter-final, semi-final and final rounds.
- 2.3. The HKBA will conduct a draw to decide opposing teams, motions and sides for the preliminary round at a briefing seminar.
- 2.4. Motions and sides for subsequent rounds of debates will also be decided by a draw conducted by the HKBA and participating schools will be notified of the results by e-mail.
- 2.5. Motions for the debates will focus on socio-legal issues and will be set by the HKBA.

3. Teams

- 3.1. Each debating team shall consist of 4 speakers on stage. Participating schools shall submit a list of team members to the

- HKBA when sending the prescribed application form to the HKBA.
- 3.2. Notice of change of team members shall be given to the HKBA by e-mail no later than 2 weeks in advance of a debate.
 - 3.3. Team members shall appear in school/team uniform in every debate.
 - 3.4. The team members on stage shall be Form 4 (or such other equivalent grade) or above.
 - 3.5. Each team shall nominate one of its members as team captain.

4. Correspondence with HKBA

- 4.1. Each applicant school shall provide telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of a teacher-in-charge and a designated team member when submitting the prescribed application form to the HKBA.
- 4.2. All subsequent correspondence between the participating school and the HKBA will be conducted by way of e-mail.
- 4.3. It is the responsibility of participating schools to check their e-mails regularly and to respond punctually in accordance with any deadline set by the HKBA.
- 4.4. Default or delay in replying to the e-mails of the HKBA may result in disqualification of the participating team in question.

5. Adjudicators

- 5.1. There shall be 1 or 2 adjudicator(s) for debates in the preliminary and quarter-final rounds.
- 5.2. There shall be 2 or 3 adjudicators for debates in the semi-final and final rounds.
- 5.3. Adjudicators will be invited from the Bar, the Judiciary, the Academia or such other field as the HKBA deems appropriate.

6. Venue

- 6.1. Debates will be hosted at local universities or such other places as may be designated at the discretion of the HKBA.
- 6.2. Participating teams will be notified of the details in advance by e-mail before each respective round of debates.

7. Format of Debates

- 7.1. In the preliminary round, each team shall deliver 4 speeches by its speakers on stage, namely the opening speaker, the 1st speaker, the 2nd speaker and the concluding speaker.

- 7.2. There will be an additional floor time session in the quarter-final round and an additional free debate session in the semi-final round.
- 7.3. In the final round, there will be an additional floor time session as well as an additional free debate session.

8. Floor Time Session

- 8.1. The floor time session consists of questions posed from the floor to be answered (or responded to) by the other team's speakers on stage. Each question shall be posed by different students from the floor.
- 8.2. A student from the affirmative side shall begin first by posing questions to the opposition.
- 8.3. There shall be a preparation time of 15 seconds, after which a bell will ring once.
- 8.4. The opposition shall then send one of its speakers on stage to answer the question and/or respond.
- 8.5. This is followed by a student from the opposition posing questions to the affirmative side, so on and so forth.
- 8.6. If no question is posed by a student from the floor:-
 - i) the corresponding team will be penalized by deduction of marks on the floor question; and
 - ii) the other team shall still send one of its speakers on stage to respond.
- 8.7. In the quarter-final round, participating team shall each have 2 chances to ask questions (and in turn answer questions and/or respond). In the final round, participating team shall each have 3 chances to ask questions (and in turn answer questions and/or respond).

9. Free Debate Session

- 9.1. The affirmative side and the opposition will each have a designated duration of time to speak. Time will run on a cumulative basis for each side separately.
- 9.2. At least 3 debators from each team shall have spoken in this session. The team which is in breach of such a rule will be penalized by a deduction of 5 marks in its scores with each of the adjudicators.
- 9.3. Each speaker shall stand up before he or she begins and sit down after finishing his or her speech.
- 9.4. The affirmative side shall begin first. One of its speakers on stage

shall stand up and speak.

- 9.5. Once the said speaker sits down, the clock will begin to run for the opposition. A speaker from the opposition shall then stand up and respond immediately and shall sit down after he or she finishes.
- 9.6. The affirmative side and the opposition shall speak in turn until one of the teams has used up the entire duration of time attributed to it. The other side shall then send one of its team members to use up all the remaining duration of time.

10. Order and Duration of Speeches

- 10.1. The opening speaker of the affirmative side will speak first, followed by the opening speaker of the opposition.
- 10.2. The 1st and 2nd speakers of each side will then deliver their speeches in turn.
- 10.3. After the 2nd speaker of the opposition has spoken or, if there is any floor time session and/or free debate session, after completion of the same, each team shall be given 1 minute to prepare for concluding speeches.
- 10.4. The concluding speaker of the opposition shall speak first, followed by the concluding speaker of the affirmative side.
- 10.5. The duration of speeches for each side are as follows:

	Duration			
	Preliminary	Quarter-final	Semi-final	Final
Opening speaker (aff/opp)	3 min	3 min	3 min	3 min
1 st speaker (aff/opp)	3 min	3 min	3 min	3 min
2 nd speaker (aff/opp)	3 min	3 min	3 min	3 min
Floor questions	Nil	45 sec (2 questions for each side)	Nil	45 sec (3 questions for each side)
Answers/ Responses	Nil	1 min 30 sec (2 answers for each side)	Nil	1 min 30 sec (3 answers for each side)
Free Debate (aff/opp)	Nil	Nil	4 min (each side)	4 min (each side)
Preparation	1 min	1 min	1 min	1 min
Concluding speaker (opp/aff)	3 min 30 sec	3 min 30 sec	4 min	4 min

11. Audio Guides (Bell)

11.1. Speakers on stage:

- 11.1.1.A bell will ring once after which a speaker on stage shall begin his or her speech.
- 11.1.2.A bell will ring once again when the speaker still has 30 seconds left.
- 11.1.3.A bell will ring twice when the speaker has used up the time being allotted.
- 11.1.4.A bell will ring three times to indicate that the 10 seconds' grace period is up.

11.2. Floor Time Session:

- 11.2.1.A bell will ring once to indicate the start of a floor speaker's time.
- 11.2.2.A bell will ring once again when the floor speaker still has 15 seconds left.
- 11.2.3.A bell will ring twice when the floor speaker has used up the time being allotted and he or she shall stop his or her speech immediately.
- 11.2.4.A bell will ring once after the 15 seconds' preparation time is up. A speaker from the other team must then answer the question and/or respond. A bell will ring once immediately to indicate the start of a speaker's time for answering floor questions.
- 11.2.5.A bell will ring once again when the speaker still has 30 seconds left.
- 11.2.6.A bell will ring twice when the speaker has used up the time being allotted and he or she shall stop his or her speech immediately.

11.3. Free Debate Session:

- 11.3.1.A bell will ring once after which an affirmative side's speaker on stage shall begin his or her speech.
- 11.3.2.Another bell will ring once after which an opposition's speaker may first begin to speak.
- 11.3.3.A bell will ring once again when either side has 30 seconds left.
- 11.3.4.A bell will ring twice when either side has used up the entire duration of time being allotted to it. The other side shall then send one of its speakers on stage to speak to use up the remaining time when another bell will ring twice.

11.4. The audio guides (bell) for each round of debate are as follows:

Speaker	Rounds	Start	Reminder	End	End of grace period
Opening, 1 st & 2 nd speakers	All Rounds	0 sec (ring once)	2 min 30 sec (ring once)	3 min (ring twice)	3 min 10 sec (ring thrice)
Floor questions	Quarter-final & Final only	0 sec (ring once)	30 sec (ring once)	45 sec (ring twice)	Nil
Preparation time		0 sec (ring once)		15 sec (ring once)	
Answers		0 sec (ring once)	1 min (ring once)	1 min 30 sec (ring twice)	Nil
Free Debate	Semi-final & Final only	0 sec (ring once)	3 min 30 sec (ring once)	4 min (ring twice)	Nil
Preparation time	All Rounds	0 sec (ring once)		1 min (ring once)	
Concluding speaker	Preliminary & Quarter-final	0 sec (ring once)	3 min (ring once)	3 min 30 sec (ring twice)	3 min 40 sec (ring thrice)
	Semi-final & Final	0 sec (ring once)	3 min 30 sec (ring once)	4 min (ring twice)	4 min 10 sec (ring thrice)

12. Overtime Penalties

12.1. There will be a 10 seconds' grace period for speeches by the opening, 1st, 2nd and concluding speakers of each team.

12.2. Transgression of the grace period will be penalized by a deduction of 0.5 point per second for each adjudicator.

13. Judging criteria

13.1. If there is only one adjudicator, the team with the higher score will be the winner.

13.2. In other occasions, the team with the higher number of votes will be the winner of the debate. A vote will go to the team with the higher score in respect of a particular adjudicator.

13.3. In the event of split votes, the result shall be determined by the adjudicators.

- 13.4. The adjudicator(s) shall give marks to individual speakers on stage at a maximum of 100 points comprising contents (40 points), delivery (30 points), organisation (20 points) and poise (10 points).
- 13.5. The adjudicator(s) shall give marks to individual floor questions at a maximum of 15 points and answers to floor questions at a maximum of 35 points.
- 13.6. The adjudicator(s) shall give marks to each participating team as a whole for the free debate session at a maximum of 100 points comprising contents (40 points), delivery (30 points), organisation (20 points) and poise (10 points).
- 13.7. Decision by the adjudicator(s) shall be final.
- 13.8. The HKBA reserves its right to vary the judging criteria and the mark allocation by advance notice.

14. Defaults and Non-Compliance

- 14.1. Any default or non-compliance of the rules by participating schools may be penalized by the HKBA as it may deem fit, including without limitation disqualification from participation in the competition.
- 14.2. If there is any breach of the rule during a debate, the Chairman of the debate has discretion to penalize the participating team in question, including without limitation disqualification from participation in the competition.

15. Amendments of the Rules

- 15.1. The HKBA reserves the right to amend the rules without prior notice. However, the participating teams will be informed of the amendments at the earliest convenience.

**香港大律師公會辯論賽
(2009-2010)
中文組賽規**

1. 參加資格

- 1.1 本賽事由香港大律師公會主辦。
- 1.2 本賽事之對象為本港的中學。
- 1.3 比賽分中文組(粵語)及英文組進行，各設 16 隊。
- 1.4 每校可派出兩隊參賽隊伍，分別參加中文組及英文組比賽。
- 1.5 如果申請學校數目超逾比賽名額，參賽資格將由大律師公會以抽籤形式決定。大律師公會將透過電子郵件儘快通知申請成功的學校。
- 1.6 上學年 (即 2008-2009) 取得冠軍及亞軍的申請學校，可自動獲得今年的參賽資格，無需經過抽籤程序。

2. 比賽模式

- 2.1 比賽會以淘汰制方式舉行。
- 2.2 比賽分為初賽、半準決賽、準決賽及決賽。
- 2.3 初賽之對壘隊伍、辯題及站方將由大律師公會於簡佈會中以抽籤形式決定。
- 2.4 其他回合比賽的辯題及站方亦將由大律師公會以抽籤形式決定，並以電子郵件通知有關的參賽學校。
- 2.5 辯論比賽的辯題會涉及社會性及法律性議題，並將由大律師公會決定。

3. 比賽隊伍

- 3.1 每隊設有 4 名臺上辯論員。參賽學校須於呈交指定的申請表格予大律師公會時，同時附上一份隊員名單。
- 3.2 如有任何隊員上的變動，參賽學校須於比賽進行兩星期前以電子郵件通知大律師公會。
- 3.3 每隊隊員出席辯論比賽時應穿著校服或隊伍制服。
- 3.4 臺上辯論員須為中四(或同等級別)或以上的學生。
- 3.5 每隊須提名一隊員為隊長。

4. 通訊辦法

- 4.1 參賽學校須於呈交指定的申請表格予大律師公會時，提供一負責老師及一指定隊員的通訊電話號碼及電郵地址。
- 4.2 其後參賽學校與大律師公會間的通訊將透過電子郵件進行。
- 4.3 參賽學校有責任定期查閱電子郵件及準時於大律師公會所指定的任何限期前作出回覆。
- 4.4 若參賽學校沒有或未能準時回覆大律師公會的電子郵件，將有可能被取消參賽資格。

5. 評判

- 5.1 初賽及半準決賽各設 1 至 2 位評判。
- 5.2 準決賽及決賽各設 2 至 3 位評判。
- 5.3 大律師公會將邀請大律師、司法、學術或其他合適界別的人仕擔任評判。

6. 比賽場地

- 6.1 比賽將於本地大學或其他由大律師公會指定的場所進行。
- 6.2 大律師公會將於每回合比賽之前以電子郵件通知參賽隊伍有關詳情。

7. 辯論形式

- 7.1 每隊於初賽均有 4 段臺上發言時間，由其主辯、第一副辯、第二副辯及結辯先後發言。
- 7.2 半準決賽設有一額外的台下環節，而準決賽則設有一額外的自由辯論環節。
- 7.3 決賽將設有額外的台下環節及自由辯論環節。

8. 台下環節

- 8.1 台下環節設有台下發問及臺上答辯(或回應)部份。每隊均應派出不同的學生作出每條台下發問。
- 8.2 首先由正方的一名學生向反方發問。
- 8.3 其後會有 15 秒的準備時間，然後鐘聲會響起 1 次。
- 8.4 反方應隨即派出其中一位臺上辯論員作答及 / 或回應。

- 8.5 接著由反方的一名學生向正方發問，如此類推。
- 8.6 若台下的學生只發言而不發問：
- i) 有關隊伍將就該台下發問予以扣分；
 - ii) 另一方仍須派出其中一位臺上辯論員作出回應。
- 8.7 準決賽時，參賽隊伍各有 2 次機會發問(以及作答及 / 或回應)。而於決賽時，參賽隊伍則各有 3 次機會發問(以及作答及 / 或回應)。

9. 自由辯論環節

- 9.1 正反雙方各有一指定的時間發言。每隊的時間將會以累積形式分別計算。
- 9.2 每隊至少應有 3 名辯論員發言，否則有關隊伍將就每位評判而言被扣以 5 分。
- 9.3 辯論員須於發言前起立，並於發言完畢後坐下。
- 9.4 自由辯論環節應由正方的其中一位臺上辯論員首先發言。
- 9.5 當該名辯論員坐下時，即會開始計算反方的時間。反方的其中一位臺上辯論員應立即站立及作出回應，並於發言完畢後坐下。
- 9.6 正反雙方應輪流發言，直至其中一隊用完其指定的時間為止。其後，另一方應派出其中一名隊員用盡餘下的所有時間發言。

10. 發言次序及時間

- 10.1 正方之開辯將首先發言，然後再有由反方開辯發言。
- 10.2 雙方的第一及第二副辯將輪流發言。
- 10.3 反方第二副辯發言完畢後，又或於台下及 / 或自由辯論環節(如有的話)結束後，每隊有 1 分鐘的時間準備結辯陳詞。
- 10.4 反方的結辯應首先發言，然後再由正方的結辯發言。
- 10.5 每隊的發言時間分別如下：

	時限			
	初賽	半準決賽	準決賽	決賽
開辯 (正/反方)	3 分鐘	3 分鐘	3 分鐘	3 分鐘
第一副辯 (正/反方)	3 分鐘	3 分鐘	3 分鐘	3 分鐘
第二副辯 (正/反方)	3 分鐘	3 分鐘	3 分鐘	3 分鐘

台下發問	---	45 秒 (每隊各 2 次)	---	45 秒 (每隊各 3 次)
臺上答辯	---	1 分 30 秒 (每隊各 2 次)	---	1 分 30 秒 (每隊各 3 次)
自由辯論	---	---	每隊 各 4 分鐘	每隊 各 4 分鐘
準備時間	1 分鐘	1 分鐘	1 分鐘	1 分鐘
結辯 (反/正方)	3 分 30 秒	3 分 30 秒	4 分鐘	4 分鐘

11. 鐘聲指引

11.1 臺上辯論員

- 11.1.1 鐘聲將響起 1 次以示辯論員發言時間開始。
- 11.1.2 鐘聲將再響起 1 次以示發言時間尚餘 30 秒。
- 11.1.3 鐘聲將響起 2 次以示辯論員發言時間完畢。
- 11.1.4 鐘聲將響起 3 次以示 10 秒之緩衝時間完畢。

11.2 台下環節

- 11.2.1 鐘聲將響起 1 次以示台下發問時間開始。
- 11.2.2 鐘聲將再響起 1 次以示台下發問時間尚餘 15 秒。
- 11.2.3 鐘聲將響起 2 次以示台下發問時間完畢。台下辯論員應立即停止發言。
- 11.2.4 鐘聲將響起 1 次以示 15 秒的準備時間完畢。另一方的臺上辯論員須立即作答及 / 或回應。鐘聲將響起 1 次以示臺上答辯時間開始。
- 11.2.5 鐘聲將再響起 1 次以示臺上答辯時間尚餘 30 秒。
- 11.2.6 鐘聲將響起 2 次以示臺上答辯時間完畢。辯論員應立即停止發言。

11.3 自由辯論環節

- 11.3.1 鐘聲將響起 1 次以示正方的其中 1 位臺上辯論員可以首先發言。
- 11.3.2 另一鐘聲會在反方首度發言時響起。
- 11.3.3 鐘聲將再響起 1 次以示其中一隊的發言時間尚餘 30 秒。
- 11.3.4 當其中一隊用畢其指定的發言時間時，鐘聲將響起 2 次。另一隊應派出 1 名臺上辯論員用畢餘下的發言時間，而屆時另一鐘聲亦會響起 2 次。

11.4 每回合比賽的鐘聲指引分別如下：

辯論員	輪次	發言時間 開始	提示	發言時間 完畢	緩衝時間 完畢
開辯、第一 及第二副 辯	各輪賽事	0 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	2 分 30 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	3 分鐘 (2 次鐘聲)	3 分 10 秒 (3 次鐘聲)
台下發問	只限 半準決賽、 決賽	0 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	30 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	45 秒 (2 次鐘聲)	---
準備時間		0 秒 (1 次鐘聲)		15 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	
臺上答辯		0 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	1 分鐘 (1 次鐘聲)	1 分 30 秒 (2 次鐘聲)	---
自由辯論	只限 準決賽、 決賽	0 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	3 分 30 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	4 分鐘 (2 次鐘聲)	---
準備時間	各輪賽事	0 秒 (1 次鐘聲)		1 分鐘 (1 次鐘聲)	
結辯	初賽、 半準決賽	0 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	3 分鐘 (1 次鐘聲)	3 分 30 秒 (2 次鐘聲)	3 分 40 秒 (3 次鐘聲)
	準決賽、 及決賽	0 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	3 分 30 秒 (1 次鐘聲)	4 分鐘 (2 次鐘聲)	4 分 10 秒 (3 次鐘聲)

12. 逾時處分

12.1 每隊開辯、第一副辯、第二副辯及結辯的發言各設有 10 秒鐘緩衝時間。

12.2 如發言時間超逾緩衝時間，將就每位評判而言以每秒 0.5 分予以扣分。

13. 評審標準

13.1 如果只有 1 名評判，則分數較高者為優勝隊伍。

13.2 如有多於 1 名評判，獲得票數較多者為比賽之優勝隊伍。就每位評判而言，分數較高者將獲一票。

13.3 如雙方票數相同，賽果應由評判決定。

13.4 評判應為每位臺上辯論員評分，以 100 分為限，包括內容 (40 分)，詞鋒 (30 分)，組織 (20 分) 及風度 (10 分)。

13.5 評判應以 15 分為限就每條台下發問評分，及以 35 分為限就每次臺上答辯(或回應)評分。

13.6 評判應就自由辯論環節為每隊作整體評分，以 100 分為限，包括內容(40 分)，詞鋒(30 分)，組織(20 分)及風度(10 分)。

13.7 評判之決定為最終決定。

13.8 大律師公會保留權利以事先通知修改評審標準及評分分佈。

14. 違規情況

14.1 如有參賽學校違反或未能遵守本賽規，大律師公會可以以其認為恰當的方式予以處分，包括(但不限於)取消其參賽資格。

14.2 如比賽進行期間有任何違規情況，辯論比賽的主席有酌情權對有關的參賽學校予以處分，包括(但不限於)取消其參賽資格。

15. 賽規之修改

15.1 大律師公會保留修改賽規的權利而無須事先通知參賽隊伍，但大律師公會將儘早通知參賽隊伍有關賽