

Concern Online Debates Programme

Adjudicator Training

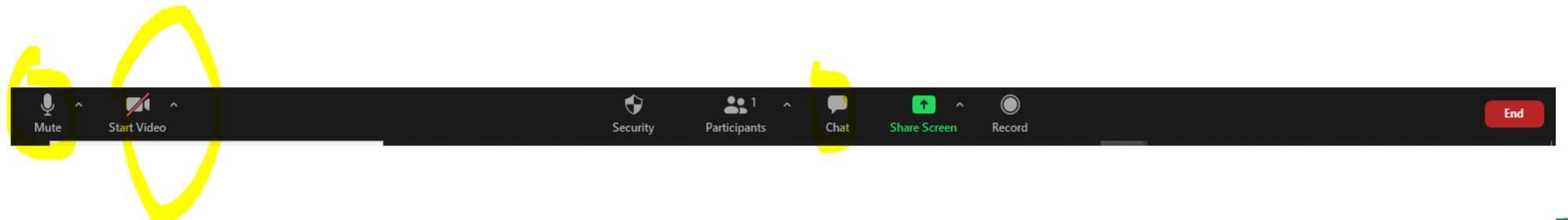
In today's session:



- 1. Introduction to the Concern Debates Programme**
- 2. Changes to the Concern Debates Programme going online**
- 3. How to use the marking sheet**
- 4. Tips for being a Concern Debates Adjudicator**

Zoom housekeeping

- Please keep on mute for the session
- Please use the chat function for questions while we go through the information session
- We will take breaks for questions and will have breakout rooms where you can chat with other adjudicators



Our work in Ireland

The Concern Debates have been running since 1984. They are a core element of Concern's Active Citizenship programme which seeks to encourage further learning and debate about issues of global justice and human development.

Concern thanks you for agreeing to volunteer your time and expertise as an adjudicator, the debates simply could not happen with you.

The aims of the Concern Debates are:

- To promote a deeper awareness and understanding of the global issues affecting the lives of millions of people in the developing world.
- To provide students with a public forum to develop skills in research, critical thinking, and debating.
- To encourage students and teachers to become lifelong advocates on issues relating to development, poverty, justice and human rights.



- **Concern's Active Citizenship Unit works with over 8000 students each year in Ireland through a variety of programmes**
- **The Concern Debates are our flagship programme**
- **Over 300 Concern Debates volunteer adjudicators take part each year**
- **Our adjudicators are tasked with marking the debates per Concern rules and our marking sheet**

Meet the team

MEET THE CONCERN DEBATES TEAM

Geraldine Carroll
085 254 0574



Geraldine organises debates in Cork, Claire, Waterford, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Limerick. She has a BA (Hons) Sociology and Politics from Queen's University, Belfast, an MA in International Organisations from Dublin City University and recently graduated from University College Cork with an MSc Integrative Counselling and Psychotherapy. Her favourite motion is: "For women to access leadership positions, gender quotas must be implemented"

Interesting fact: She has skydived from a plane at 15,000 ft.

MEET EMMA HASSARD



Emma Hassard
07402997698
debatesni@concern.net

Emma looks after schools in Northern Ireland. She has a MA (Hons) in English and Italian from St Andrews University, Fife. Emma worked for the NI Council for Integrated Education and is currently a parent governor at her local integrated primary school. Emma then took up a role with the Comber Foundation - an Irish NGO who work in orphanages in Romania, before joining Concern six years ago.

Interesting fact: Emma is a fluent Italian speaker and lived in Venice for just under a year.

Olga Brodescu
085 803 1801

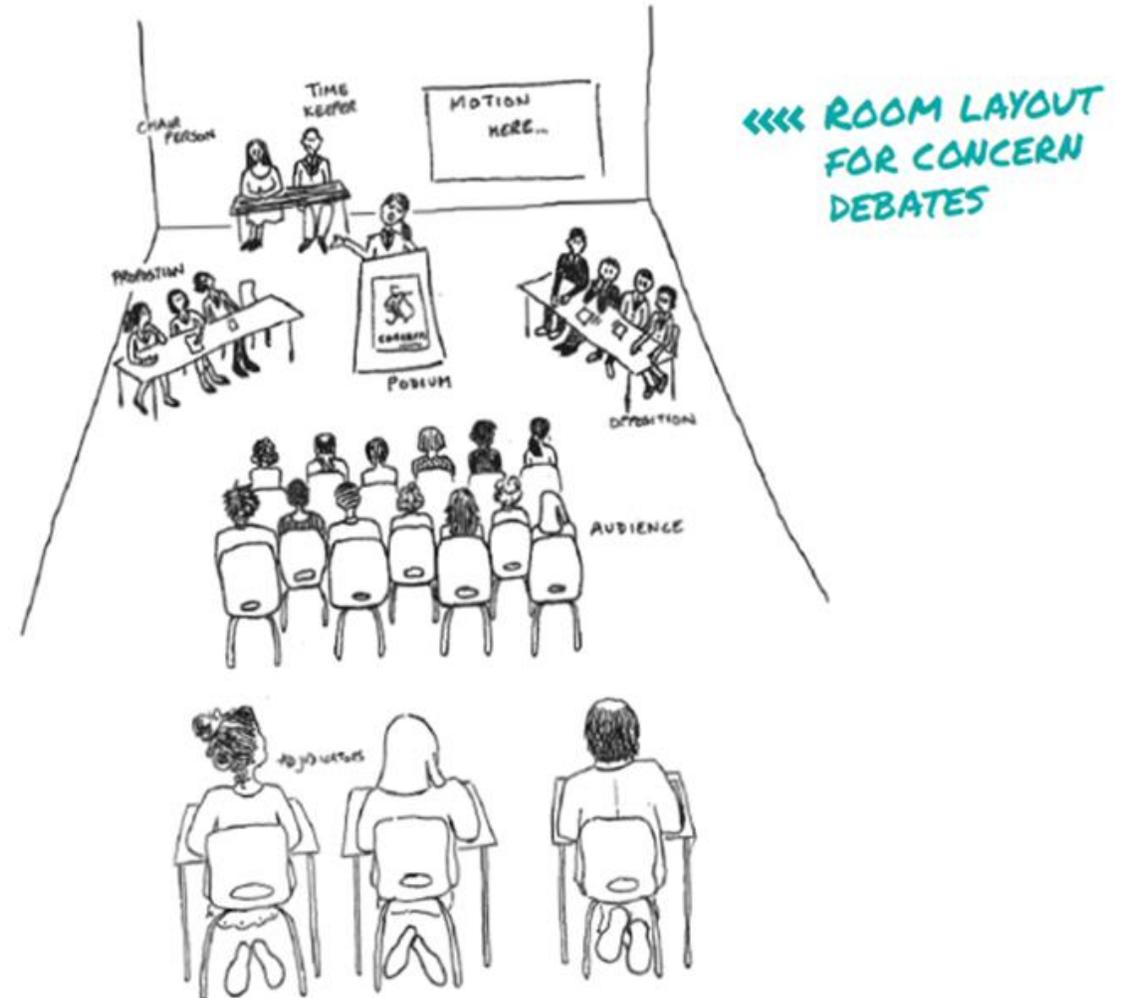


Olga organises debates in Dublin, Kildare and Meath. Born in Republic of Moldova, Olga studied the piano in music school and went on to university to study Applied Foreign Languages. From a very young age Olga was keen to understand the way car engines work and would usually spend days on end in her father's repair shop dismantling engines and trying to put them back together. Olga has always been passionate about development issues and for this reason has worked with a number of NGOs over the years

Interesting fact: She dreams of one day opening her own animal shelter/coffee shop.

The Concern Debates: The Basics

- The Concern Debates programme is now in its 37th year
- Over 25,000 students have taken part
- Over 20,000 debates organised
- Each year the Concern Debates Team organises over 560 unique debates between schools
- 1300 volunteer adjudicator placements to attend and mark debates
- We have 120 + post primary schools taking part each year
- In 2020-21 we will be bringing the programme online



The Concern Debates: The Basics

- Open to senior cycle post primary schools in ROI and NI
- Four on a team but schools may have larger teams made up of researchers etc
- At a given debate- four students speak with the captain speaking twice (opening and closing speeches)
- Each student has 4.30 to speak and time penalties will incur if students go over
- Debates are marked by volunteer adjudicators
- Motions are on development/ social justice issues
- Each school has four debates at league stage phase
- If a school fails to compete, a bye is awarded to the other school



Students from De La Salle Bagnelstown, Debates quarter final 2019.

League Phase and Knockout Phase

- The league phase of the debates begins in October and finishes in January
- The knockout phase then begins in February
- The knockout phase is divided into the Cup and the Shield – this is a new as of 2020
- The top 16 schools will go into the Cup and will have knockout debates until there are two schools for the final in May
- Schools 17-32 will go into the Shield and will have knockout debates until there are two schools for the final in May

Place in competition	School Name	Debates Completed	Total Wins	Unanimous Wins (3 points)	Majority win (2 points)	Minority Loss (1 point)	Byes	Points
1	School A	4	4	4				12
2	School B	4	4	4				12
3	School C	4	4	4				12
4	School D	4	4	4				12
5	School E	4	4	4				12
6	School F	4	4	4				12
7	School G	4	4	4				12
8	School H	4	4	4				12
9	School I	4	4	3			1	12
10	School J	4	4	3			1	12
11	School K	4	4	3			1	12
12	School L	4	4	2			2	12
13	School M	4	4	2			2	12
14	School N	4	4	3	1			11
15	School O	4	4	3	1			11
16	School P	4	4	3	1			11
17	School Q	4	4	2	2			10
18	School R	4	4	2	2			10
19	School S	4	4	2	2			10
20	School T	4	4	2	2			10
21	School U	4	3	2	1	1		9
22	School V	4	3	2	1	1		9
23	School W	4	3	2	1	1		9
24	School X	4	3	2	1	1		9
25	School Y	4	3	2	1	1		9
26	School Z	4	3	2	1	1		9
27	School AA	4	3	1			2	9
28	School AB	4	3	1			2	9
29	School AC	4	3	1			2	9
30	School AD	4	2	2	1	1		9
31	School AE	4	4	2	2	1	1	9
32	School AF	4	4	2	2	1	1	9

Skills required for being a Concern Debates Adjudicator

- Be a good listener
- Read the Concern Debates Adjudicator Handbook, refer to this presentation and ask our staff to clarify anything that is unclear
- Be able to see both sides of an argument and keep an open mind
- Evaluate an argument according to the marking sheet
- Be able to give succinct written feedback including constructive criticism in an encouraging way
- Have an interest in global issues
- Be timely and reliable
- Liaise with our team regarding Garda Vetting
- **Understand that the Concern Debates programme is NOT a public speaking competition. We focus on knowledge as opposed to public speaking. It is not a toastmasters competition**
- **Access to the internet, laptop/pc or tablet as all debates will be taking place online**



Students from Largy College, Debates Champions 2019.

Concern Online Debates Programme

- Due to social distancing restrictions, the Concern Debates programme is now going online
- **Adjudicators will not visit schools to mark debates**
- **Schools will not travel to other schools for debates**
- Schools will now pre record videos of their speeches and send to the Concern Debates team
- The Concern Debates team will then upload to YouTube on a secure private link
- Adjudicators will be assigned debates to watch on YouTube. Adjudicators will mark the debates at home using the Debates marking sheet.
- The Concern Debates team will then inform the schools of the result of the debate
- **Please do not mark higher for schools with higher video production- i.e including school crests etc. Stick to content and the marking sheet**

Debating Online



I have signed up to be an adjudicator...what happens next?

- The Concern Debates competition kicks off on October 19th 2020
- The Concern Debates team will email you dates to adjudicate a debate online using the marking sheet on the right
- You are not obliged to do every date we ask of you!
- If you are free on the date we ask, a member of the team will send along a link on youtube containing a playlist of the two schools debating
- A member of the team will advise what day you need to watch the videos and when to inform debates@concern.net of the result
- Print out your marking sheet/ adjudicator form, sit back and watch the debate via the link sent. We will arrange the videos as a playlist so the speeches are in order.
- We would appreciate if adjudicators who agree to mark on a certain date have the results of the debate the next day by 5pm. **This is also for safeguarding reasons**
- Adjudicators are asked to send a copy of the marking sheet and the feedback form to debates@concern.net
- Adjudicators will not be giving feedback to schools. All feedback will be given via the marking/feedback sheet by the Concern Debates team
- **Please note that only one adjudicator will mark a debate as opposed to three**

MARKING SHEET

Motion: _____ Date: _____
Venue: _____ Opposing Team: _____
Proposing Team: _____

Speech	Prop	Opp	Team						
A. Content									
Relevance to the motion									
Use and variety of sources									
B. Debating Skills									
Relevance and focus									
Ability to compare, contrast and evaluate									
Logic and well-structured arguments									
C. Captivating Delivery									
Clarity of the location of evidence in the speech									
Clarity of team's objectives									
Opening Speech									
Closing Speech									
D. Team Work									
Display of teamwork									
Structure of speech									
Use of time									
TOTAL									

Adjudicator's signature: _____

MARKING SHEETS ARE CONFIDENTIAL. THE CHIEF ADJUDICATOR SHOULD SIGNIFY YOUR VIEW OF CONCERN AND WE WILL SEND YOU ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS SHEET.

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CHIEF ADJUDICATOR FEEDBACK AND RESULTS FORM (PAGE 1 OF 2)

This form is to be filled out by the Chief Adjudicator after consultation with the assistant adjudicators and is used for giving feedback and announcing the debate result. This form should be kept confidential and returned to Concern along with the marking sheet.

Date: _____
Proposing Team: _____ Motion: _____ Venue: _____
Opposing Team: _____

Adjudicators: 1. _____ 2. _____

SECTION A Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS. Feel free to note as much or little as you wish with the marking sheet.

Positive Feedback: _____
Areas to work on: _____

SECTION B Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS. Feel free to note as much or little as you wish with the marking sheet.

Positive Feedback: _____
Areas to work on: _____

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How will I know where to find the videos of the debate?

Send Debates@concern.net

[Claire Marshall](#)

Subject

Dear Adjudicator,

Hope this email finds you well and thank you for agreeing to remotely adjudicate this online debate.

Video Link:

Please click this link here to access the videos of the two schools listed below: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Q_ZzBGPdqE&list=PL5uLaJGLPi3zJJYrcnoBSDdhHVsgVnNQ3

Schools involved and Motion:

Proposition: [Saint Colmcille's Community School](#)

Oppositor: [Salesian College Celbridge](#)

Motion: *Nuclear Power is essential for a clean energy future*

Please return the marking sheet and feedback form to the Concern Debates team by Thursday 13th February by 5pm

Attached are the Marking Sheet and Feedback Form. Please fill in both and return to debates@concern.net

What will the link on YouTube look like?

The screenshot shows a YouTube video player interface. The browser address bar contains the URL: `youtube.com/watch?v=2Q_ZzBGPdqE&list=PL5uLaJGLPi3zJJYrcnoBSDdhHVsgVnNQ3`. The search bar contains the text "playlist beatles songs". The video player shows a black and white performance of "Help!" by The Beatles, with the four members sitting on stools and playing instruments. The video progress bar shows 0:04 / 2:19. Below the video player, the title "The Beatles - Help!" is displayed. To the right, a playlist titled "The Ultimate The Beatles Playlist!" is shown, containing 70 items. The first item is "The Beatles - Help!" with a duration of 2:20. The second item is "The Beatles - Come Together" with a duration of 4:19. The third item is "The Beatles - Hey Jude" with a duration of 8:10. The fourth item is "Here Comes The Sun (Remastered 2009)" with a duration of 3:06. The fifth item is "The Beatles - Yellow Submarine" with a duration of 2:46. The sixth item is "The Beatles - Strawberry Fields Forever" with a duration of 4:24. The seventh item is "Devil In Her Heart (Remastered 2009)". Below the playlist, a video thumbnail for "Let It Be (Remastered 2015)" is shown, with a duration of 3:51 and 10M views, posted 2 years ago.

youtube.com/watch?v=2Q_ZzBGPdqE&list=PL5uLaJGLPi3zJJYrcnoBSDdhHVsgVnNQ3

playlist beatles songs

The Beatles - Help!

The Ultimate The Beatles Playlist!
Joey Tastic - 1/70

The Beatles - Help!
The Beatles
2:20

The Beatles - Come Together
The Beatles
4:19

The Beatles - Hey Jude
The Beatles
8:10

Here Comes The Sun (Remastered 2009)
The Beatles
3:06

The Beatles - Yellow Submarine
The Beatles
2:46

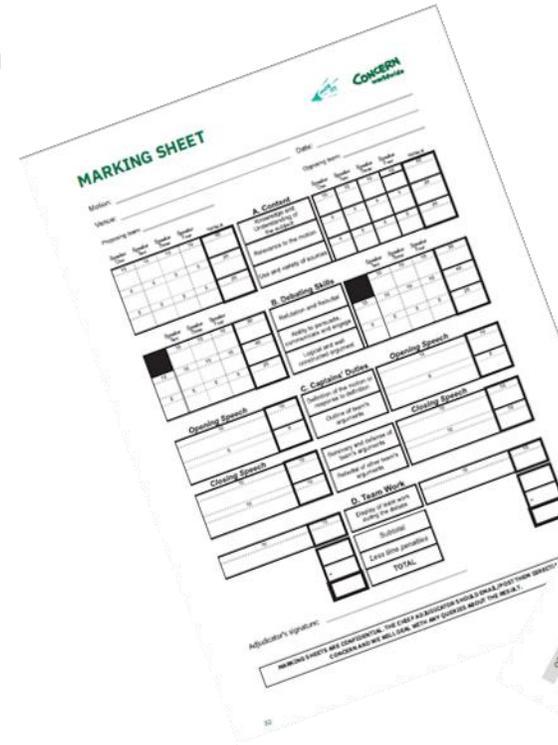
The Beatles - Strawberry Fields Forever
The Beatles
4:24

Devil In Her Heart (Remastered 2009)

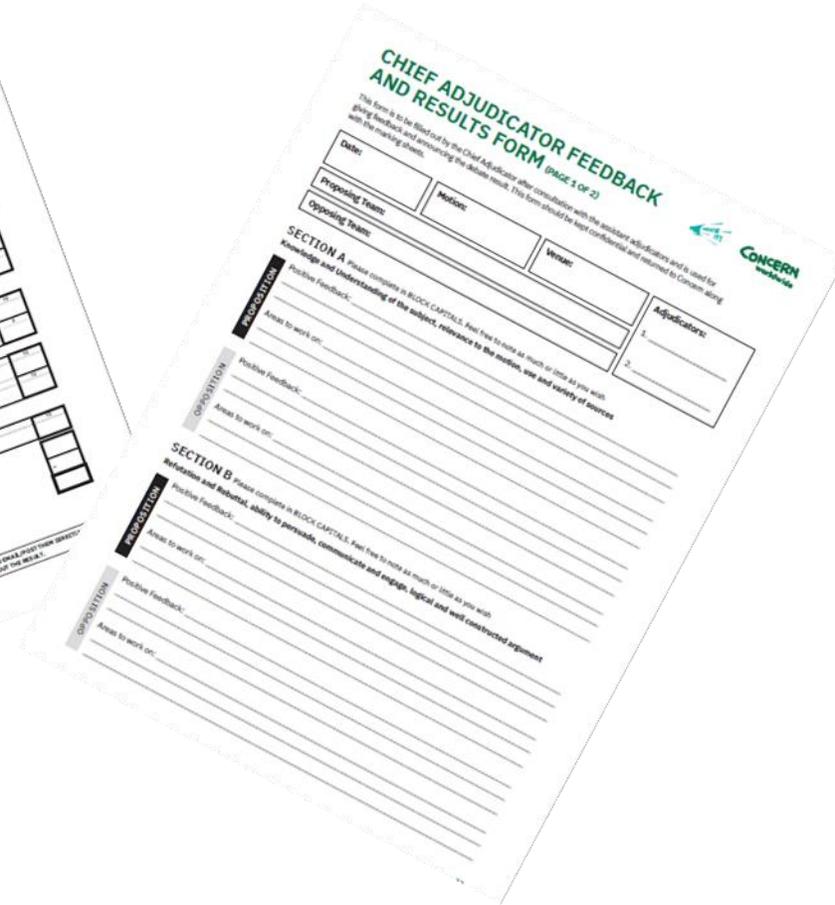
Let It Be (Remastered 2015)
The Beatles
10M views • 2 years ago
3:51

Marking the debate at home

- We ask that you print the marking sheet and feedback form attached in the email from the Concern Debates team- we will also be posting printed copies in August to keep you going!
- Please watch the videos and mark the debate
- The videos will be placed in order and labelled Captain Opening Speech etc...
- **Please send us the marking sheet and feedback form by email the next day by 5pm**
- Please remember the order of the speakers when marking the debate
- Adjudicators will not have any contact with schools this year. Therefore it is vital to fill in the feedback form so we can pass feedback to the two schools involved
- Both schools WILL NOT be able to see each others speeches due to safeguarding and GDPR reasons



The 'MARKING SHEET' form is a grid-based document for recording scores. It includes fields for 'Motion', 'Date', 'Proposing Team', and 'Opposing Team'. The grid is divided into four main sections: A. Content, B. Debating Skills, C. Captained Order, and D. Team Work. Each section has sub-categories and a grid of boxes for marking. A 'TOTAL' box is at the bottom right. A signature line for the adjudicator is at the bottom left. A disclaimer at the bottom states: 'MARKING SHEETS ARE CONFIDENTIAL. THE CHIEF ADJUDICATOR SHOULD ONLY DISCUSS THEM DIRECTLY WITH CONCERN DEBATES. ALL OTHERS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCESS THEM.' The Concern Debates logo is in the top right corner.



The 'CHIEF ADJUDICATOR FEEDBACK AND RESULTS FORM (PAGE 1 OF 2)' is a form for providing feedback. It includes fields for 'Date', 'Proposing Team', 'Opposing Team', 'Motion', and 'Winner'. It has two main sections: SECTION A: 'Knowledge and Understanding of the subject, relevance to the motion, use and variety of sources' and SECTION B: 'Invention and Rebuttal, ability to persuade, communicate and engage, logical and well constructed argument'. Each section has 'Positive Feedback' and 'Areas to work on' fields. There are also 'Adjudicators' numbered 1 and 2. A disclaimer at the top states: 'This form is to be filled out by the Chief Adjudicator after consultation with the assistant adjudicators and is used for giving feedback and announcing the debate result. This form should be kept confidential and returned to Concern Debates.' The Concern Debates logo is in the top right corner.

Marking sheet: Video 1.11- 5.45



B. Debating Skills				
	10	10	10	30
Refutation and Rebuttal				
Ability to persuade, communicate and engage	10	10	10	40
Logical and well constructed argument	5	5	5	20



Marking Sheet

Write in the motion and date



MARKING SHEET



CONCERN worldwide

Motion: _____

Venue: _____ Date: _____

Proposing team: _____ Opposing team: _____

TOTALS					TOTALS				
10	10	10	10	40	10	10	10	10	40
5	5	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	20
5	5	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	20

A. Content

Knowledge and Understanding of the subject

Relevance to the motion

Use and variety of sources

TOTALS					TOTALS				
10	10	10	10	40	10	10	10	10	40
5	5	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	20
5	5	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	20

B. Debating Skills

Refutation and Rebuttal

Ability to persuade, communicate and engage

Logical and well constructed argument

Opening Speech			C. Captains' Duties			Opening Speech		
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

Closing Speech			C. Captains' Duties			Closing Speech		
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

Closing Speech			D. Team Work			Closing Speech		
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

D. Team Work

Display of team work during the debate

Subtotal

Less time penalties

TOTAL

Adjudicator's signature: _____

MARKING SHEETS ARE CONFIDENTIAL. THE CHIEF ADJUDICATOR SHOULD FORWARD THEM DIRECTLY TO CONCERN AND WE WILL DEAL WITH ANY QUERIES ABOUT THE RESULT.

Contact us at:
Concern Worldwide, Active Citizenship Unit,
52-55 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2 Email: debates@concern.net
Tel: 01 4177733 Mobile no: 087 797 3636

Concern Worldwide NI, 47 Frederick Street,
Belfast, BT1 2LW Email: debatesni@concern.net
Tel: 028 90 261024

Write down both school names- **do not write down student names**

Don't forget to sign!!

Marking Sheet- which direction to mark?

PROP **OPP**

MARKING SHEET

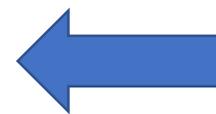
Motion: _____ Date: _____
Venue: _____

Proposing team: _____ Opposing team: _____

Category	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4	TOTALS
A. Content	10	5	5	5	45
	5	5	5	5	20
	5	5	5	5	20
B. Debating Skills	10	10	10	10	30
	10	10	10	10	40
	5	5	5	5	20
C. Captains' Duties	10	10	10	10	10
	5	5	5	5	10
D. Team Work	10	10	10	10	10
	10	10	10	10	10

(Note: The 'Opening Speech' and 'Closing Speech' rows in the table above are marked with diagonal lines in the original image.)

Handwritten annotations on the sheet include: 'Captain Proposition' pointing to Speaker 1 Prop, 'Speaker 2 Prop', 'Speaker 3 Prop', 'Speaker 4 Prop', 'Captain Opposition', 'Speaker 2 Opp', 'Speaker 3 Opp', and 'Speaker 4 Opp'. A logo for 'CONCERN worldwide' is visible in the top right.



**Captains'
Closing
Speeches**

How will rebuttal/ refutation work if the schools cannot interact?

- Schools will still be asked to include counter arguments in their speeches
- If there are no counter arguments- do not award marks
- Students will be coached to counter argue general arguments- “The other team may sing the praises of the WHO and their handling of the COVID 19 crisis, however we.....”



The Concern Debates: The Basics

- Points are awarded in two forms
- 3-0 OR 2-1
- Please see across on how points are awarded
- We removed the draw 1.5-1.5 after consulting with teachers and schools

How do I award 3-0 or 2-1 result?



If the difference on the marking sheet is 1- 9 points between prop and opp teams this would class as a majority win.

If the difference on the marking sheet is 10 points and greater between the prop and opp teams this would class as a unanimous win.

FOR EXAMPLE

TEAM A score 100 points

TEAM B score 109 points

This would be a majority win as there is 9 points in the difference - 2-1

TEAM A score 100 points

TEAM B score 108 points

This would be a majority win as there is 8 points in the difference - 1-2

TEAM A score 100 points

TEAM B score 120 points

This would a unanimous win as TEAM B has scored 20 points (above the ten point threshold) - 0-3

TEAM A score 150 points

TEAM B score 100 points

This would be a unanimous win for TEAM A as they have scored above the ten point threshold - 3-0

Breakout Rooms

- You will have the chance to speak with fellow adjudicators now for three minutes
- Please share your thoughts on the new changes
- Please note your breakout room and choose one member to feedback
- We will then take questions

Chief Adjudicator Written Feedback

Feedback Tips for the Chief

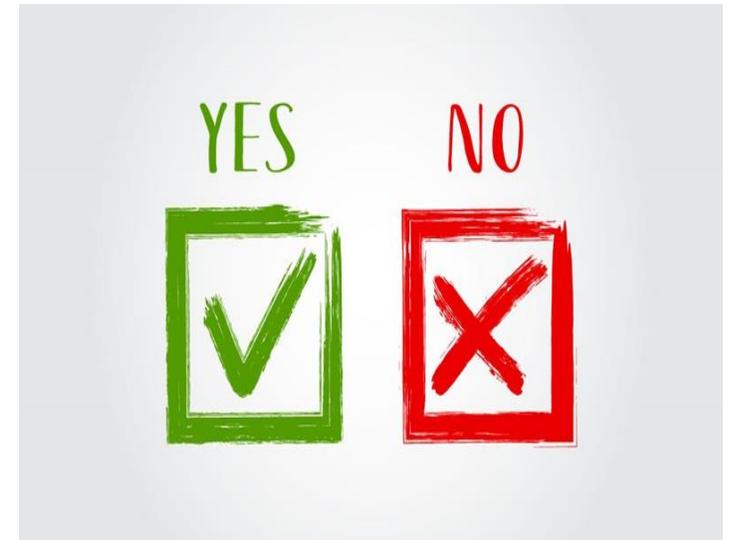
Once the decision has been agreed the chairperson will invite the chief adjudicator to announce the result, prefaced by a few words of wisdom and advice. Here are some feedback tips;



- Be positive and constructive
- Recognise the fact that this is an extra-curricular activity for students. Their preparation and participation is in addition to their regular school work
- Do not select one student for particular praise and never single out an individual student for criticism... rather refer to the teams as a whole
- Highlight particular areas of strength such as the amount of research, the rebuttal, the clarity of argument and persuasion skills such as body language, use of voice and eye contact
- Give one or two suggestions for improvement such as "try to avoid reading your speeches and over-reliance on notes" or "make sure you let us know where you got your information from by quoting your sources", or "make sure you listen to your opponents and directly address their points by rebutting them" or if there have been time penalties to "make sure you stick within the time limit (4 minutes and 30 seconds)"
- The result should be announced in terms of the motion is carried (result in favour of proposition) OR the motion has been defeated (result in favour of the opposition)...rather than simply saying the debate has been 'won' or 'lost'
- Remember, do not show the marking sheet to the debaters but be available to them after the debate if they seek out further advice. If there are any issues please refer them to Concern Head Office



- **We couldn't understand what Mary was saying – her accent is really hard to follow (NO)**
- **We felt that both teams showed an excellent level of research (YES)**
- **I personally didn't agree with the proposition so I gave them fewer points (NO)**
- **The opposition made great use of humour without being sarcastic (YES)**
- **David was the speaker of the night (NO)**



Complaints or issues

Problems are rare but may happen!

I can't find the link or the link is broken

- Email/phone/text your dedicated debates staff member immediately. Please note that office hours are 9.00-5.00. We will investigate and ensure to send you the correct link as soon as we can

Both schools have the same side of the motion

- Let both schools speak and mark each speaker based on the marking sheet

A student made offensive remarks or acted inappropriately during a debate

- Make a note of what was said and make sure to contact your Concern focal person. We ask that you deduct the student marks under the heading 'Ability to communicate' on the marking sheet and let Concern staff handle the matter. Do not single out the student during feedback.

The audio is very bad and I cannot hear the speaker

- Please turn up the volume on both youtube and on your PC. If you still cannot hear the debate, please contact us immediately

I had a bad experience in a school as a volunteer

- Please make a note of what happened and email debates@concern.net immediately. We value the amazing time all of adjudicators put into the programme and want to ensure you have a positive experience

Child Safeguarding

- **All Concern Debates Adjudicators are required to undergo Garda Vetting (ROI) and Access NI (NI). Concern will accept and comply with any findings, arising from the vetting process, that deem a person unsuitable to serve as an adjudicator.**
- **Debates Adjudicators are required to read the Concern Debates Adjudicator handbook and to strictly adhere to Concern's Child Safeguarding policy.**
- **Concern Debates Adjudicators are required to treat minors with respect and dignity and to deliver feedback from the debate in a constructive and positive manner, as detailed in the Concern Debates Adjudicators handbook.**



SAFEGUARDING

Child Safeguarding: Do's and Don'ts

- Do not share the youtube link with anyone
- Mark the debate in the time frame that is asked so the Concern Debates Team can remove the video from the internet in a timely fashion

Questions?



- If you have any questions, please contact a member of our team by emailing: debates@concern.net

CONCERN
worldwide

**ENDING
EXTREME POVERTY
WHATEVER
IT TAKES**