



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## YMCA Michigan Youth in Government NATIONAL ISSUES FORUM – Policies and Procedures

### 1<sup>st</sup> Round - Committee Procedure

- 2-minute author opening (1 rap by PO will indicate 30 seconds left, 2 raps, 10 seconds are left)
- 2 minutes of non-debatable technical and questions of intent, run by the chair
- 4 minutes con/pro debate (1 minute each, con-pro-con-pro)
- 2-minute closing speech
- 1 minute for ranking

*During the author/sponsor speech: You may yield your time, to the Chair or to questions, at any point. After 1 minute, you may yield your remaining time to your closing speech.*

*During pro/con debate: You may yield your time at any point to the chair or questions.*

*After the use of 30 seconds, pro speakers may yield your time to the author's summation speech.*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Round - Committee Procedure

- 2-minute author opening (1 rap by PO will indicate 30 seconds left, 2 raps, 10 seconds are left)
- 2 minutes of non-debatable technical and questions of intent, run by the chair
- 4 minutes con/pro debate (1 minute each, con-pro-con-pro)
- 2-minute closing speech
- 1 minute for ranking

*Yielding rules are same as 1<sup>st</sup> committee*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Round - Committee Procedure

- 2-minute author opening (1 rap by PO will indicate 30 seconds left, 2 raps, 10 seconds are left)
- 2 minutes of non-debatable technical and questions of intent, run by the chair
- 4 minutes con/pro debate (1 minute each, con-pro-con-pro)
- 2-minute closing speech
- 1 minute for ranking

*Yielding rules are same as 1<sup>st</sup> committee*

### General Assembly (GA) Procedure

- 2-minute author opening (1 rap by P.O. will indicate 30 seconds left, 2 raps, 10 seconds are left)
- 3 minutes of non-debatable technical and questions of intent, run by the Presiding Chair
- 6 minutes of predetermined intent speech, 3 minutes con, 3 minutes pro
- 6 minutes of pro/con speeches (3 speakers, 2 minutes each)
- 2 minute closing speech

Vote – Yes or No vote by General Assembly

*During the author/sponsor speech: You may yield your time at any point. After 2 minutes, you may yield to your summation speech or to another speaker.*

*During pro/con debate: You may yield to questions anytime. You may yield to the author's summation speech or another person only after one minute.*

*In order to yield your time to another speaker, you must tell the Presiding Officer that you will be yielding time to delegate "Smith" before you begin speaking.*

### Amendments

1. Amendments may be made only by the author of the proposal.
2. Amendments must be made before the proposal is considered in the first round.
3. The Author must supply each 1<sup>st</sup> committee delegate with a typed copy of their amendment if it is 10 words or more.

*When I am recognized to speak or ask a question what do I say?*

Presiding Chair: Points to delegate

You: Stand, state your name and YMCA Delegation.

Presiding Chair: Acknowledges your introduction by stating "delegate"

You: Then being your speech, statement, or question.

### Proposal Ranking

Your proposal will be ranked using the following categories:

- National/International Relevance
- Feasibility
- Evidence of Research
- Debate-ability
- Creativity

Your proposal will be ranked with a 1-4 score in the above categories:

1 = Excellent    2 = Good    3 = Fair    4 = Poor

Use the following criteria to rank proposals:

#### **National/International Relevance**

Is the issue of national or international importance? Determining the relevance of a particular issue is subjective. This criterion is partially intended to downgrade proposals that are not national or international in scope (i.e. issues that are purely local or state).

1 = Highly important and relevant national or international issue.

2 = Important national or international issue, less relevant.

3 = Some what important, not as relevant, national or international issue.

4 = Not relevant national or international issue (presents an issue of state or local economy)

#### **Feasibility**

Does the proposal provide a practical way of enforcing or implementing the action to be taken?

The ideal proposal will provide detailed methods for implementing the suggested policy change(s).

1 = The author has described in detail a practical and feasible way of implementation.

2 = The proposal appears possible under the guidelines presented.

3 = The action to be taken has potential and author provides some information on implementation.

4 = The proposal faces serious obstacles in implementation and author does not address concerns.

#### **Evidence of Research**

Is there research cited (either in the proposal, speech or both)? Is it evident that the author has the facts to support the proposal and gives a well-prepared presentation? The ideal presentation would be both informative and well supported.

1 = Goes beyond necessary preparation required to provide informative and supported facts, statistics, and has a thorough understanding of the proposal topic and its ramifications.

2 = Provides a high-level (in quantity, quality or both) of research and preparation.

3 = Provides evidence of research and preparation.

4 = Does not provide evidence of research or preparation.

#### **Creativity**

Does this proposal present either a new idea or creative way of looking at a familiar issue? Ideal proposals do both.

1 = Presents a unique concept that is both new and is creative in its approach to that topic.

2 = Creative approach to an interesting topic or plan of implementation: or proposes a creative idea with a conventional solution.

3 = Suggests creativity in the proposal's design, but is not unique or a new concept.

4 = Is not creative in idea or approach.

## Debatability

Is there ample room for argumentation on the proposal? Does it spark emotional or logistical debate? Ideally proposals will encourage intense and energetic debate on both sides of the issue presented.

- 1 = Proposal sparks intense and energetic debate on both sides of the issue.
- 2 = Proposal creates interesting debate on both sides of the issue.
- 3 = Creates debate on both sides of issue, but not equally (one side offers more debate).
- 4 = Proposal creates little or no debates.

## Sample Ranking Sheet



### NATIONAL ISSUES FORUM – Ranking Sheet

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Proposal: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Value of Scoring

- 1 = Excellent
- 2 = Good
- 3 = Fair
- 4 = Poor

- A. National/International Relevance ..... \_\_\_\_
- B. Feasibility ..... \_\_\_\_
- C. Evidence of Research ..... \_\_\_\_
- D. Creativity ..... \_\_\_\_
- E. Debatability ..... \_\_\_\_
- Total Points..... \_\_\_\_

## Other Information

- Proposals will not be moved around on the docket in any committee. The Committee Chair and Presiding Chair will set the docket.
- If you are a successful proposal author, check that you are on the docket in your committee room.
- Dockets will be posted in all committee rooms. If you think you are in the wrong place, ask a Chairperson, Officer, or Advisor for direction.
- If you are late to a session, you will not be permitted to rank the proposal being heard or any proposal you have missed. You may only rank proposals you heard argued in their entirety.
- All ranking sheets without five valid rankings will be disqualified. You must rank Preparation and Presentation, Debatability, National/International Relevance, Evidence of Research, Originality, and Feasibility. If you skip a category or rank outside of the 1 – 4 numeric system, your ranking sheet will be disqualified.

## Placards

All commissioners are required to create a Placard with their name on it. Tools for placard creation will be available in the Nerve Center. Delegates must have a placard at the General Assembly (GA) in order to be recognized. It is highly recommended that each delegate have their placard completed before they go to bed on Thursday night. Please note that you may not deface your Placard. Placards may only have your name.

**You will not be recognized with a Placard that is not your own or with a Placard that has been defaced.**

## 2016 NIF Leadership Roster

### **NIF Specialists – Spring Conferences**

Jennifer Davis – Beal City  
Kelly Dutcher- Harbor Springs

### **Presiding Officers**

### **Committee Chairs**

### **Committees**

**Washington Committee –**

**Lincoln Committee –**

**Jefferson Committee –**

**Kennedy Committee –**

**Ford Committee –**

**Roosevelt Committee –**