**How to Flow a Debate Round**

\*The role of the debate judge

\*The purpose of flowing

\*Tips for flowing

Different pen colors for each side

Multiple sheets of paper

Use abbreviations

Use small handwriting

Leave space if you miss an argument

Indicate evidence/sources if possible

Indicate your threshold for speed

Give nonverbal signals

Give the debaters your full attention

Keep track of prep time and speech time

\*Constructive speeches versus rebuttal speeches

\*Cross-examination - no need to flow but you can write a note to help you remember something

\*Distinguish between arguments and assertions – an argument has a claim, data, a warrant, and an impact

\*Contentions versus examples

\*Look for dropped and extended arguments

\*Note any NEW arguments in the rebuttal speeches (new evidence is allowed but new arguments should not be part of your decision process). Be particularly careful to avoid giving weight to anything new in the 2AR.

\*Determine which arguments are still being developed in the final speeches – that is a good place to start your evaluation.

\*Base your decision on the FLOW – not your opinion of the topic, the debaters, their coaches, their schools, etc.

\*Record decision carefully – win/loss and speaker points

\*Oral critiques and written comments

\*Multiple judges – decisions must be made independently and should not be announced until all ballots are completed

**REMEMBER – THE DEBATERS ARE TRYING TO PERSUADE YOU – THE BURDEN IS ON THEM TO ADAPT TO YOU**