



Apologetics is a limited preparation event in which the speaker is given four minutes to prepare a six-minute speech on a topic related to articulating his/her faith.

APOLOGETICS GENERAL RULES

(For clarification of the General Rules, see the Speech FAQs on the NCFCA website.)

- The speech must be an original work, from notes, quotations, and/or verses from the Bible.
- Students may come into the event with as much preparation, research, and topic organization as they desire.
- All sources must be cited in the speech.
- Topics must be taken from those available and posted on the NCFCA website. Each round's topics must come from a single category, and should consist of any combination of definitions, questions, and statements from that category.
- All judges for this event must be known to the tournament director to be sympathetic to the ideals of NCFCA.
- All judges will have a list of topics for the round.
- A judge in each room will have the envelope of topics for the round. The judge will remove the topics from the envelope and place them face down on the table. The speaker will draw three topics, choose one, and return the other two. Prep time begins when student draws the first topic. The speaker may keep all three topics during their prep time; the speaker may take his chosen topic out of the room at the end of his speech.
- During prep time speakers may use Bibles, previously prepared 4x6 cards from their file box(s), and write notes on additional 4x6 cards.
- During their presentation, speakers may only hold cards from their file box(s) and note cards written during prep time.
- The student is not required to present the Gospel message during their speech.
- Unused preparation time may not be added to the speaking time.
- The student must state the chosen topic early in the speech. A one rank penalty is required for failure to do so.
- Students must adhere to the chosen topic. The topic should be the central theme of the speech. A one rank penalty is required for failure to do so.
- Props, audiovisuals, and gratuitous vulgarity are not allowed.

- Speakers may not listen to other Apologetics speakers before speaking themselves. They may remain in the room after giving their speech.
- Humor and satire are permitted.
- Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time.
- Students are permitted to express opinions which are contrary to those of the judge.
- Each speech should be evaluated on the quality of the analysis and presentation, not the opinions presented.
- Time limit: 4 minutes preparation time; 6 minutes maximum speaking time. There is no minimum time.