**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SCORERS**

1. Scoring in Student Congress is similar to judging other events in the sense that you take notes. Speakers will usually alternate from pro to con, and questions may be asked. In scoring speeches, however, you need not decide the “winner” as you would in a debate round. While you may see speakers who refute the positions of the opposition point by point, it is not necessary that they do so. Each speech should be rated on its own merit, using the categories on the ballot.

2. You are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to make thorough and extensive comments on the ballots.

3. Since the purpose of Student Congress is to advance debate on the policies presented through legislation, speeches from the floor should do so rather than rehash previously-delivered arguments. A quality speech may be presented even if it does not run three minutes.

4. DO NOT evaluate speakers on their use of Parliamentary Procedure in scoring their speeches. If a student is out of order, the Presiding Officer and/or the Parliamentarian will correct the problem. THE SCORER SHOULD NOT TAKE A ROLE IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES.

5. Do not give speakers low points solely because they raise controversial issues or points you believe to be false. Each speaker is entitled to his/her position and should be scored based on how well s/he communicates and supports his/her position.

6. There will be two Scorers and one Parliamentarian in each Chamber during the preliminary sessions.

7. The ballot cast by the Parliamentarian will be used to break any ties that may occur.