

The Higgs Boson – Class Debate

Resolution 1

Based on the recent break-throughs in particle physics, such as finding the Higgs Boson, more US government money should be dedicated to research in the field of particle physics.

Resolution 2

After finding the Higgs Boson, the Standard Model now has enough credibility to become a required component of public education in physics.

For Each Debate: The class will be divided into 3 groups.

- **The Affirming Team** – Supports the Resolution
- **The Negating Team** – Opposes the Resolution
- **The Jury** – Decides the Outcome of the Debate

Debate Components:

Construction – Teams will have an uninterrupted opportunity to present material and evidence to the Jury.

Cross Examination – An opposing team will have the chance to ask questions of their opponent. Anyone may ask and answer. Any question can be asked, but relevance must be established.

Rebuttal – Similar to construction, each team will have an uninterrupted opportunity to respond to statements made by the opposing team.

Final Focus – The team will bring together their information into a closing statement.

Structure of the Debate: (Total Time: 30 Minutes)

1. **Affirming Team: Construction Part I (2 minutes)**
2. **Negating Team Cross Examination (4 minutes)**
3. **Negating Team: Construction Part I (2 Minutes)**
4. **Affirming Team Cross Examination (4 minutes)**
5. **Affirming Team: Construction Part II (2 minutes)**
6. **Negating Team Cross Examination (4 minutes)**
7. **Negating Team: Construction Part II (2 Minutes)**
8. **Affirming Team Cross Examination (4 minutes)**
9. **Affirming Team Rebuttal (2 minutes)**
10. **Negating Team Rebuttal (2 minutes)**
11. **Affirming Team Final Focus (1 minute)**
12. **Negating Team Final Focus (1 minute)**

*Research may be done by any member of the team throughout the course of the debate.

Prep Time (3 minutes per side) – Throughout the course of the debate, each team will be allowed 3 minutes of prep time. In between segments, this time may be used if a team needs to collect their thoughts or form a strategy. The 3 minutes do not need to be used all at once.

*If a team is short one member – they will be allowed 4 minutes of prep time during the debate.