TOWARD A FAIR MICHIGAN

MODERATOR GUIDELINES

Qualifications - Debate moderators play a critical role in managing the debate program and in insuring that they are conducted fairly and professionally. The moderator must be committed to facilitating a civil exchange and ensuring that the focus is on the speakers and the issue. The moderator must not insert him or herself into the debate.

Moderators must be strictly fair and even-handed. They must be prepared to: (a) keep the dialog moving along, (b) enforce the debate rules and cut off participants when necessary and appropriate in accordance with the agreed upon format, (c) provide speakers with a 1 minute notice prior to time-up, and (d) manage the question-and-answer process per established guidelines, “Audience Questioners – Debate Advisory Standard”, Debate Advisory Standards Project, http://www.debateproject.com/introduction/.