

Referendum Debate Procedure

This document outlines the procedure for a referendum debate.

Notice of at least a week must be given of any debate. The chair, who for any debate regarding external affiliations or engagement will be the JCR Vice-President, must ensure as far as possible that both sides of the referendum are represented. For example, in a CSU referendum, the JCR Vice President must invite the CSU Undergraduate President or their representative, and also advertise to the undergraduate body.

In any referendum debate, JCR officers are free to debate, with the exception of the JCR President and Vice-President. If either wish to speak in the debate (bar asking questions or offering points of information), they must first pass a vote at a quorate JCR Committee meeting.

Debate Procedure:

There will be 10 minutes of introduction speeches from each side. The order of speakers will be picked randomly by the chair.

After the introductory speeches, there will be a period of general questions, lasting no longer than 20 minutes. These will be answered by both sides and may not be targeted to either side. The chair may deem a question inappropriate, in which case it will not be answered by the debaters. There will be no time limit to answers, and debaters may reply to the answers given by other debaters. However, the chair will decide when an answer or discussion of a question is taking too long, and will move to the next question.

After the general questions, there will be a period of targeted questions, lasting no longer than 20 minutes. They will be answered by one side and must alternate between sides. They must concern policy and may not be personal to those speaking or be insulting. The chair may deem a question inappropriate, in which case it will not be answered by the debaters.

At any point during the debate, debaters or members of the Floor may raise their hand with a "Point of Information". This must be to offer factual information and correction, not as debate rebuttal.

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After the targeted questions, there will be a 5 minute conclusion speech from each side. These will happen in the opposite order to the introduction speech.

Following this, there will be a ballot. This must happen within two weeks of the debate, unless under exceptional circumstances (which must be granted by a JCR Committee vote). At least two days notice of this ballot must be given.

Kit Edgecliffe-Johnson
JCR Vice President 2021