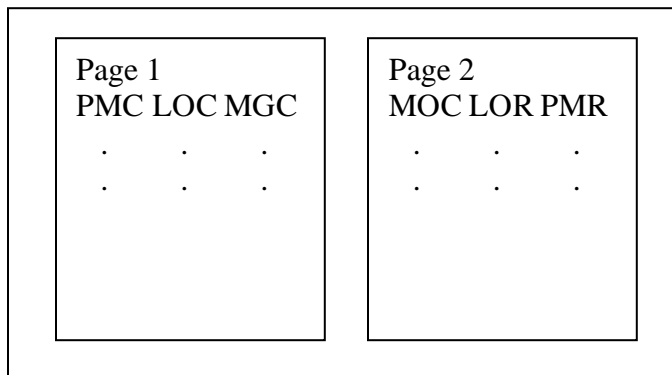# Flow Chart[1] of the Final Round
# Connecticut Middle School Debate League
# Smith Middle School, December 16, 2023

## This House would set maximum age limits for elected officials.

The final round at Smith was between the Bethel teams of Akhil Sharma and Bhuvan Dasari on Proposition against Aarna Doshi, Trisha Sharma, and Radha Sinha on Opposition. The debate was won by the Opposition.

**Format Key**

I take notes on an 11" by 14" artist pad. The two pages below are formatted to print in portrait mode on 8 ½ x 11 paper. The first page covers the first three constructive speeches: the Prime Minister's Constructive (PMC), the Leader of the Opposition's Constructive (LOC), and the Member of Government Constructive (MGC). The second page covers the Member of Opposition Constructive (MOC), the Leader of Opposition Rebuttal (LOR) and the Prime Minister's Rebuttal (PMR). The pages are intended to be arranged as follows, which is how my actual flow looks:

| Page 1 PMC LOC MGC | Page 2 MOC LOR PMR |
|---|---|
| .    .    . <br> .    .    . | .    .    . <br> .    .    . |

In general, the constructive speeches have arguments related to the Government contentions towards the top, and those relating to the Opposition contentions towards the bottom. Some debaters draw a line across the middle to separate the Gov and Opp, but it is hard to judge how much room you need for each until you hear the debaters. I adjust the top and bottom halves best I can.

This flow is organizes the arguments logically, not necessarily in the order in which they were presented. Some speakers will deal with Opposition arguments prior to the Government. Some speeches will be completely disorganized and I place the arguments to best illustrate clash. Accompanying this is a "transcript" version of the debate which presents the arguments in the same order as each speech proceeded.

The chart uses "G1," "O2," etc. to refer to the Government first contention, the Opposition second contention and so forth.

Points of Information are indicated by "POI:" and this marker, the question and the answer are in boldface italics.

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| 1st Proposition Constructive | 1st Opposition Constructive | 2nd Proposition Constructive |
|---|---|---|
| 1) Intro/motion[2] | 1) Intro | 1) Intro/motion |
| 2) Definition: "TH" is the US government<br>  a) "elected officials" anyone voted into office<br>  b) "age limit" a maximum age for office holder. | 2) Rejecting the motion is crucial for democracy<br>3) We accept the Prop definitions | 2) Re-state P1, P2, P3 |
| 3) P1[3]: Old are more likely to have health issues<br>  a) Many examples of age limits by occupation<br>    i) FAA limits pilots, most police, to age 60<br>    ii) Law firms often require retirement at 68<br>    iii) State employees at 65<br>***POI: Aren't these jobs more stressful than politicians?***<br>***Senators/President under more stress than pilots***<br>  b) Age leads to significant cognitive decline<br>  c) ➔ less able to govern, harms likely | 4) P1: Motion is age discrimination against able citizens | 3) P1: Diane Feinstein keeps running at 90<br>***POI: Isn't that just one individual out of millions?***<br>***National Institute on Aging quote on numbers***<br>  a) American Association of Geriatric Psychologist find depression<br>  b) Center for Disease Control defines "old" as over 65<br>  c) Stress leads to depression<br>    i) Harvard study agrees |
| 4) P2: Young can't voice their opinion<br>  a) Older politicians more likely to be elected<br>  b) Young can't express opinions<br>    i) Number young voters exceeds number of older voters<br>  c) => Laws stagnate, decades behind the time<br>  d) Age limits open way for younger politicians | 5) P2: Limit restricts ability of old to express opinions<br>  a) This is age discrimination | 4) P2: only 8 Presidents have been younger than 50<br>  a) Few Congressmen are young<br>  b) Young are well-educated, make good decisions<br>    i) Biden certainly didn't learn about global warming in school |
| 5) P3: Age limits are popular<br>  a) YouGov says 77% in favor<br>    i) 76% of Democrats/79% of Republicans<br>    ii) Most favor 70 as age limit, 17% say 80<br>  b) Lack of limits denies a core value of the country | 6) P3: Young can vote to have an impact<br>***POI: Why not listen to popular opinion***<br>***Voters should make the choice, limits reduce choice*** | 5) P3: Quote that many are worried about older politicians<br>  a) No limits goes against popular will |
| 6) Re-state P1, P2, P3 | | 6) Re-state G1, G2, G3 |
| | 1) Our Plan: Mandatory physical/congnitive tests, annually, all ages<br>  a) No age prejudice in this | |
| | 2) O1: Senior citizens have more experience<br>  a) Xi and Biden are both over 70<br>    i) Foreign Affairs quote about their experience<br>***POI: Isn't that experience out of date?***<br>***We will show it isn't in our contentions***<br>  b) Value too great to ignore<br>    i) McCain was over 80<br>    ii) Experience of torture in VietNam led him to oppose CIA torture | 1) O1: We agree old have more experience<br>  a) That doesn't help if they can't remember it |
| | 3) O2: Age limits neglect the ability of older politicians<br>  a) Senior citizens are 17% of the population, 24% by 2050<br>    i) Limit excludes 55 million now, 84 million by 2050<br>  b) Democracy requires adequate representation<br>    i) "No taxation w/o representation"<br>    ii) No elections without representation<br>  c) Limits would violate Age Discrimination Act of 1975 | 2) O2: There is precedent<br>  a) We don't let those under 16 drive for safety<br>***POI: If they know their condition, why do they run for office?***<br>***May not know until something happens, or just stubborn*** |

[2] Indicates speaker introduced themselves and stated the motion

[3] "P1" indicates the Proposition first contention, "O2" the Opposition second contention and so forth.

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| 2nd Opposition Constructive | Opposition Rebuttal | Proposition Rebuttal |
|---|---|---|
| 1) Intro/motion<br>2) Re-state O1, O2 | 1) Intro: you should reject the motion<br>2) Prop case/Opp case/Weighing | 1) Intro/motion |
| 3) P1: clashes with O2<br>  a) Age limits are age discrimination<br>  b) Our plan limits the risk of decline in young and old | 3) P1: Everyone ages differently<br>  a) Shouldn't discriminate against the able<br>  b) Clash with O2 | 2) P1: age problems limit ability<br>  a) If not tested, wrong decisions lead to harms |
| 4) P2: Prop plan excludes 20% of populations, the senior citizens<br>*POI: So aren't 80% young in the majority?*<br>*Young also vote*<br>  a) Biden set up the National Climate Task Force at 82<br>    i) Will reduce global warming by 2030<br>  b) How will politicians know they are impaired?<br>    i) Our plan tests them | 4) P2: Need a range of ages in all jobs<br>  a) Limits only harm older politicians<br>  b) Young look up to the old | 3) P2: Already discussed clash above<br>  a) Older politicians less open to new ideas<br>  b) E.g., consider your own grandparents |
| | 5) P3: Voters now can vote out those they don't like<br>  a) Still we have many older politicians<br>  b) => older politicians are popular<br>  c) Polls quoted by Prop only asked a few<br>  d) Compare this to the negative impact of motion | 4) P3: Majority favors age limits<br>  a) Public feels ignored on this issue |
| 1) O1: Experience is important in any job<br>  a) Voters prefer experienced candidates<br>  b) Experienced candidates are just more successful<br>    i) E.g., Biden, Xi, accomplish what younger couldn't | 1) O1: Many are living longer<br>  a) Old have better idea of how the world works<br>  b) Young often ask old for advice<br>  c) Biden/Xi wouldn't be in their jobs if they were 50 | 1) O1 v G2: When do young get an opportunity?<br>  a) If only when old, then suffer issues of old |
| 2) O2: Limits exclude able politicians, discriminate<br>  a) Right to run, speak, think matter<br>    i) E.g., Bernie Sanders is quick and effective<br>    ii) =>shows young support those who can make an impact<br>  b) Our plan separates able from unable, whether young or old | 2) O2: Motion discriminates by age<br>  a) Not all old are disabled, not all young are able<br>  b) E.g., Bernie Sanders has fewer problems than younger John Fetterman | 2) O2: age limits promote the greater good |
| | 1) Weighing<br>  a) Prop: neglects ability by forcing old out<br>  b) Opp: better decisions with guidance of older politicians<br>    i) All can give their opinions | 1) Discrimination?<br>  a) Balance against benefits<br>  b) Healthier, fitter politicians<br>2) How can we keep up with the rest of the world?<br>  a) Old are unfit, make bad decisions<br>  b) Other younger countries try new ideas<br>  c) Prop brings young, new ideas, into US politics |