

Intermediate B, Round 1

That we should ban horse-racing.

1. Type of topic

Topics that compel teams to argue that something should or should not be done, or in this case that something should or should not be banned, are normative in nature. Affirmative teams are, therefore, required to exercise fiat and propose a model. Negative teams should consider the outcomes that model is trying to achieve and come up with a counter model to propose, which may or may not be the status quo. Whether the negative is electing to run a counter model or they are propping the status quo should be made clear. If they elect to run the status quo, their arguments then need to be consistent with that fact.

In running their model the affirmative should clearly delineate how they think banning horse-racing would operate, characterising **clearly** and **specifically** what their world would look like. Affirmative and Negative teams alike should ensure they engage with the best case version of each others case (and win on that ground as well as their own) whilst *also* analysing the incentives of key stakeholders to demonstrate why the oppositions counterfactual might not unfold the way the opposition envisages.

2. Background/Context

Horse-racing as an equestrian performance sport, has been practiced in civilisations across the world since ancient times. This topic asks teams to consider what the benefits and harms would be to banning horse-racing, against this background of tradition but giving new and emerging views.

3. Questions to Consider

- What is the role of the Government?
 - o How is that aim achieved by banning of particular sports? How would that aim be achieved or not be achieved by banning horse racing? Is that role important? Why or why not?
- What is the role of horse-racing?
 - o Is that role or aim important?

- What is the role of banning a particular sport – how is that where the line is drawn?
- What is the delta (change) between a world with legal horse racing versus a law without legal horse racing?
- Consider the impacts of the ban on:
 - o Horses;
 - o Jockeys;
 - o The horse racing industry;
 - o Supporters;
 - o Detractors;
 - o Society more generally.
- Has this – or something similar - been done before? And if not, who wants this to be done?
 - o Why? Why not?