

## **Freedoms Foundation Constitution Bowl**

### **Rules & Format**

1. There will be two divisions of competition – **High School** (grades 9-12) and **Middle School** (grades 7-9). 9<sup>th</sup> grade students may compete in either the High School or Middle School divisions. Students from grades 7-8 may compete in the High School division. If there are fewer than three Middle School teams they will compete in the High School division.
2. Each team can have 3-5 students. Only four team members will compete at a time, but the alternate can be rotated in between questions.
3. Teams should be present 15 minutes prior to the start of the event. At that time each team captain will draw to determine his team's position in Round 1 of the bracket. Dress is nice casual – no jeans, t-shirts or shorts please.
4. In each round 2 competing teams will compete, and will include a Moderator, Time/Score Keeper
5. Each Round will consist of two parts – Individual face-off & Team face-off.
  - a. In the individual face-off a question will be presented to each team member – alternating between teams. No communication between team members will be allowed during individual face-off.
  - b. In the team face-off questions will be presented to each team – alternating between teams. Teams may discuss their answer, but the answer must be complete within 30 seconds. The team captain will designate the team member to answer the question.
6. The team member answering the question will have 30 seconds in which to give an answer, the first 20 seconds of which may be used to refer to notes, outlines or founding documents. No use of cell phones, tablets, or computers will be allowed.
7. A countdown clock is displayed on each question page. When the time lapses and bell will sound and the answering person should stop speaking.
  - a. If the answer is correct and complete the Moderator will display the answer and award points.

- b. If the answer is incorrect or incomplete the Moderator will give the opposing team member in individual face-off, or team in team face-off, 10 seconds to respond.
  - c. The Moderator will then display the answer and award points divided between the teams according to their respective answers. The opposing team may receive points only for “new” responses.
8. The awarded points will be posted on the scoreboard by the time-keeper.
  9. If there is a tie at the end of any Round the Moderator will ask each team an additional question to break the tie.
  10. The questions for each Round are the same in each room.
  11. After each Round, the Bracket Manager will update the bracket. Teams will have not less than 5 minutes between rounds to refresh themselves. Their next room assignment will be shown on the Bracket.
  12. Scholarship prizes will be awarded to each team member. If a team has five members each member will receive one fifth of the total prize for that finishing position in their division.

## **Example Question & Answers**

### **What three rights are identified in the Declaration of Independence?**

Answer: **Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness** – Award 3 for each correct response + 1 point if all 3 are given by the same team.

If Team 1 answers, **“Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness”** they will be given 10 points and the moderator will proceed to the next question.

If Team 1 answers, **“Life, Liberty and Free Speech”** the Moderator will respond without indicating which part of the answer may have been correct/incorrect, **“Your answer is incorrect or only partially correct. Team 2 do you wish to add anything?”** If Team 2 responds **“Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness”** or **“Pursuit of Happiness instead of Free Speech”** the Moderator would score the question 6 points to Team 1 for their two correct responses and 3 points to Team 2 for adding the new correct response “Pursuit of Happiness”.