RULES COMMITTEE CLARIFICATIONS
UPDATED: November 27, 2013

Below are the latest clarifications from the Rules Committee:

- **Sweepstakes points BC:** one point for a 1 in preliminary rounds (no doubling for duos)

- **A-BC:** the debate bye gets a point for all rounds and the bye counts as a win for divisional record.

- **SPOI rules do allow for hand gestures.** While the binder must be held (by at least one hand), and feet must remain stationary, there is no direct rule against hand gestures.

- **Timing Clarification:** Some competitors have been saying their code, the title and author and/or intro and then starting the timer. This is a time violation since the timing rule B. 3. D. states: “The competitor will give his or her code number, put the time in clear view of the presenter, press start, and begin speaking.”

**Debate Topic Note:**

The correct Policy Debate Topic is:

**The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic engagement toward Cuba, Mexico or Venezuela.**