

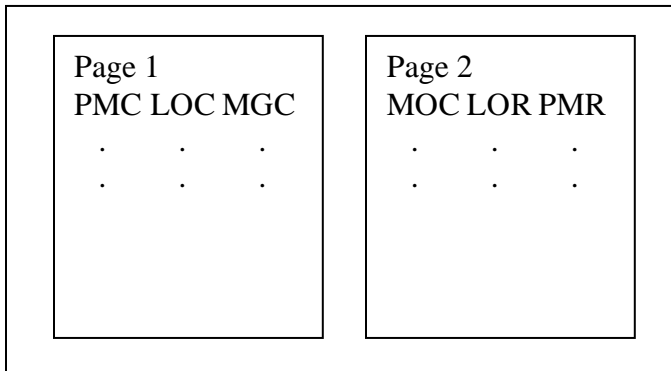
**Flow Chart¹ of the Final Round
Connecticut Debate Association
Joel Barlow High School, October 19, 2024**

THW match small donor contributions to political campaigns.

The final round at Joel Barlow was between the Stamford High School team of Ryan Khessibi and Sabrina Morency on Government and Stamford team of Meher Jain and Aryeh Pollack on Opposition. The debate was won by the Government team in a split decision.

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:



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 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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Prime Minister Constructive	Leader of the Opposition Constructive	Member of Government Constructive
<p>1) Introduction</p> <p>2) Statement of the Motion</p> <p>3) G1²: Matching small donor contributions (MSDC³) will propel minority candidates and small voices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Corporations spend a lot on candidates b) Matching allows individuals to compete c) Minor candidates with grass-roots support benefit d) E.g., MSDC led to increased numbers of women and people of color on the New York City Council e) E.g., state-wide analysis of New York showed MSDC increased the proportion of small donors in total funding from 11% to 7% <p>4) G2: MSDC leads to more diverse and competitive elections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Few third-party candidates: most are Democrats (Dem) or Republican (Rep) <p>POI: Won't these programs fund Dems/Reps?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Not just, but 3rd parties and small candidates c) E.g., Bernie Sanders in 2016 had less funding than Hillary Clinton d) E.g., NYC Council saw more female, LGBTQ, people of color <p>5) G3: MSDC levels the playing field versus PACs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Corporations give \$millions b) E.g., in 2022, 100 people donated \$1.2 billion vs \$747 million from small donors c) This results in voters, candidates and parties not being heard d) MSDC will force candidates and parties to listen to voters. 	<p>1) Intro/Motion</p> <p>2) Definitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) "This House" are state and local governments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) This means Federal Government does not provide funds b) "Small donors" are contributions in the \$80-100 range <p>3) Weighing mechanism: which every side protects democracy and is best for voters.</p>	<p>1) Intro/Motion</p> <p>2) We agree with the Opp definitions and weighing mechanism</p> <p>3) G1: MSDC diverts funding from the two-party system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Voters see better candidates, elect better officials b) Votes become more involved when they see their votes count c) Helps minorities <p>4) G2: Diversity increases participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Elections become more competitive b) This leads to wider representation <p>5) G3: Compare this to PACs today and the wealthy 1%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Small groups get representation b) Opp supports PAC status quo
	<p>1) O1: MSDC is not representative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Everyone, even non-citizens, non-voters, non-party members fund the program through their taxes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) No one has a choice b) Candidates need reach fewer individuals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 1 donor now equals 2 or 3 from before c) This allows candidates to ignore many voters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Most small donors come from the extremes <p>2) O2: MSDC will increase polarization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Most donors have extreme views <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Donors are more certain of their candidate ii) Candidates will cater to these extremes e) Don't turn tax money into political donations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Better to give money to interest groups <p>3) O3: There are better uses for the funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) State and local gov'ts have deficits and would struggle to fund b) Money would have to be diverted from other uses <p>POI: Aren't interest groups behind the PACs in the status quo?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Interest groups are larger groups, not corporate money, more diverse c) While diversity is good, spending on diverse candidates would result in cuts to program funding 	<p>1) O1: Opp claims MSDC is unfair to unaffiliated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) MSDC incentivizes candidates to reach out to these b) Citizens can direct funding to issues they care about c) Better than a candidate relying on a two PACs d) Candidates have to prove their worth to get funded <p>POI: Moderate voters take a while to decide, but candidates need funds early in the process?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) The indecision is because there are only two parties f) MSDC will increase choice and therefore increase interest from moderates <p>2) O2: This leads to the issue of extremism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 20 states now have some sort of matching program, helping to reduce extremism b) PACs and interest groups lead to polarization in the status quo c) Opp won't solve this; MSDC will <p>3) O3: More variety/choice leads to better policy and better officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A more democratic society is more likely to solve its problems <p>POI: Aren't minority candidate proposals expensive?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Yes, but providing campaign funding isn't c) 20 states have some sort of program already

² "G1" indicates the Government first contention, "O2" the Opposition second contention and so forth.

³ This introduces "MSDC" as an abbreviation for "matching small donor contributions".

Member of Opposition Constructive	Leader of Opposition Rebuttal	Prime Minister Rebuttal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Introduction 2) Weighing: Civilians and democracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Diversity vs. corruption and polarization b) Opp: spend money on programs, better diversity c) Gov: inability to pay for the program means it will fall short 3) G1: MSDC propel minorities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Real problems linked to social issues like education, discrimination b) Gov will take money from useful programs 4) G2: We agree we need more candidates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Gov won't fix b) Opp will spend on social issues c) POI: How does funding education increase representation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Gov hasn't provided a funding mechanism ii) Stamford is having trouble funding education, and this harms minorities iii) Gov MSDC will need lots of \$ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elections and democracy are about choice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Taxes give you no choice b. How is it democratic to use taxpayer money for elections? c. Right to vote isn't about donating and directing funds d. Becomes earn a vote to earn funds 2. Voters decide late in the process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Candidates need funding early b. Money given to candidates before voters decide c. This is undemocratic 3. Third parties are often the most extreme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Most donations go to Dem/Rep 4. Voters and diversity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Real problem is education, health, housing, discrimination b. MSDC takes funding from real problems 5. Gov world: solve diversity with MSDC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. But big corporations and donors still exist 6. Opp world: fund social programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Democracy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How is it democratic now when only some voices are heard? b) Education is not a cure all for this c) Gov gives small voices a fair shot d) First step in needed reforms e) Helps average voters express themselves 2) Cost? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Fundamental: one person, one vote b) Using others tax dollars? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) In your interest to have your voice heard ii) MSCD creates real change that benefits all c) Pro's outweigh con's on cost 3) Fix education? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Won't happen without better candidates and politicians 4) Repeat G1, G2, G3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) More voices will be heard b) More will show up to vote c) More will think about running d) These outweigh the \$ cost of the MSDC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) O1: Moderates only come in late in the election process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) This supports O2, increased polarization b) No increase in the middle ground 2) O2: Larger issues than PACs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) People are limited by the major parties 3) Opp means increased funding for social issues 4) Gov \$ propel polarization, costs too much 5) Issues weigh in Opp's favor 6) Repeat O1, O3 		