

# PHASECON 2025

## DEBATE

### Rhetorica: The Power of Debate

*PHASECON 2025 invites you to participate in the debate competition. This competition is a platform to ignite mindful discussions, driving impactful change in digital health.*

#### **Eligibility:**

Participants should be registered in PHASECON 2025.

#### **How to participate:**

Register yourself for Rhetorica through the link provided below

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd7b5KmqdBzoKRDxdqic5sCTjC3RldVstrTY1swSD2h6\\_SDDA/viewform?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd7b5KmqdBzoKRDxdqic5sCTjC3RldVstrTY1swSD2h6_SDDA/viewform?usp=sharing)

#### **Rules for Debate**

- Topic for debate will be given 1 week prior to the day of competition.

- The top 10 scorers of the extempore conducted on Day 1 will be selected for debate.
- There will be two teams (Team A and B) with five members each.

The teams A and B, will be formed to speak FOR and AGAINST the motion respectively, the members of which shall be decided after the preliminary round on Day1, hence it is advised to the participants to prepare for both the motions beforehand.

Which participant goes to which team will be based on the chit system, where 10 chits will be kept in the pot (A,A,A,A,A,B,B,B,B,B) and the participants will be allowed to take one chit each in the order of their marks obtained in the prelims, after the results of the prelims is announced on Day 1.

- Each participant shall be given 3minutes to present their transcript. A warning bell shall ring at the end of 3minutes, which means that the participant should wrap up his/her transcript before the second bell, which shall ring at 3.5 minutes and points will be deducted for exceeding the 3.5-minute mark, with one point deducted for every 20-second extension beyond the limit.
  - The first participant from Team A shall speak FOR the motion, and then the first participant from Team B shall speak AGAINST the motion, the sequence shall then continue in the same manner for the second and third participants of the teams.

- After all the participants have presented their transcripts, a rebuttal round shall be conducted, wherein each participant shall be asked a question from the opposite team, in the same sequence as before, and he/she shall have to answer the question within 1 minute. After 1 minute a bell will ring, which will mean that the time allotted to the participant to answer the question is over.
  - **Preparation for Rebuttal:** Participants will be given a short preparation window after the speeches to organize their thoughts for the rebuttal.
  - The teams can prepare the rebuttal questions based on the speech of the opposite team.
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- There shall be no passing of the question to the next member of the team in the rebuttal round.
  - The debate will be judged based on the following criteria:
    1. Clarity and the viewpoint of the participant regarding the topic.
    2. Structure and sequence of the transcript and use of facts and examples.
    3. Strength and relevance of supporting arguments, including the rebuttal round.
    4. A structured **Questionnaire Round** will be conducted and participants will be required to provide precise and well-reasoned answers.

5. Confidence, body language, time limit and voice modulation while delivering the presentation.

- Each criterion will have a weightage of 10 marks, making the total score out of 50.
- The participants shall be judged individually on their transcript, rebuttal and the questionnaire round.
  - If there is a tie between the members of team A and similarly in team B, then the weightage priority will be in the following order 1,2,3,4,5.
- At the conclusion of the debate, a **winning team** and a **best speaker** will be announced.

### **Rules for Extempore (Prelims)**

- The organization of preliminary debate rounds will only be contingent upon achieving a threshold number of entries to ensure a competitive and engaging event experience.
- There will be prelims for the participants in the mode of extempore on day 1 of conference.
- Participants will be given 1 minute (60 seconds) time to speak on a topic, which will be evaluated by a judge / panel of judges.

- There shall be warning bell at 45 seconds and the final bell at the end of 1 minute, so as to keep the time count and limit the extempore within the time frame.

- The topic will be given to the participant on the day of prelims only, but the broader theme under which the topic comes, will be intimated to the participants at least 3 days before via email/ whatsapp. (Eg: Digital Health Equity: Ensuring Access for All ).

- The participants shall be judged out of a total of 10 marks.

- The judging criteria for the 1 minute extempore will be as following:

1. **Stage presence:** appearance, body language, confidence, eye contact, gestures (weightage: 2/10).

2. **Voice:** different pitches, rate, volume, clarity (weightage: 2/10).

3. **Language:** choice of words, grammar, pronunciation (weightage: 2/10).

4. **Content:** clarity of ideas, easy to understand, structured, supporting evidence (weightage: 4/10).

- If there is a tie between two participants, weightage priority will be in the following order 4,3,2,1.

### **Showcasing and Awards-**

- Results will be announced on 9/12/25 during Valedictory ceremony.

We hope the participants shall be able to conform with the aforesaid SOPs, and any queries are welcomed.

We wish you All the Best for your preparations and the competition. Happy Debating.

**For any queries:**

Contact Email: [phasecon2025@gmail.com](mailto:phasecon2025@gmail.com)