



MUDS Australs Trial Policy (2015)

The way teams will be selected for Australs is substantially different to the method used for Easters.

1) Those trialling will be invited to participate in a maximum of TWO (2) debates in front of one or more External Selectors on a specified date. If they are unable to attend the trial, they are able to submit a resume detailing their relevant debating experience, such as tournaments attended, average speaker scores, etc.

2) Prior to the trials, each person trialling may submit a maximum of TWO (2) vetos to the Registrations Officer, who is not allowed to be trialling as a debater. **Please note** that the more individuals someone vetoes, the more restrictions they place on the team they will be placed in, possibly to their own detriment.

3) Each person trialling will also be invited to disclose to the Registrations Officer their intentions for the tournament prior to trials. For example, those trialling could indicate whether they would prefer to be part of a competitive team, that they would prefer to mentor other debaters, that they would like to develop their skills as much as possible over the course of the tournament, or they could simply indicate that they have no particular intentions or preferences.



4) After the trial debates, the Externals Selector(s) will prepare a numerically ranked list of a pool of debaters to attend based on either their trial debate performance or, in the instance that a debater was unable to attend trials, based on their debating resume if they were included in the pool. Note that if a debater chooses to participate in two debates (as outlined in Step 2 of this Policy), their ranking will be based on an average of their performance across their two debates. This list will be consistent with Affirmative Action policies and will be made up of at least 1/3 women.

5) The Society shall comply with the following Affirmative Action (AA) Policy:

a) A minimum of one third of debaters attending the tournament and one third of debaters in the top three teams must be female.

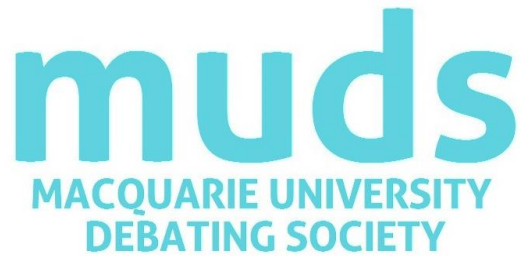
b) Further, a minimum of one third of all members in the contingent (i.e. the total number of debaters and institutional adjudicators) must be female.

c) Where one third of debaters or of the contingent does not constitute a whole number, the number shall be rounded up to the nearest integer.

However, in the event that one third of the contingent is a number less than one, no minimum requirement will apply.

d) The Affirmative Action Policy is subject (but not limited) to the requirements of the Australasian Intervarsity Debating Association (AIDA) Constitution.

6) This ranked list will be given to the Registrations Officer and be circulated amongst all those who trialled. This version of the ranked list should only include the names and rankings



of debaters who have been selected in the pool of debaters to attend. Those selected in the pool of debaters will also receive the list of intentions for the tournament (as described in Section 3 of this Policy) of those selected in the pool of debaters.

7) The debater ranked first will, on receiving the ranked list, be entitled to pick any teammates that are in the pool of selected debaters. They are to name the desired members of their team to the Registrations Officer within TWO (2) hours of acknowledging contact from Registrations Officer. There is an expectation that triallists will acknowledge in this time frame unless they have given prior notice or extenuating circumstances. Failure to name desired team members will result in the Registrations Officer moving to the next ranked person. Extenuating circumstances will lead to subsequent teams being declared void and teams will be re-sorted.

8) The Registrations Officer, after checking the Affirmative Action policy and the vetoes that have been submitted, will then inform the person whether or not that team is compatible. If it is, then the process moves on to Step 9. If it is not, the person has an hour to decide on (a) new teammate(s). **Please note** that there are four possible vetoes that could make a team incompatible, and the Registrations Officer is not able to divulge which it was.

9) After the team is tentatively formed, the next highest ranked person who is not currently in a team will be contacted and the process outlined in Steps 7 & 8 will continue until the (n-1)th



team is formed. Remaining individuals will be placed in the n^{th} team, regardless of what (if any) vetoes have been submitted by these remaining individuals.

10) After teams have been tentatively formed according to Steps 7-9 of this Policy, the Registrations Officer shall contact each debater individually and ask them in turn (according to their team and then their ranking within that team) if they would like to request a change or changes to their team.

- a) If one or more debaters indicates to the Registrations Officer that they would like to request a change (or changes) to their team, any changes must be approved by all debaters who would be directly affected by the change. Note that “directly affected” means any debater whose team composition would be altered as a result of the requested change(s) occurring.
- b) Each change must be compliant with the Affirmative Action Requirement described in Section 5) of this Policy.
- c) No change may occur that would lead to a member of a team formed according to Steps 7-9 not debating, unless that person elects not to debate.
- d) In the event that a change is requested as per Section 10) a) of this Policy but approval is not obtained by those directly affected by the proposed changes or is not compliant with any of Section 10) b)-d), then the team(s) in question will remain as formed according to Steps 7-9 of this Policy.



11) This team list then must be approved by the Executive Committee. The Executive reserves the right to alter teams, or send them back for re-selection if, for example, AA is not met.

12) The team list will be then circulated among those who were selected.

13) Note that those who are trialling are **NOT ALLOWED** to make deals or agree with anyone as to who they will select in advance. Any such understandings may result in them being excluded from the tournament, at the Executive's prerogative.