

Points of Information

- Debaters must offer a minimum of 2 per speaker every speech (by saying “Point of Information”, “On that Point”, or “Sir/Madam”). It’s good to offer more than 2.
- Sometimes, two or three speakers will offer a point of information at the same time, which is completely within the rules.
- If the opposition are offering so many points of information that the speaker struggles to get through their speech, they are badgering, and you should call order.
- Debaters should accept *exactly* 2 (By saying “Yes, Thanks” or “I’ll get to you in a second”)
- They should reject the rest (By saying “No, thank you”, or just waving the speaker down)
- They should be no more than 15 seconds. Call order if it goes on for too long, or if the speakers start to have a conversation.
- Doesn’t have to be a question.
- Points of information are an important factor, and you may award the debate on them. Usually they help teams to clarify the opposition’s case, to bring back their own material, or to highlight problems in the opposition case.
- Points of information don’t have to be directly related to what the speaker is currently discussing. Anything that is relevant to the debate could be a good POI.
- A modifier is added to the speaker’s score to reflect their POI *offering*. The POI *answering* is dealt with within the speaker’s *existing* score.

-2	Offered 0 points of information, or offered very few points of information and offered terrible points when accepted. Very Rare.
-1	Offered some, but a still insufficient number of points of information, <i>or</i> offered poor points of information.
0	Most common score. Offered a sufficient number of points, and when accepted the points of information were acceptable.
1	Offered well more than 2 points of information to every speaker, <i>and</i> when accepted those points of information were good. If a speaker is never accepted in the debate, they should not receive +1
2	Consistently offered many excellent points of information.