

FORMS OF THE HOUSE IN DEBATE

1. All remarks not to speakers should be addressed to the Chair.
2. No Member should refer to another Member by their name, but as "The Honourable Member" or "The Honourable Member from — College"; or, in the case of Officers or ex-Officers, as "The Honourable —".
3. If the President interrupts proceedings with their bell, all members, except the one speaking at the despatch box should resume their seats.
4. There are two legitimate forms of interruption - Points of Order and Points of Information.
5. Points of Order must refer to the order of the debate, and should be introduced to draw the President's attention to an abuse of the Forms of the House (e.g. interjections from the gallery, or slanderous remarks from the speaker which the Member wishes to be withdrawn, etc.) Such points take automatic precedence in the proceedings.
6. Points of Information must be literally points of information, and not just expressions of opinion. A Member wishing to raise such a point should rise in their seat, and wait until the speaker at the despatch box gives way. If the speaker does not wish to give way, the Member must resume their seat. Theoretically no two members of the Society may be on their feet at once. Shouted interruptions are not allowed, although cries of "order" are permitted to draw the speaker's attention to a Member wishing to raise a point of information, whom they may not have seen. The speaker is never under any obligation to give way to interruptions.
7. (These points are introduced with the phrase "On a point of order" or "On a point of information" respectively.)
8. Booing or hissing a speaker is both a grave and a pointless discourtesy, and an abuse of the Forms of the House.
9. Speakers on the paper will be told in advance the time allocated to them, and should observe this with the aid of warning from the Secretary.
10. Members should always appreciate that visiting speakers are entitled to a quiet hearing, but in the interests of debate guest speakers are always open to challenge on points of information. Members are reminded that speakers who come down are usually very busy people who come as a favour to the Society and are hence entitled to the courtesy which one would normally extend to a guest in one's home.
11. Members are reminded that they should not bring food or drink into the Chamber, nor should they communicate with mobile phones or smoke in the Chamber at any time.
12. Interpretation of the Forms of the House rests with the Chair while they act as Chair.