

## Resource sheet 8 Conducting a debate

### Speakers

In a debating team speakers have specific roles to play in a specific order to fulfil their part in the team:

#### 1st affirmative

Must:

- define the topic
- briefly outline what each speaker in their team will talk about.

#### 1st negative

Must:

- present the negative team's ideas on the topic
- briefly outline what each of the negative speakers will say
- rebut a few of the main points of the first affirmative speaker (for approximately one quarter of their allocated time).

#### 2nd affirmative

Must:

- tell the audience the affirmative team's main arguments again
- rebut the main points presented by the 1st negative (for approximately one third of their allocated time).

#### 2nd negative

Must:

- reaffirm the negative team's arguments
- rebut some of the main points of the affirmative team's case (for approximately one third of their allocated time).

#### 3rd affirmative

Must:

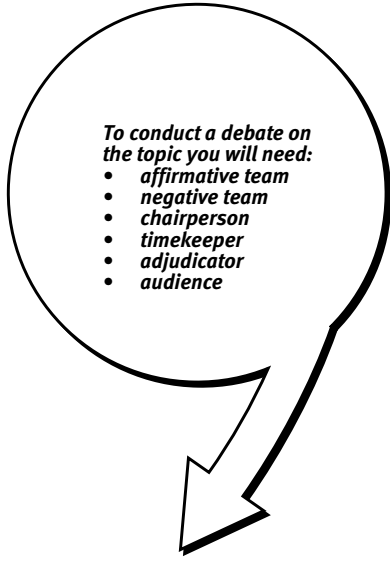
- reaffirm the affirmative team's argument
- rebut all the remaining points of the negative team's case (for approximately two-thirds to three-quarters of their allocated time)
- present a summary of the affirmative team's case
- finish off the debate for the affirmative.

#### 3rd negative

Must:

- reaffirm the negative team's argument.
- rebut all the remaining points of the affirmative team's case (for approximately three-quarters of their allocated time)
- present a summary of the negative team's case
- finish off the debate for the negative.

**Note:** Neither third speaker is allowed to introduce new parts of their team's cases.



**To conduct a debate on the topic you will need:**

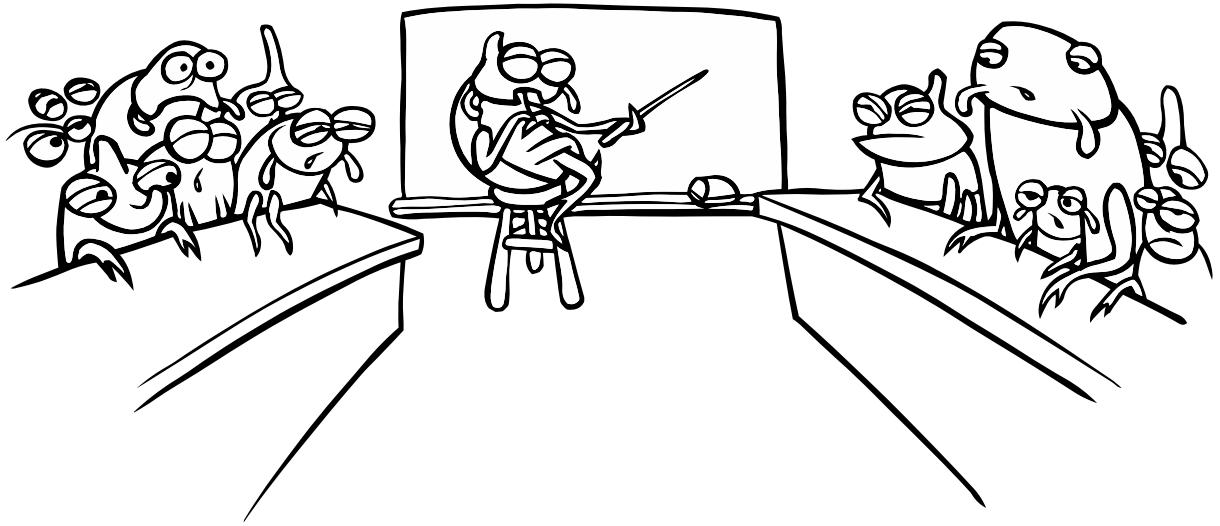
- affirmative team
- negative team
- chairperson
- timekeeper
- adjudicator
- audience

### Affirmative team

The affirmative team will consist of three speakers whose job is to agree with the topic. The affirmative team will speak first in the debate. The team should sit on the right hand of the chairperson in order (from nearest the chair): 1st, 3rd, 2nd. This is to make it easier for the first and second speakers to pass rebuttal material to the third speaker. (Rebuttal is when you get to say why the other team's arguments are not correct and argue against them.)

### Negative team

The negative team will consist of three speakers whose job it is to disagree with the topic. It will consist of three speakers. The negative team will speak last in the debate. The team should sit on the left hand of the chairperson in order (from nearest the chair): 1st, 3rd, 2nd. This is to make it easier for the first and second speakers to pass



### **Chairperson**

The role of the chairperson is to control the debate. Their first duty is to call the debate to order and to welcome those present.

He or she should then announce the topic of the debate, the name of the adjudicator, and the names of the teams that are participating.

Next, she or he should tell the speakers and the audience how long each speech will be, giving the minimum and maximum times, and calling upon the timekeeper to demonstrate the sound of the bell.

The chairperson should then introduce the first speaker of the affirmative team to open the debate and then sit down.

After that speaker has concluded his or her speech the chairperson should wait for the adjudicator's 'okay' before announcing the first speaker of the negative team.

This process should continue throughout the debate, with the speakers called for in the following order:

1. 1st affirmative
2. 1st negative
3. 2nd affirmative
4. 2nd negative
5. 3rd affirmative
6. 3rd negative

A typical chairperson's presentation might go as follows:

**Hello fellow students and welcome to today's debate. The topic for this debate is <topic>. Today, for the affirmative we have 'team name' and for the negative we have (team name). Our adjudicator is <name>.**

**The speaking times today will be <minimum speaking time> to <maximum speaking time>. There will be a bell at <minimum speaking time> minutes [timekeeper demonstrates the bell] and a second bell at <maximum speaking time> minutes [timekeeper demonstrates the bell].**

**I would now like to call upon the first speaker of the affirmative team <name> to open the debate.**

**I would like now to call upon the adjudicator <name> to give the decision on today's debate.**

### **Timekeeper**

The timekeeper times how long each speaker speaks and rings a bell to indicate that certain amounts of time have passed.

### **Adjudicator**

The adjudicator decides who has won the debate. He or she marks the teams on how well they have developed their arguments and how well they have prepared the rebuttal against the other team. At the end of the debate he/she tells the audience who has won and why.



*Formulating a sustainable management plan for a natural resource management issue in your local area may seem like a huge task; however, breaking down your planning into stages will enable you to think about all the processes need to complete.*

### **Project plan**

Under the headings that follow, write down how you might complete each section of the planning process:

1. Identify the issue
2. Investigate the problem
3. Evaluate the facts
4. Evaluate the actions that could be taken
5. Predict outcomes—if we do that, what then?
6. Select the best action(s)
7. Implement the action(s)
8. Evaluate the actions—how did it go?

You may have only a few ideas at first and be able to fill out more later on. You might like to enlarge this sheet on a photocopier or copy it on to cardboard posters to put up on the wall of your classroom. This will help you to stay on track with your planning!

## Resource sheet 10 Property planning

### Property plans—When should they be prepared?

Property planning is a process whereby landholders can consider personal, financial and natural resource management issues involved in farm business management. (The Futureprofit program of workshops provides guidance throughout this process.)

Landholders also may need to prepare a property plan to fulfil a requirement of government or to be eligible for some forms of financial assistance.

By understanding the purpose of the various approval processes, landholders can avoid unnecessary duplication when collecting and presenting information. An integrated overall plan for the development and management of a property should also meet the needs of assessment and approval bodies.

Property plans include a map based on aerial photography or a satellite image, depending on property size.

### Land and water management

Land and water management plans (LWMP) were introduced in 1996 to guide the sustainable use of water allocations. Their aim is to ensure that land and water management practices do not have an adverse impact on water resources or watercourses.

The *Water Act 2000* specifies that a LWMP is required before using new or additional water allocations for irrigation purposes, such as those purchased at auction or under permanent trading arrangements. A LWMP may also be required where specified in a water use plan (a plan relating to water use prepared in consultation with community and industry stakeholders).

A LWMP should show soils, topographic and flood-related information, wetlands, and saline areas. Planned improvements such as water storages, bores, pumping plants, channels, power lines, chemical and fuel storage, drains and levee banks should also be shown. The plan must include a report describing how the land and water resources will be managed sustainably.

### Vegetation management

The retention and management of native vegetation requires careful planning. Clearing of vegetation on leasehold land is managed under the *Land Act 1994*, and on freehold land under the *Vegetation Management Act 1999*. Landholders are required to prepare a property vegetation management plan (PVMP) as part of an application to clear remnant vegetation on leasehold or freehold land.

A PVMP could include natural features or improvements, regional ecosystem types, areas of high nature conservation value or areas vulnerable to land degradation, stands of commercial timber, areas of land already cleared, and areas proposed to be cleared, the method of clearing, proposed land use after clearing, likely follow-up operation to control regrowth, any planned revegetation or rehabilitation and any other information prescribed under the *Land Regulation 1995* or the *Vegetation Management Regulation 2000*.

### Soil conservation plans

Soil conservation plans show how measures such as contour banks and waterways coordinate run-off through one or more properties as part of a catchment. If a soil conservation plan affects upper or lower landholders, the *Soil Conservation Act 1986* provides a process through which the plan can be approved. Such plans are prepared with input from all parties affected, including road and rail authorities.

### **Land management and water conservation plans for taxation purposes**

Land management plans are required when landholders wish to claim a tax deduction or a rebate for the erection of fences that improve the management of different land classes according to their capability.

Water conservation plans are required when landholders wish to claim a drought investment allowance for water storage and conveyancing equipment.

### **Assistance from QRAA**

The Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority (QRAA) provides concessional loans for landcare-related activities. The application must include a plan indicating the location of the proposed activities and an outline of proposed strategies aimed at long-term management of the landcare activity.

Applicants seeking support through the Desert Uplands or South West Strategy schemes need to prepare a property management plan.

### **Nature conservation plans**

Nature conservation plans help to identify areas of native vegetation to be retained for wildlife habitat, shade and shelter; timber and non-timber products; drought fodder; and honey production. Native vegetation improves the aesthetic appearance of a property can add to its market value, and contribute to a catchment or regional nature conservation strategy.

Advice and assistance for incorporating nature conservation in property planning can be obtained from the local Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service extension officer. The Land for Wildlife program also assists landholders to develop management plans through their local council.

### **Pest management plans**

Landholders with significant pest problems should develop and implement a pest management plan. Some local governments are encouraging landholders to develop and implement pest management plans as a means of fulfilling their statutory obligations to control declared plants and animals. Such plans should normally be consistent with the Pest Management Plan for the local government area.

### **Environmental Protection Act—planning requirements**

The *Environmental Protection Act 1994* places an obligation on everyone to care for the environment and to avoid environmental harm. To provide guidance to landholders in achieving this, the Queensland Farmers Federation has released the *Environmental Code of Practice for Agriculture*. More detailed codes have been, and are being prepared for specific rural industries.

A property plan would assist landholders in planning the use and management of their land and in demonstrating conformity with the relevant code of practice.

Under the Act, all 'environmentally relevant activities' (ERA) (such as feedlotting, and pig and poultry farming) need to be authorised by the issuing of a development approval and, for level 1 ERAs, an environmental authority. As part of the approval the applicant may be required to prepare an environmental management plan that addresses issues such as waste management, water resource management, noise, dust and odour.

### **Sugar cane assignments**

Canegrowers wishing to expand their production area may be required to submit a plan of their proposed development to the local cane production board prior to obtaining approval to grow cane and supply a local sugar mill.

### **Local government needs**

Under the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* and planning schemes prepared under the Act some local governments may require landholders to obtain development approval for changes in land use. Examples could include the conversion of grazing land to intensive agriculture (such as cotton, sugar cane or horticulture), harvesting of native forests, or establishment of timber plantations.

Property plans showing areas proposed for development and measures to protect environmental features may be needed as part of an application for development approval.

### **Further information**

For more detailed information see the *NRM Facts* series available at <[www.nrm.qld.gov.au](http://www.nrm.qld.gov.au)>.