NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ETHICS BOWL

GOOD JUDGE QUESTIONS



ASK FOR DEFINITION.

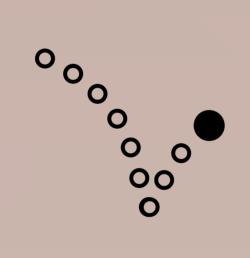
Students will often use terms of art or concepts whose very definitions are crucial to their resolution of the case.

Don't be afraid to ask them to define their terminology.



ASK FOR CLARIFICATION.

Sometimes the structure of students' arguments can get lost in their presentation. Feel free to ask about how different premises or ideas relate to each other.



FIND NEW IMPLICATIONS.

In developing positions on cases, it's a good use of brain power for students to consider what other implications their views have beyond the case at hand.



CONTEXTUALIZE THE VIEW.

Students should work to contextualize their view alongside other (even competing) ones. If this isn't a key part of their presentation, ask them how they might respond to a (reasonable) criticism.



FOCUS ON CONCEPTS.

Good Ethics Bowl discussions are driven by high level value commitments and normative principles. If the ideas students are working from are not clear, ask them to elaborate.