Debate Session Outline

You will need:

- Two teams of three people each
- A nominated Facilitator
- Several vote counters
- Time: Minimum 1:30 hours

All those involved sit at the front, with the Facilitator in the middle and the two opposing teams on either side.

Debate the following motion:

Insert a defined statement here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>e.g. “This house believes that occupational therapists remain too aligned to the medical model”</th>
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</table>

Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team members for the motion</th>
<th>Team members against the motion</th>
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Session plan

Introduction (10-15 mins)

1. Facilitator welcomes and introduces the topic to the audience (Power Point slides with information about the statement are recommended).

2. Confirm the ground rules:
   - There can be no amendment to the motion;
   - Each speech can't be longer than 5 minutes;
   - Rebuttal is vital but do not personalise it;
   - No bad language or props;
   - Voting at the beginning and end will be to support the motion, oppose or abstain.
3. Introduce teams to the audience.
4. Initial audience vote: support, oppose or abstain. Record numbers.

**Preliminary Remarks (30 mins)**

- The two sides will then speak in turn alternating, so each person will be followed by someone from the opposition. **Each person has five minutes to speak.**
- No power point can be used as the debate topic and ground rules will be on the screen.

**Open Debate (30 mins)**

- The session will then be opened to the floor so audience members may ask questions of the speakers or add their own comments. This will be managed by the Facilitator.

**Closing (10 mins)**

- Facilitator recounts the audience votes to: support, oppose or abstain.
- Announces the results of the debate.
- Thanks to all involved and close session.