

The Irish Independence Movement (1916)



Letter from the Dais

Dearest delegates,

We assume that for many of you, BrewMUNC VI may very well be your first conference, so with that understanding, it is with great pleasure that we welcome you to BrewMUNC VI! This committee will drop you into the world of Model UN in an exciting and engaging way, and hopefully help you build the foundational skills necessary for your success in not only Model UN, but in the world. For returning delegates, we hope that you too will enjoy your experience at BrewMUNC VI, and that you will feel both challenged and engaged during debate.

The Irish Independence Movement Committee will begin in 1916, under the assumption that the Easter Rising will occur in the short future. The question of how the rising will occur is up to you, the delegates. From there, the progression of time is controlled by both your directives and decisions made by the crisis team. This is a specialized committee, meaning the committee will progress primarily through directives that the assembly passes. There will be crisis updates, but no crisis notes. That being said, you are encouraged to pass notes between fellow delegates. Position papers are not required for debate, but are required for awards and are greatly encouraged (see page four). If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Vaughan via email (sarah.vaughan@brewsterschools.org). We look forward to hosting BrewMUNC VI, and wish you all the best in debate.

Sarah Vaughan and Brianna Graham
Head Chair & Co-Chair
Irish Independence Movement

Parliamentary Procedure & Mechanics

Overview: The committee will run on a speaker's list. The chair will recognize delegates wishing to speak, and motions will be entertained after each speech has elapsed. For procedural matters, a simple majority of 50% + 1 will be required and each delegate must vote either in favor or against; no abstentions will be entertained. No pre-set time limits on speeches are established; this determination, as well as any other particulars of procedure, is left to the discretion of the committee or the chair, as appropriate. The chair shall have final authority on all procedural questions and will occasionally entertain appeals.

Language and Attire: The working and official language of the committee shall be English. All delegates are expected to wear Western Business Attire.

Electronic Devices: All electronic devices not being utilized for committee purposes are prohibited from the committee room unless otherwise stated by the Chair. Timers and stopwatches are permitted. Please have your cameras on throughout the conference weekend. If there are issues with this, please contact your committee Chair.

Between Delegates: Delegates can pass notes freely to other delegates within the committee or speak to other delegates during unmoderated caucus. However, talking during another delegate's speech is not permitted.

Motion for a Moderated Caucus: Specifies the topic of debate, the length of the caucus, and the speaker's time. Much of the committee is expected to take place in a moderated caucus.

Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus: The committee may choose to move into an unmoderated caucus for a certain length of time, in which delegates may move freely about the room and speak to each other without direction from the Chair. However, it will be at the Chair's discretion to prohibit unmoderated caucus at certain times during committee.

Point of Order: May interrupt a speaker and can be raised when the delegate believes the rules of procedure have been violated by the Chair or another delegate. The chair will stop the proceedings of the committee and ask the delegate to provide warranted arguments as to which rules of procedure have been violated.

Point of Personal Privilege: May be raised when a delegate's ability to participate in debate is impaired for any physical or logistical reason (e.g. if the speaker is not audible). This point may interrupt a speech, and the dais will immediately attempt to resolve the difficulty.

Point of Inquiry: This point may be raised by a delegate who wishes to clarify any rule of procedure with the Chair. It may not interrupt a speaker, and a delegate rising to this point may not make any substantive statements or arguments.

Point of Information: This point may be raised by a delegate to either clarify a point or motion or to bring substantive information to the notice. It may not interrupt a speaker, and must contain only a statement of some new fact that may have relevance to debate. Arguments and analyses may not be made by delegates rising to this point. A point of information may also be used to ask questions of a speaker on the general speakers list.

Right of Reply: May be invoked in the rare case that a delegate feels their personal dignity or integrity has been deliberately offended. This motion will be judged at the Chair's discretion

Motion to Suspend Debate: Suspends debate for a stipulated amount of time.

Motion to Adjourn: This motion brings the committee's deliberation to an end, and is only admissible when suggested by the Chair.

Resolutions: Resolutions are standard orders. All direct actions taken by this committee require a resolution. Resolutions pass with a simple majority.

Motion to Introduce Documents: Puts the document on the floor to be debated by the committee. The sponsor(s) of the document will be asked to read the document and then, if deemed appropriate, the Chair will entertain a moderated caucus on the topic.

Amendments: After the first draft of a committee document has been introduced, delegates may move to amend particular clauses of the draft. If the amendment is supported by all the sponsors of the documents, it passes as a friendly amendment. Committee Documents represent the product of the committee's deliberations and their collective decisions.

Motion for a Q&A Session: At the Chair's discretion, after a document has been submitted for debate, a delegate may motion for a questioning and answering session with the document's writer(s) to further understand the contents of the document. The rules of debate will be suspended for a session whose length is subject to the Chair's discretion.

Motion for Speakers For and Against: If it would help the proceedings of the committee, a delegate may motion for speakers for and against a document.

Motion to Enter Voting Procedure: Debate is suspended and the committee votes on the document(s) in question.

Motion for a Roll Call Vote: A delegate may move to have the vote conducted in alphabetical order.

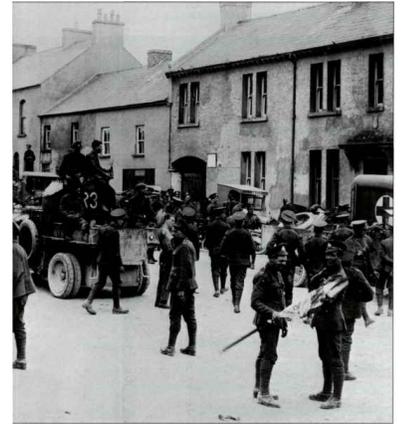
Position Papers

Position papers are *not* required to be eligible for awards. However, they are highly recommended as they aid delegates in achieving a better understanding of their objectives and the objectives of their fellow delegates. In addition to writing a position paper, delegates are encouraged to bring any resources or notes they require, so long as they are printed prior to the conference or written. Delegates are encouraged to use the resources on the final two pages of this packet. This does not include documents or resolutions, which will not be accepted if written prior to the opening of committee. These resources do not need to be shared with the dais. Position papers should be written using standard MLA format, double-spaced, size 12 Times New Roman font. Please email a PDF file of your position paper to sarah.vaughan@brewsterschools.org . Please include the committee and position name in the subject line of the email. (i.e. Irish War of Independence - Michael Collins)

Historical Background

The Irish War for Independence is also referred to as the Anglo-Irish war. It was the culmination of centuries long conflict between the Irish and British. The conflict was primarily fought between Irish republicans, Ulster Loyalists, and British government forces. The late 19th century saw a rise in nationalism and more citizens feeling proud of their Irish culture and identity. Rising favor for democratic ideas and a want of separation from the monarchy also fueled Irish citizens' desire for independence. The war ended with a treaty called the Anglo-Irish treaty, which went into effect in March of 1922.

Following the war, the Irish Free State (later the Republic of Ireland) and Northern Ireland were created as separate entities. Northern Ireland remains to this day under the control of Britain, and the Irish Free State gained independence, now being recognized as the Republic of Ireland.



Sinn Fein

Translates to “We Ourselves”. Sinn Fein is a social movement to liberate and unite all of Ireland still active today. Sinn Fein is recognized to have officially begun in 1902. The movement was peaceful and encouraged civil disobedience, and remained fairly small. Until 1916. The leader of Sinn Fein, Eamon de Valera, a free and united Ireland, sparking the spread of republicanism in Ireland. In 1919, members of Sinn Fein set up a provisional government, and the war for independence shortly ensued. Eventually Sinn Fein would become divided, one side accepting the Anglo-Irish treaty and the partial separation of Ireland, and the other still pursuing a whole, united and free Ireland. Much of Sinn Fein's membership also made up the Provisional IRA's membership.

The Provisional Irish Republican Army (Provo-IRA)



The Irish Volunteer Force was created in November of 1913 in response to the Ulster Volunteer Force. They allied with the Irish Citizen Army, an army made up of working class socialist republicans. Both groups alongside the Ulster

Volunteer Force raced to get arms into the country, and trained themselves to use them efficiently in preparation for the tension to reach its peak and fighting to break out. The Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) was founded in 1858. This group was responsible for the Easter Rising of 1916.

These three groups -- the Irish Citizen Army, the Irish Volunteer Force, and the Irish Republican Brotherhood -- were absorbed into one group under a new name: The Provisional Irish Republican Army. In the beginning, battles were few and far between, however they steadily grew larger and larger casualty counts as time grew closer to 1919. The IRA used guerilla



tactics due to only having a few thousand men at once, resorting to ambushes, assassinations, and targeted, well timed attacks. The IRA relied heavily on other Irish citizens' help and often depended on their help to escape capture. The IRA also made use of propaganda, as local support was crucial to the war effort. The IRA used newspapers to spread propaganda for their cause and libel of the British army to win favor. Michael Collins was their Director of Intelligence and worthy commander. Collins organized the group that would later go on to kill the Lord Lieutenant of

Ireland. By the time England passed the Government of Ireland it was too late, Irish nationalism had grown too strong and the Irish would not settle for anything short of independence.

The IRA often fought the Black and Tans, an army of veterans from the first World War enlisted by the British to stomp out the IRA. They were known to be violent, looting and destroying towns and brutally beating anyone suspected of having connections to the IRA.

Irish Parliamentary Party

The Irish Parliamentary Party was founded in 1874, and sought to separate from England peacefully, and legally, without any fighting whatsoever. They pushed the "Home Rule" that would peacefully sever Ireland from England. While Home Rule was on track to be put officially into law in 1914, the large Protestant population in Ulster was highly resistant, going so far as to form a militia called the Ulster Volunteer Force.

The Easter Rising

On April 24, 1916, Irish nationalists took over Dublin's Post Office, loudly declaring that Irish was a nation independent of England. Democratic ideals grew in Ireland as did national pride, causing more young Irishmen to want to become independent. Though the uprising ended when its leaders were executed, the Easter Rising had lasting effects on and shaped the Irish political landscape.



Dáil Éireann

Dail Eireann was the first Irish Assembly, which took place in January of 1919. The goal of the assembly was to declare independence once more, demand international recognition and establish a formal Irish government which would be charged with passively undermining British rule through acts such as civil disobedience. Though, members of the assembly were divided on whether or not violence should be used when trying to separate again, or if it could be done by peaceful means alone. The very day that the assembly met, two rebel leaders were murdered, which showed to be the tipping point for the war to begin.

Weapons of the Time

The Irish War of Independence was fought using close-quartered guerilla tactics, resulting in most British casualties being caused by shotguns. The Irish were mainly armed with stolen weapons, and as the violence increased, so did the need for arms. The IRA used pistols, shotguns, and less commonly rifles. The Irish were at severe disadvantage, especially at the beginning of the war. when it came to firepower, as the British had machine guns and much stronger artillery. Ammunition and explosives were smuggled in from Liverpool through the ports in Dublin. Revolvers, rifles, early machine guns and hand grenades, pistols and shotguns all found their place in the war.



Topics of Debate

I. The Easter Rising

- The continual dismissal of the Irish desire for independence eventually sparked the Easter Rising of 1916. The Irish Volunteer Army leads the rising, how will they be organized? Supplied? How will the injured and dead be tended to?

II. Sinn Fein

- As the movement picks up in 1919, IRA involvement has begun causing mass casualties on both sides of the fighting, can delegates find a way to lower casualties via supplies, peace talks, or another method? Do you wish to try and end the battle quickly with other methods?

III. British Occupation

- The British occupation of Ireland causes tensions to increasingly rise across the territory, and eventually leads to a sharp increase in violence. Do you wish to continue fighting the British in the manner you have been? Do you want to attempt to resolve the conflict early with a peace treaty? Do you believe it will work?

IV. Formation of Government

- A provisional Irish government being created sparked the war for independence. This government mainly sought separation from England and the liberation of Irishmen. How will this government function? From where or whom will this government derive its authority? How?

Positions

1. W. T. Cosgrave

William Thomas Cosgrave was an Irish politician who was a part of the Fine Gael political party. He served in many positions of power, including the president of the Executive Council of the Irish Free State, leader of Fine Gael, and chairman of the Provisional Government. He was a supporter of the Anglo-Irish Treaty, and worked with Arthur Griffith and Michael Collins to have it signed.

2. Leslie de Barra

Leslie Mary de Barra was an Irish republican and Nationalist. She became director, and soon after Chairman and President of Cumann na mBan, or the Irishwomen's council. Her role in the rebellion was to carry messages and ammunition between the General Post Office which was the main headquarters and other postal offices.

3. James Bernard (4th Earl of Bandon)

James Francis Bernard was a British Deputy Lieutenant in Ireland. During the war for independence, he was kidnapped and held hostage in order to prevent the British from executing captured IRA soldiers.

4. Elizabeth Blaxham

Elizabeth Bloxham was an Irish suffragist and feminist, and was the National Organizer for Cumann na mBan. She worked as a background speaker at suffragette meetings, and supported the Irish Women's Franchise League.

5. Una Brennan

Una Brennan was an Irish republican and feminist, who mainly used her home for safe place for both important documents and men in need of hiding. She was against creating a treaty during the Irish Civil War.

6. W. J. Brennan-Whitmore

William James Brennan-Whitmore was an Irish journalist, revolutionist and soldier. He served in the Irish Republican Army and was an intelligence officer under Michael Collins, and supported the treaty. He wrote articles to the IRA's official Newspaper, and became editor of it.

7. Thomas Hand

Thomas Hand was an Irish republican who was a member of the IRA. Took part in the Easter Rising, and was active in the local Branch

8. Sean Harrington

Sean Harrington was an Irish republican who was a member of the IRA's Army Council and went on to become chief of staff of the IRA.

9. Sean Hogan

Sean Hogan was one of the leaders of the Tipperary Brigade of the IRA. He helped with training of the Brigades.

10. Thomas Hunter

Thomas Hunter was a militant Irish Republican, and was a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB), Sinn Fein, and was elected to the Irish Parliament twice. As a member of the IRA, he fought against the forces of the Irish Free State.

11. Dinny Lacey

Denis Lacey was an Irish Republican Army officer and an anti-treaty IRA officer in the Irish Civil war. He took over the Third Tipperary Brigade.

12. Elizabeth Cooney

Alongside her two sisters, Elizabeth stored guns and ammunition in her home and distributed them to Irish soldiers. Elizabeth raised money to free prisoners and traveled by bicycle to deliver information.

13. Eamon de Valera

Eamon de Valera was an Irish statesman. He served as head of government and head of state. He became a commandant of Irish Volunteers during the Easter Rising. He also served as the political leader of the anti-treaty Sinn Fein.

14. Elizabeth Mernin

Elizabeth Mernin was an Irish intelligence agent and contributed to finding homes of the British intelligence officers. She used her position to get important information and documents.

15. Rose McNamara

Rose McNamara was an Irish nationalist and was the Vice Commandant during the Easter Rising of 1916. As a member of Cumann na mBan she conducted demonstrations, collected money for equipment and ammunition for Volunteers, and more.

16. Tom McEllistrim

Tom McEllistrim was a politician who was a part of the Fianna Fail party. He served in the Irish Republican Army and was important to setting up an Active Service Unit.

17. Michael MacConaill

Michael MacConaill was an Irish medical doctor and activist. He became a First Aid Instructor and Organizer of Medical Service during the Irish war of Independence

18. Bridget Conolly

Bridget Conolly was an Irish republican and was a part of the Easter Rising. She stored arms for the soldiers and alongside many other women, remained in the Hibernian Bank until they were forced to surrender.

19. Arthur Griffith

Arthur Griffith was an Irish writer, politician and newspaper editor. He founded the political party Sinn Fein, and led the Irish delegation which led to the production of the Anglo-English treaty.

20. Hamar Greenwood

Hamar Greenwood was an English Lawyer and politician. He served as the Chief Secretary of Ireland, and was involved with the Black and Tans.

21. William Pain

William Pain was a British Army officer and he played a key part in setting up the Ulster Volunteers. During the first world war, he commanded British troops in Northern Ireland, and briefly served as a member of parliament.

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