

**SPEECH/DEBATE CLUB
BY-LAWS**

The purpose of these guidelines is to establish a code of conduct for club officers and members and set forth requirements for the officers and members to maintain "active member" status.

Any change to the by-laws needs to be approved by a majority of the club's officers and of the sponsor.

**ARTICLE I
ELECTIONS**

Elections will be held annually; either in the late spring or early fall. Students enrolled in a Speech or Debate class will be eligible to run for an office provided they meet the 2.75 GPA requirement.

Elections will be conducted in an open meeting. Only persons in attendance of this meeting (who are paid Speech and/or Debate members) will be eligible to vote.

**ARTICLE II
REQUIREMENTS OF OFFICERS**

Officers will have a 2.75 GPA and maintain this average while in office.

Officers will display positive leadership characteristics and maintain positive attitudes toward the team members and fellow officers.

Officers will plan and attend all meetings. Meetings should be scheduled to accommodate the majority of the team members and should be scheduled (at a minimum) once monthly.

Officers will take part in the selling of any fundraising products.

Officers will adhere to school and/or team rules and will not promote activities that are not allowed.

Officers (with input from team members and sponsor) will determine a charitable organization to sponsor annually. (Ex: Christmas clothing and blanket drive, etc.)

Officers (with input from team members and sponsor) will plan (at minimum) 3 social functions during the school year for the team. All "official" Speech and Debate club activities will have approval of the sponsor.

Officers will fulfill other responsibilities deemed necessary by the sponsor.

Also attached tournament guidelines etc.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH OFFICE:

PRESIDENT

The President will develop an agenda for each meeting and conduct the meetings in an efficient, professional manner. He/she will oversee and take part in such activities as: team parties, fundraisers, etc. This office is reserved for a senior member.

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President will work with the President and be in charge if the President is unavailable or removed from office.

SECRETARY

The secretary will keep the minutes of each meeting, take roll at meetings and activities.

TREASURER

The treasurer will assist the sponsor with collecting dues, preparing fundraisers, taking in receipts from fundraisers and counting and depositing cash. (Sponsor must be present when handling cash.) This office is reserved for a junior/senior member.

REPORTER

The reporter will write announcements for the school to keep the team members abreast of upcoming activities. He/she will also keep a scrapbook of the year's activities.

ARTICLE III

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLUB MEMBERS

(* to be considered an "active member")

Club members will pay appropriate yearly dues.

Club members will be enrolled in Speech or Debate class at least 1 semester.

Club members will partake in fundraiser activities.

Club members will attend (at minimum) 60% of club meetings.

Club members will abide by team/school/tournament rules.

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- If needed, new elections will be held to replace officers who have been dismissed or are no longer attending Westmoore High School.

SPEECH AND DEBATE TOURNAMENTS!!

AS A SPEECH AND/OR DEBATE STUDENT YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND AND COMPETE IN SPEECH AND DEBATE TOURNAMENTS. YOU WILL MEET NEW PEOPLE, VIEW FELLOW ORATORS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, DEVELOP YOUR OWN PERFORMANCE/SPEAKING SKILLS!

CLASS REQUIREMENTS: STUDENTS IN INTRODUCTORY LEVEL COURSES ARE NOT REQUIRED, BUT STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO COMPETE AT CONTESTS. STUDENTS IN INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED COURSES MUST COMPETE IN CONTESTS TO FULFILL THE CONTEST PART OF THEIR GRADE.

COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

THERE ARE 3 TOURNAMENTS (NOT INCLUDING REGIONAL AND STATE) SCHEDULED FOR EACH SEMESTER. STUDENTS MAY PARTICIPATE IN A MAX. OF 3 EVENTS PER TOURNAMENT. **SPEECH/ORAL INTERPRETATION** STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPETE IN 5 EVENTS EACH SEMESTER. (EXAMPLE 3 AT 1 TOURNAMENT AND 2 AT ANOTHER). **DEBATERS MUST COMPETE IN 4 PER SEMESTER.** (EXAMPLE L-D AND DEX AT 2 TOURNAMENTS). STUDENTS WILL BE AWARDED 25 PTS FOR EACH EVENT COMPETED IN AND CAN EARN EXTRA CREDIT FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS.

YOUR EVENT GRADE WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE PREPARATION AND PERFORMANCE OF EACH EVENT. EACH PIECE YOU TAKE TO CONTEST MUST BE PERFORMED FOR ME AND BE "CONTEST-READY" OR YOU WILL NOT BE REGISTERED TO COMPETE.

YOU MUST ALSO CRITIQUE OTHER PERFORMERS AT CONTESTS. I HAVE CRITIQUE FORMS AVAILABLE. THESE SHOULD BE TURNED IN ON THE MONDAY FOLLOWING CONTESTS. YOU SHOULD TURN IN 12 CRITIQUES EACH SEMESTER.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

YOU MAY COMPETE IF:

1. PERMISSION SLIP IS TURNED IN.
2. YOU ARE PREPARED.
3. YOU ARE ELIGIBLE (GRADES).
4. YOU BEHAVE RESPONSIBLY.
5. YOU ATTEND SCHOOL ALL DAY THE DAY PRIOR TO TOURNAMENT.

TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS

ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL TRAVEL TO SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES WITH THE TEAM VIA TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL TO AND FROM THE ACTIVITY!!

YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TRANSPORT YOURSELF TO OR FROM THE TOURNAMENT!
YOU ARE NOT TO LEAVE ANY TOURNAMENT SITE EXCEPT WITH THE TEAM!
(IF YOU LEAVE A TOURNAMENT WITHOUT THE TEAM YOU WILL RECEIVE NO POINTS AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND THE NEXT TOURNAMENT. NO MAKE-UP OR EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE ACCEPTED TO OFFSET YOUR LOSS OF POINTS!)

IF IT IS OF **ABSOLUTE NECESSITY** THAT YOU LEAVE I MUST BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING FROM YOUR PARENTS AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE TOURNAMENT AND THE PARENT WOULD THEN HAVE TO PROVIDE YOUR TRANSPORTATION.

*IF WE HAVE AN ACTIVITY THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE US TO LEAVE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY OR FROM THE SCHOOL SITE OTHER TRANSPORTATION IS ALLOWABLE. YOU WILL BE INFORMED IF THIS EXCEPTION APPLIES.

TOURNAMENT ATTIRE AND CONDUCT

DRESS PROFESSIONALLY! PROPER ATTIRE FOR MEN WOULD BE A SUIT AND TIE AND DRESS SHOES OR NICE PANTS, TIE AND SPORT COAT. FOR WOMEN A CONSERVATIVE STYLE DRESS OR JACKET AND SKIRT IS PREFERRED.

DO NOT WEAR: JEANS, T-SHIRTS, TRENDY OR "FLASHY" CLOTHES OR JEWELRY, MINI-SKIRTS, TENNIS SHOES ETC.

YOU ARE TO REMAIN AT THE TOURNAMENT SITE WITH THE TEAM FOR THE DURATION OF THE CONTEST. YOU SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER TO BE POLITE AND COURTEOUS, FOLLOW ANY RULES OF THE CONTEST SCHOOL AND REPRESENT WESTMOORE IN THE BEST POSSIBLE LIGHT.

VIOLATIONS OF SCHOOL AND/OR TOURNAMENT RULES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!

DROP FEES

IF YOU ARE REGISTERED FOR AN EVENT AND THEN DROP OUT A FEE IS CHARGED TO THE TEAM. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THIS FEE. IF YOU DROP SEVERAL DAYS PRIOR TO THE TOURNAMENT THE FEE IS USUALLY MINIMAL. HOWEVER, IF YOU SIMPLY FAIL TO SHOW UP FOR AN EVENT AT THE TOURNAMENT THE FEES CAN BE AS HIGH AS \$50!! YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR DROP FEES!!