



The Arkansas Oak

Parent Judge Information

If you have participated in a Speech and Debate tournament before, then you are aware of the importance of parent judges. It is our goal to provide a quality tournament to all of the families who prepare for, practice, pay for and travel to the tournament. Part of this effort is to have three judges in every speech room in every round and adequate judges throughout the preliminary and outrounds of debate. This will require EVERYONE'S participation. To achieve this goal, we have set up the following guidelines for ALL parent judges:

1. Parent/Adult Judge Presence Required at Tournament:

Every student must have a participating parent/adult judge present at the tournament. While we understand that it is sometimes more convenient or cost-effective for families to send their students to tournaments with other families, this puts a severe strain on the availability of parent judges. For this reason, you must either be present with your student at the tournament or have another adult who can feasibly fulfill all of your judging responsibilities.

2. Parent judging requirements:

Please plan to judge the number of rounds specified when you register. Ideally, every parent will judge a minimum of 3 rounds per day. For larger families with multiple students participating, we ask that you judge a minimum of 11 rounds for the tournament.

3. Parent Check-In and Judging:

Parents will be required to participate in a check-in process that will be simultaneous to the student check-in. We will also depend on you to come to Ballot Push at least 30 minutes before each round to check and see if we need you to judge.

4. We Appreciate You!

We appreciate all parent judges and value your time and participation. For this reason, not only will we be grateful for the time you spend judging, but we will also be rewarding those parents who judge the most number of rounds at our tournament. We will give cash awards to the top three parents who judge the most rounds during the tournament. We will share details regarding the parent judging contest during parent check-in!

5. Our Pledge to you:

Even though fulfilling judging requirements is essential to providing a quality tournament, we understand that this commitment can be demanding and exhausting. For this reason, we pledge to you that we will do our best to recruit as many community judges as possible in the weeks leading up to the tournament. We are committed to recruiting community judges, but we also need YOU to fulfill your judging minimum.

Thank you for working with us to make this a quality tournament for everyone!