



international debate education association

Judge Mission Agreement

IDEA expects that judges will sign this pledge form as an agreement to the responsibilities summarized below.

I understand that the primary purpose of serving as a judge is to be an open-minded educator. Although competition is an inherent part of any speech or debate event, I am aware that, as a judge, my role is not simply to decide a winner or rank participants, but also to offer all students an educational and encouraging experience.

As a judge, I also agree to:

1. be punctual in arriving for my round
2. remove myself from judging any round in which there is the possibility of a conflict of interest
3. maintain a respectful atmosphere during the round
4. maintain a respectful demeanor
5. actively take notes, or 'flow,' during the round
6. ensure that the round is properly timed
7. make my best effort to arrive at a fair and unbiased decision
8. compose a legible ballot that clearly justifies my decision and offers participants constructive criticism
9. deliver a meaningful oral critique (if appropriate)
10. promptly return my ballot

I agree to these principles, and will observe them in my judging.

Signature of Judge

Date

11/2004