

Podium Power

Debate Policy

Debate is a partnership/team event. Members are expected to uphold their commitments to their partner and to the club. This means doing your share of the work, completing assignments on time, following through on tournament commitments, and putting forth your best effort. Because Podium Power Forensics Club is the tournament participation wing of Podium Power debate classes, parents are free to choose their level of involvement. However, home school tournaments are family based and parents are expected to provide transportation, housing, and chaperoning at tournaments. All debate tournaments rely on parent judging for at least 50% of the judges. Parents are expected to take their turn judging at tournaments. Judging rules are online.

Both student and parent should read the Podium Power Debate Policy, Debate Syllabus, and online FAQ's (www.podiumpower.net) before making a commitment.

Debate Partnership

- Each Podium Power Forensics Club (PPFC) member family will submit a preference survey at the beginning of the school year that will aid the coach and member families in choosing a partner. This survey will include goals and commitment level.
- Debate partners are chosen from within PPFC. PPFC members are required to compete under the Podium Power Forensics Club name.
- Debate partnerships are for one debate season/school year. Partnerships may reform the following year or members can form new partnerships.
- Partnerships must be in place by November 30. Partners should expect to remain together for the remainder of the season, including Regional and National tournaments if qualified.
- Partnering outside of PPFC is strongly discouraged because of the dilemma it presents. However, if a student is unable to find a suitable partner within our club they may, with the permission of the teacher, seek a partner from another club. The PPFC member and their partner must agree to abide by the following guidelines.
 - The new partner must be willing to join PPFC and compete in all events under the Podium Power Forensics Club name.
 - The new partner and their parent must sign this Debate Policy Agreement and abide by all Podium Power Forensics Club rules and policy.

Evidence Ring

- All debaters are expected to supplement the Blue Book resources by participating in the PPFC Evidence Ring. To avoid the timely task of each team doing all of their own research it makes more sense to work as a team and share information. This also means that a team that does not participate does not benefit from the additional resources.
- Only members who contribute to the evidence ring will have access to the collected evidence.
- Students will be assigned to research and cut 10 pieces of evidence from credible sources. This evidence should apply to Blue Book cases or other known NCCA cases. Students will also be asked to prepare negative briefs on existing cases and/or cases they went negative against at tournament.
- The Podium Power Forensics Club Evidence Ring is for PPFC members only. This information is not to be shared with other clubs.
- A PPFC member may share paper copies of PPFC evidence/briefs at a tournament when partnering with someone outside PPFC. This information should remain in the possession of the PPFC member.
- Personal evidence that does not affect a PPFC case may be shared outside PPFC.
- PPFC cases, evidence, and strategies are confidential and should not be discussed with outside clubs. After all, a football team would never share their play book with an opposing team.