

## **Reporting System and Ombudsperson Program**

### **Student Information**

Welcome to the Farmington Tournament!

This year, some tournaments will use a new system to report harassment and/or discrimination. They will also have a panel of Ombudspersons who will investigate those reports and then make recommendations to the Tournament Director. Here are the most important things to know:

If you have questions about this process at any point, text or call **612-367-6656** and we would be happy to answer any questions you have! Today, that number connects you directly with Becky Chabot, who is the Ombuds Panel Chair for this tournament. After the tournament, you can text or call that number to reach the Program Coordinator; you can also email [mdtaombuds@gmail.com](mailto:mdtaombuds@gmail.com) with any questions. \*Important: This is NOT the number for tab!\*

#### **Who can make a report?**

Any tournament attendee. This includes all of you, as well as coaches, judges, volunteers, and spectators.

#### **What can I report?**

Any kind of harassment and/or discrimination. This includes outright hate speech, biased comments, problematic arguments, and microaggressions. You can report your own experience or you can report something you witnessed.

#### **How do I report something at a tournament?**

The first step is to call or text **612-367-6656**. This will put you in touch with the person who is serving as the Ombuds Panel Chair. They will ask you what happened and then explain the process to you, telling you all of the different options that you have. Texting and/or calling does not commit you to anything; it's merely the first step in determining how you want to proceed.

#### **If I decide that I want to file a formal report, what happens then?**

The Panel Chair will make sure that all three Ombuds are present and then, the investigation starts.

#### **What does an investigation look like?**

Basically, it means speaking to all parties involved. The Ombuds Panel first interviews the person who made the report and then they interview the alleged offender and any witnesses. There will be an adult, likely your coach, who will be there solely to support you. We do all the interviews separately, ensuring that you don't come into contact with the person about whom you made the report.

### **What is an interview like?**

It's an opportunity for you to tell your story. We want to know what happened, but we also want to know what your experience of it was, how you're feeling about it. If there are some details that we need after you've had the chance to tell your story, we will ask you questions about them for clarification. Once the Ombuds feel like they've got all the information about your story down, we go over it with you, making sure that we've got the details correctly noted.

### **What happens after the investigation?**

The members of the Ombuds Panel discuss all the facts of the report and what they have learned through the investigation. Once they reach a decision about the report, they make a recommendation to the Tournament Director.

### **What types of recommendations can the Ombuds Panel make?**

The Ombuds Panel looks at four types of action when determining their recommendations:

1. What, if any, actions would help to restore the relationship(s) involved?
2. What, if any, actions will provide the education needed?
3. What, if any, actions will prevent this from happening again?
4. What, if any, actions need to be taken regarding competition?

### **What are ombudspersons?**

Ombudspersons are a group of coaches, judges, and other adults involved in debate. This year, we have a class of eight ombudspersons, all of whom have gone through training on antiracist work, implicit bias, combatting misogyny/rape culture, sexism in debate, LGBTQ+ issues, ableism and its exclusionary impacts, as well as other topics, all with a focus on the debate space.

### **Who is on the Ombuds Panel for this tournament?**

Becky Chabot (Chair)

Because of the number of tournaments this weekend, when reports come in, the Chair will contact all Ombuds and the two who are free at that moment will join her on the panel

### **How do I learn more about them?**

Becky's bio and photo are on the next page; if the panel needs to be convened, the bios of the other two Ombuds will be shared with the parties involved. You can also text **612-367-6656** and ask any questions you have about them.

### **I have questions about this process. How do I get them answered?**

Text or call **612-367-6656**. We're happy to answer any of your questions!

## Farmington Ombuds Panel Biographies



**Becky Chabot (she/her/hers)** is a queer disabled cis-femme white woman who is a sexual assault and trauma survivor. She spent the first 13 years of her life in Connecticut and moved to Minnesota with her family in 1995. Since college, she has lived in eight different cities in five different states, as well as Bolivia. She has a BA from Creighton University, an MDiv from Boston College, and is currently completing her PhD in social ethics at the University of Denver.

A former policy debater for Eden Prairie, she returned to debate in 2017, first as a policy judge for Edina and then as a policy coach at Wayzata.

Most recently, she coached Student Congress for Lakeville Debate and speech for Edina. She has over twenty years of facilitation and program experience. Because of her own experiences with mental health issues and trauma, she is passionate about encouraging everyone to take care of their human selves. Outside of debate and school, she spends far too much time watching soccer. Things she love include: FC Bayern Munich, plaid, the Vikings, nerding out over theory, and gentle British reality competition shows (baking, pottery, etc).