

Good morning,

Thank you all for being here. Qualifying for state is a great accomplishment and we also appreciate all the coaches and judges who support this activity, without everyone this wouldn't work.

Want to highlight a few things for everyone –

- Everyone should've gotten both a digital and physical copy of the judges packet. PLEASE read this and utilize it. It includes great information, including speaker points analysis. Every year, there are two areas that require a lot of attention.

First, at the conclusion of a round you MUST say the team name and side you voted for on your ballot. This is a critical first step in catching errors in case the wrong team was the wrong side on your ballot. You do NOT have to justify why, but disclosure is required. On the ballot, you must write a sentence that says something like "I vote ____ because" so we know you voted for the right team when we review ballots.

You have until 8am Sunday morning to enter additional comments for today's ballots. Please don't wait that long to enter them all as memory fades and things will be mixed up. The tabroom will be reviewing every single ballot and will send out reminders this afternoon regarding ballots that appear incomplete.

For Sunday rounds, you must complete the comments within 20 minutes of the round ending. This allows us to confirm the ballots before elimination rounds are released.

Second, evidence violations may come up today. The process in our standing rules is NOT optional. There is a flow chart and copies of our standing rules. If an evidence violation occurs in a round you are judging, PLEASE take the time to reference the materials given to you and follow the process outlined. It is very critical that the process is followed and coaches can appeal the decision if there is a concern the process is not followed. It is much better to take a few minutes in the moment to review the materials and follow the process. If there are questions about the rules, you can also reach out to the tabroom. We will NOT comment on the content of the situation, but if you are unsure what a rule means we can clarify it.

If you're missing someone, please let the tabroom know by texting 414-207-6346 or email tabroom@wdca.org. Students are being told this as well – if you are late for a round and we replace you, it will come at a fine to the school who hired you.

On the maps you'll see gender neutral bathrooms. They are near room 2534 and 1708. They are marked with a triangle on the map.

If there are equity concerns throughout the day, there is an email and phone number on the tournament site/live doc. The equity intake form is also in the judge's packet.

If anyone is in need of a sensory friendly room, please go to 2516 or 2518 and an equity officer will be happy to assist you.