

Tournament Ombudsman

In alignment with procedures at both the WSFA State and NSDA National Tournament, we have an **ombudsman to take care of any student or coach concerns or issues**. The ombudsman can and will handle almost any of your concerns. If the ombudsman feels an issue needs to be directed to the Belonging and Inclusion Advocate, he will do so. The ombudsman will be located in front of Tabroom. At no time, may a coach or student bypass the ombudsman, either physically or in writing, with respect to any matter other than a matter which should be directed to the Belonging and Inclusion Advocate.

No one is allowed to pass by the ombudsman's desk to enter the tabulations room without the ombudsman's permission.

The ombudsman is Mr. Dan Sjolund. He may be reached at: dansj@spokaneschools.org

Judge Strikes

In keeping with long standing GSL rules, each team is allowed **one** judge strike. If a **coach** wishes to exercise this option, **the coach must email the tournament director** at dsmith@cvsd.org by **February 3, 2026 at 6:30 PM**. **A list of all school judge strikes will be provided to the ombudsman, Mr. Dan Sjolund. Note Well: Longstanding or prior judge strikes filed at other tournaments, MUST be renewed by timely writing the tournament director. dsmith@cvsd.org. This step is necessary to assure that the ombudsman has a complete list of judge strikes.**

Complaints regarding judging which pertain to matters which have occurred during this tournament should be referred to the ombudsman. If the matter relates to issues which come under the penumbra of the Belonging and Inclusion Advocate, the ombudsman will refer the matter to Ms. Carlson. If the issue relates to matters which should have been dealt with by the debaters as a matter of judge adaptation, the ombudsman may counsel the student(s), coaches, or other persons regarding judge adaptation and may discuss the matter with the judge and the coach for whom the judge is judging in order to allow the judge to grow and learn from any misunderstandings or mistakes which may have occurred. If the ombudsman determines that the alleged transgression is of a matter of grave and imminent importance, he may turn the matter over to the tournament tabulations staff.

At no time, may a coach or student bypass the ombudsman with any concerns regarding judging.