

1 THE BIGGEST NOVICE MINDSET SHIFT

A tournament is not a field trip.
It works more like an airport.

SCHOOL FIELD TRIP



"The adult tells me
where to go next."

TOURNAMENT

TOURNAMENT DEPARTURES

ROUND 1	S-104	POSTED
ROUND 2	S-212	CHECK
ROUND 3	S-118	MOVED

CHECK. MOVE. RECHECK.

At a tournament, the information is posted.

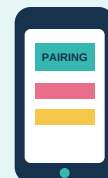
You are expected to monitor it, notice changes, and move when it is time.

THE RULE TO REMEMBER

Nobody is coming to collect you for every round.

Your phone, Tabroom, the schedule, and tournament announcements tell you what happens next.

BE READY BEFORE THE PAIRING DROPS.



2

AT A TOURNAMENT, YOU BECOME RESPONSIBLE FOR YOURSELF

Adults are nearby. Your coach is nearby.

But these jobs belong to YOU.

1

CHECK PAIRINGS

Know when and where you compete.

2

GET TO THE ROOM

Move promptly. Don't wait to be escorted.

3

KNOW YOUR EVENT

Rules, order, time limits, and procedures.

4

CARRY MATERIALS

Flowpads, paper, pens, pieces, cases.

5

WATCH THE CLOCK

Draws, rounds, prep, and deadlines matter.

6

FIND DRAW

Know where it is and arrive on time.

7

KEEP IT CHARGED

Your phone is tournament equipment.

8

FIND YOUR OPPONENT

Do not assume someone else will do it.

9

REPORT REAL PROBLEMS

Missing judge? Wrong room? Tell an adult.

THE GOAL IS NOT TO DO IT ALONE.

The goal is to handle the normal tournament jobs yourself - and know when a problem is big enough to ask for help.

YOUR COACH CANNOT ESCORT EVERYONE

Your coach may be helping run the entire tournament.

“Your coach helps run the tournament.

Your coach cannot personally escort

30 students to 30 rooms.

At a tournament, you become responsible for yourself.”

HANDLE THIS YOURSELF

- ☐ Checking the pairing
- ☐ Finding the room
- ☐ Bringing your materials
- ☐ Watching the time
- ☐ Keeping your phone charged
- ☐ Knowing your event

GET HELP FOR A REAL PROBLEM

- ☐ Judge is missing
- ☐ Opponent is missing
- ☐ Pairing appears wrong
- ☐ Room is locked/unusable
- ☐ You are sick or injured
- ☐ You truly cannot solve it

NOVICE RULE:

LOOK FIRST. THINK SECOND. ASK THIRD.

Check the posted information. Try the obvious solution. Then get an adult if the problem is real.