



FAIR PLAY CODE

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SEDA's Fair Play Code for Debaters and Parents

Debaters:

1. I will participate because I want to, not just because my parents or coaches want me to.
2. I will follow the rules, and act in the spirit of debate.
3. I will control my temper – arguing and ‘mouthing off’ can spoil the activity for everyone.
4. I will respect my opponents
5. I will do my best to be a true team player
6. I will remember that winning isn't everything – that having fun, improving skills, making friends and doing my best are also important
7. I will acknowledge all good performances – those of my partner and of my opponents.
8. I will remember that coaches and judges are there to help me. I will accept their decisions and show them respect and appreciation.

Parents:

1. I will not force my child to participate in debate.
2. I will remember that my child debates for his or her enjoyment, not for mine.
3. I will encourage my child to follow the rules of debate and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility.
4. I will encourage my child that doing one's best is as important as winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a round.
5. I will teach my child to feel like a winner every time by offering praise for debating fairly and trying hard.
6. I will never ridicule or yell at my child for making a mistake or losing a round.
7. I will remember that children learn best by example. I will applaud good performances for both my child's team and their opponents.
8. I will never question the judges ruling or their qualifications in public.
9. I will support all efforts to remove all verbal and physical abuse from children's activities.
10. I will respect and show appreciation for the coaches who give their time to provide debate activities for my child.