

Other ways to be involved

SEDA is best known for coordinating a program of extra-curricular debate for students in grades 5 to 12.

Each tournament requires between 30-90 volunteer judges. There are usually 2-4 tournaments in both Regina and Saskatoon each year. Be a part of a lasting legacy of volunteerism!

The time commitment is usually only about 5 hours on a Friday evening (or some times a Saturday afternoon), but if judging is not for you, there are other ways to get involved:

Get Started Now!

- Visit www.saskdebate.com
 - **Invite SEDA to present at your organization or business**
 - **Pair up with debaters to facilitate a discussion on an issue at your next conference or convention**
- Become a Patron
 - **Donate money**
 - **Sponsor an event**
 - **Create a scholarship**
 - **Contribute to an award/trophy**
 - **Leave a legacy – planned giving**
- Become a SEDA member
 - **Help us recruit other judges**
 - **Encourage youth to join**
 - **Mentor a club**
 - **Be a guest speaker**



SASKATCHEWAN ELOCUTION AND DEBATE ASSOCIATION

What is SEDA?

SEDA is a non-profit, charitable organization that promotes debate and speech activities in English and French. The Association is active throughout the province with students in grades 5 to 12, and at the two universities. The association co-ordinates an annual program of speech and debate tournaments, summer camps, and other special activities, including a model legislature.

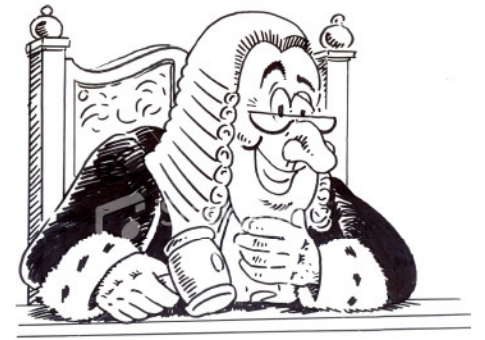
SEDA's staff, along with printed and audio-visual materials are available to assist any individual or group interested in debate and speech. SEDA also provides materials and assistance to teachers wishing to use debate in the classroom or to become involved in extra-curricular debate.

SEDA is a non-profit charity
that receives funding from



Saskatchewan Elocution and Debate Association

YOU BE THE JUDGE



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Perhaps more than any other extracurricular activity, debating bridges the gap between academics and careers. — Chronicle of Higher Education

What is Debate?

Debate is a structured discussion. Tournament competition rounds are fairly formal. Debates generally have one team (Proposition) support the resolution. The other team (Opposition) opposes it or presents an alternative position.

The topics are either prepared in advance or impromptu and can cover a range of social, economic, political, medical, cultural, scientific, environmental, legal, ethical, moral, and educational issues making the news.

Debate is more than two teams yelling at each other. Debaters on both sides are expected to research ideas, formulate propositions and gather evidence to support them. During the debates, they are expected to listen carefully to their opponents and analyze their arguments for flaws in reasoning.

Debate teams take turns speaking, ideas are challenged through questions and arguments “clash”. In the end, debaters must summarize the major themes that were explored during the debate.

The judge’s role is to decide which team and individual speakers best fulfilled these roles.

Sign up for the Judging Registry online at www.saskdebate.com!

What is expected of a debate judge?



Debate judges are as integral to the debate as the debaters themselves. This is your chance to share your views and life experiences with the youth of Saskatchewan.

Before the tournament:

- Register with the hosts
- Review briefing material on the web site
- You are not expected to research the topic

At the tournament

- A short Briefing is provided (usually between 3:30 and 4:30 pm)
- You will be assigned to a room and provided with ballots (bring a pen!)
- You may be on your own or with others
- Coffee and supper is provided
- Listen to three rounds of debate
- Give an unbiased decision and scores
- Share your comments and constructive criticism with the debaters
- Finish around 9:00 pm
- Judges are welcome to stay for the awards

Judging criteria

Debate is an exciting art form that brings together young people thinking through ideas and issues with wise and experienced adults in the community.

Anyone who watches the news, works with youth or is curious and cares about the world around them is more than qualified to be a debate judge.

Judges look for five key skills when deciding speaker scores:

- Quality of the Arguments & Evidence
- Strength of the Case Development & Structure
- Detailed Deconstruction (Clash)
- Persuasive Delivery (voice, tone, pace, eye contact, etc.)
- Mastery of the debate style (using questions and rules correctly)

Judges select the winning team based on a number of factors, but they all basically come down to one point:

Which team best understood what the debate was really about and helped you see it that way as well?

Visit www.saskdebate.com for more judging resources.

E-Mail: info@saskdebate.com

Register ONLINE!

Web: www.saskdebate.com