

ADJUDICATION TEAM COORDINATOR NITOC

1. Adjudication:

- i. The goal is “*education, not adjudication*”. Encourage issues to be worked out without resorting to adjudication.
- ii. Prior to the start of the tournament, the written **Adjudication Protocol** document will be reviewed by the Board. All members of the Adjudication Committee will agree to follow the protocol in all adjudications.
 1. All potential adjudications should proceed as follows:
 - a. Problem is evaluated and diffused or pursued further by an Speech or Debate Committee member serving in JO.
 - b. If the decision is to pursue, the NITOC TD (or secondary Board member) is contacted and apprised of the situation.
 - c. A small, odd-numbered subset (usually 3) of the Adjudication Committee is chosen (based on expertise, availability, etc) to gather evidence and discuss how to proceed.
 - d. All proceedings that include charges being addressed must be conducted with all students involved in the matter present. Additionally, each student must have at least one parent/guardian/coach present throughout the adjudication.
 - e. The tournament will not wait on the outcome of the adjudication if there is no impact to the schedule from the decision.
 2. TD/Board needs to determine what types of matters are serious enough to cause the tournament to stop until they are resolved.
- iii. The Board will appoint an Adjudication Committee, consisting of a pool of members that can be accessed, depending on the nature of the adjudication at hand.
 1. Members of the Board, and Speech & Debate Committees should be available throughout the tournament in person and by phone.
 2. The Adjudication Committee will consist of the following:
 - a. Board members (including past members if desired)
 - b. Speech Committee members
 - c. Debate Committee members
 - d. The NITOC TD and Tab Director should NOT be members of the Adjudication Committee (they are needed elsewhere).
 - e. Members must be recused from serving on any adjudication involving students from their clubs, relatives, or students they have a “conflict” with.
 3. For any adjudication process, the goal is to start with the minimum number of Committee members necessary.
 - a. The Committee must always consist of an odd number of members. Three to five members is usually sufficient.

- b.** The more experienced members in the particulars of the issue should be requested to help first (Speech or Debate, etc.)
- 4.** All recommended actions from deliberations should be communicated to the TD for final approval prior to action if at all possible.