



# PA ACADEMIC DECATHLON®

*\*\*July 2025*

Teams should be aware that failure of any member of the team to adhere to the policies and procedures listed below may result in disqualification of the delinquent student's participation and/or the entire team from the event, the entire competition, and the awards ceremony. Furthermore, it should go without saying that cheating, in any form, will not be tolerated. Any act of cheating will be promptly brought to the State Director for review, evaluation, and imposition of possible sanctions. If someone is proven to have cheated, it is within the State Director's power to disqualify not only the person caught cheating, but the entire team as well. The decision of the State Director is final.

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## • Code of Student Conduct •

PA Academic Decathlon expects all team members to conduct themselves with proper decorum while attending competitions. This includes travel, time on hotel premises, and any sightseeing associated with students' participation during the PAAD competition season.

Appropriate conduct of team members is the sole responsibility of the team coach who has legal responsibility as chaperone for team members at all times. Students should be under the supervision of the coach during the entire competition. Inappropriate conduct includes, but is NOT limited to:

1. bringing any cell phone or electronic devices into the testing areas of the competition including super quiz relay;
2. being in possession of any weapon;
3. damage to, or vandalism of, any property;
4. appropriation of items from the competition site premises;
5. use of alcohol or illegal drugs by students, regardless of age;
6. use of water pistols, water balloons or any other projectile at the competition site;
7. fighting, loud noise, or any other behavior which is disruptive to others at the competition site; and
8. disrespect to competition officials, proctors, or coaches.

***Financial liability for all damage incurred by actions of a team member shall be the sole responsibility of that team member and his/her parents.*** Failure to comply with the Code of Student Conduct may result in disqualification from the event, the entire competition and the awards ceremony. The decision of the State Director is final.

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## • Dress Code •

All participants are expected to dress appropriately while attending the competition. As representatives of their respective schools, participants are expected to present a positive appearance. Failure to comply with dress standards may result in disqualification from the event, the entire competition, and the awards ceremony. The following is recommended dress code for:

### **TESTING ARENA & SUPER QUIZ RELAY**

Although casual attire is permissible during testing, distracting apparel, hats of any kind, sunglasses, and overly padded and distracting clothing shall be considered inappropriate and not acceptable in the testing arena. Speech/interview attire, hoodies and light jackets are permissible, so long as the hood is tucked into the inside of the garment.

### **SPEECH & INTERVIEW**

Males - blazer, sport coat or sweater with collared dress shirt and necktie; dress pants or business suit with collared dress shirt and necktie; plus socks and dress shoes

Females - business skirt with blouse and/or sweater; jacket with dress blouse and business skirt or dress pants; business suit with dress blouse; or business dress; plus dress shoes

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## • USAD® Copyright Infringement •

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