

DSDS 2024-2025 - Information on Petitions Processes

Types of Petitions	2
Harassment & Discrimination	2
Ombuds Petition - ALL EVENTS	2
Speech	2
Congressional Debate	3
Public Forum Debate	3
Process	4
Stage 1 - Initiation	4
Stage 2 - Review	4
Stage 3 - Determination & Resolution	4
Community Wellbeing & Belonging Office	4
Ombuds Office	4
Help System	4
Email Subjects	5
Email Content	5
Event Help Email Addresses	6

Types of Petitions

Harassment & Discrimination

Issues concerning harassment, discrimination, bullying - **These are handled by the Community Wellbeing & Belonging Office** in conjunction with tournament admins, using policies/resources referenced in the DSDS Procedures doc.

Note: The procedures doc is linked [here](#) and on the DSDS Tabroom [site](#). Please see the section on General/Tournament-wide policies for additional information.

If an issue involving allegations of harassment, bullying, or discrimination arises, please contact **your event's tab room using the help ticket system**, and they will assist you with contacting the Office. Please do NOT bypass the event tab room.

Ombuds Petition - ALL EVENTS

Any party seeking to petition regarding an infraction of rules or procedures set forth in DSDS Procedures should submit an Ombuds Petition. Please contact your event's tab room using the help ticket system, and they will assist you with initiating a petition. **Petitions are handled by the Ombuds Office.**

Petitions are evaluated based **primarily** on the DSDS Procedures, **with a few caveats:**

Speech

In addition to the DSDS procedures, the speech rules also rely to an extent on NSDA rules for those speech events. Please review the DSDS speech procedures before applying NSDA rules.

Congressional Debate

In addition to the DSDS procedures, Congressional Debate will defer to NSDA rules, then to Robert's Rules for situations not covered by DSDS or NSDA rules.

Public Forum Debate

In addition to the DSDS procedures, Public Forum debate relies to an extent on NSDA rules - but please review DSDS PF procedures before applying NSDA rules.

Process

Stage 1 - Initiation

- An adult contact/coach from the petitioning squad **must contact the appropriate tab room**, via its designated email helpline (listed below), in a timely manner. Petition forms will be provided, as necessary.

Stage 2 - Review

- The petition will be routed to the relevant tournament admin office for consideration, and for further investigation, as necessary.
- An effort will be made to consider, investigate, deliberate, and communicate in a timely manner, but please be patient with the constraints involved when we are not all in one location.

Stage 3 - Determination & Resolution

- Determinations will be communicated to the involved parties as soon as feasible, but again, please be patient regarding petitions submitted later in the day.

Community Wellbeing & Belonging Office

- Angelique Ronald, California High School Speech Association

Ombuds Office

- Tyler Thur

Help System

If you have an issue or question, please contact the admin/tab staff for your event using the event emails below and we will get back to you asap. Please do ***not*** email tournament officials separately – the help emails below are the best means of contact and are routed to the relevant administrators.

Email Subjects

Please use one of the following at the beginning of your email subject line to help us route your inquiry:

Missing Person – If a judge or participant is missing

Tabbing Issue - Ballot issues, problems with pairing, judging issues, etc.

Tech Time – If your round is invoking Tech Time (see Procedures for details), please email the event help and include the time (including time zone) that Tech Time started, and update us when issue is resolved or time elapses.

Tech Issue – If you are having a tech issue, especially if you are having an issue getting to your round, please notify us.

Procedures Issue – Questions or concerns, inquiries about filing a petition with the Ombuds Office about a procedures issue

Community Wellbeing Issue - Questions or concerns, inquiries about filing a petition with the Community Wellbeing & Belonging Office regarding a harassment, discrimination, or bullying incident

Email Content

(We strongly suggest copying this as a template into your email)

All emails should include the following information *in the body of the email*:

Your full name

Your school affiliation

Your role (competitor, judge, coach)

Event (including if online or in-person)

Round #

Room #

Contact Phone Number

Issue you are emailing about – Please provide details.

Event Help Email Addresses

Please review instructional information above before submitting):

Congress Tab - congress.uktoc@gmail.com

LD Tab - ld.uktoc@gmail.com

Policy Tab - policy.uktoc@gmail.com

Public Forum Tab - pf.uktoc@gmail.com

Speech Tab - speech.uktoc@gmail.com

Worlds Tab - worlds.uktoc@gmail.com