

**Observer conduct policy:**

Observers will not enter the room before the judge does and will let [both teams/the first speaker] set up before claiming chairs/desks/outlets.

Observers will do nothing to disrupt the round.

Observers will quietly enter or exit a room between speeches if they need to leave mid-round

Observers will avoid putting themselves in situations where they have to rush to make their next round/flight.

Observers have a positive obligation to avoid even the appearance of any communication from or to any competitors.

Any competitor, their coach, or the judge can veto any observer for any reason at any point during the round.

**Debate Events: (CX/PF/LD)**

Schools who have not competed in a debate event and are considering entering a new event at a later tournament, may request to observe subject to the observer rules above.

Novices who want to watch varsity rounds are encouraged to pick rounds that their teammates are in. Novices on a team with no varsity are encouraged to ask for help picking rounds.

**Extemporaneous Speaking:**

Competitors who have not drawn yet must remain in extemp prep, even if there is a round they could observe.

Competitors who have already spoken may stay and watch their round.

Competitors who wish to observe should remain in their own room, not seek out another round of extemp.

Non-competitors who wish to observe extemp prep must obtain the permission of the proctor and should leave competitors who have drawn topics completely alone.

Observers should not follow competitors into the hallway, but should go directly to the round.

**Impromptu:**

Competitors who have not yet spoken may not observe.

Any observer must remain for the entire round once in the room.

Competitors who wish to observe should remain in their own room, not seek out another round of impromptu.

**Congress:**

In an Open Chamber (most Congress rounds) observers should plan to minimize distraction by leaving either during a recess or when a competitor leaves.

Parliamentarians should use their best judgment on whether observers are distracting, interfering, or otherwise affecting the best performance of students.

**Other Speech Events:**

Observers should err on giving competitors space to move

Observers should avoid placing themselves in the judge's field of vision.



