

Brecksville-Broadview Heights Speech and Debate Important Information for Students and Parents

How do I sign up for the Speech and Debate Team?

Step 1: Complete the Google Forms.

Please complete the two Google Forms located at the links or QR codes below to provide us with your contact information.

2022-2023 Registration Form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXC8SCdD1vG3X2ZmrPHcJaxLt3UvnPtNjdsXAgub7CotzFCg/viewform?usp=sf_link



2022-2023 Parent Information Form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdIMMZCn5mlBIq9B2Mde1TGwGWdB8frh6sx5kBk7jDZxGWzQ/viewform?usp=sf_link



Step 2: Pay the fees.

The fees for the 2022-2023 season are:

\$175 (High School)
\$110 (Middle School)
\$200 (Judge Fee)*

**If parents/others are not able to judge the required number of times during the season.*

The fees are not paid to the school. Checks should be made out to BBHHS Speech Team Boosters, or fees can be sent via Venmo to Booster President Mary Hanna (@Mary-Hanna-19). Please put the student name in the memo line of the check or Venmo.

Step 3: Complete the Code of Conduct acknowledgement.

As in past years, all students and parents must read and acknowledge the Code of Conduct.

Code of Conduct

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dg0Ce3EfcU3nIUNLR9bcEy7V3FLgTQ-KQZIWDxo2rE/edit?usp=sharing>



Step 3: Complete the background check.

Each parent or other volunteer must complete a volunteer background check. Details regarding this process can be found on the BBH District website below.

<https://securevolunteer.com/Brecksville-Broadveiw-Heights-CSD/?lang=en>



Google Forms, fees, Code of Conduct acknowledgements, and background checks are due by October 15, 2022.

Your student is now eligible to be on the team!

We do not hold tryouts, but students should discuss with coaches about the category that best fits their interests and the needs of the team.

What other information will I need for the 2022-2023 season?

Judge Training

Parents or other adult friends/relatives must help judge events at tournaments. Each team competing at a tournament must supply or purchase judges based upon the number of students competing. New parents to speech and debate must attend judge training before their student may compete at a tournament. We will hold judge training on **October 13, 2022**. Details will be distributed via email.

- You will judge four times during the regular season (three for middle school).
- You must pay a judge fee of \$200 per family if you are unable to judge.
- Even if you pay a judge fee, you may still be needed to drive, as there is no guarantee that we will have enough drivers if too many opt to pay the fee.

Travel to Tournaments

We do not use the school bus system for our tournaments. This keeps the fees considerably lower for the parents. The parents that are assigned to judge at a specific tournament drive the students (their student and a few others) to and from the tournament. Typically, we meet at the high school the morning of the tournament between 7:00 AM and 7:30 AM, depending on the distance from BBHHS to the tournament. However, departure times may vary and will be updated each week.

Practice

Practice is held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the BBH High School Media Center and nearby rooms. This is the same for high school and middle school competitors. Practice is not mandatory, but there is a high correlation between attending practice and success in speech and debate, including being a State or National Qualifier. Students must practice with a coach at least once before competing at any tournaments so that the coach can determine whether the student is ready for competition.

BBHHS Tournament

We will host a tournament on **January 7, 2023**. We expect a significant number of high school and middle school students to compete at this tournament. Our Boosters take care of feeding students and judges, as well as registration, directing buses to parking lots, arranging trophies, and getting sponsors. Our students coordinate set-up, clean-up, and decorations for the tournament. Coaches handle administrative tasks and award ceremonies. Note that we need more judges than usual for the BBHHS tournament, as coaches who normally judge are tied up with administration.

Boosters

Our Booster Officers are Mary Hanna (President), Samantha Sarli-Freeman (Vice President), Sheridan Patrick (Secretary), and Dr. Lloyd Yeh (Treasurer). You are automatically a Booster

when your student is on the Speech and Debate Team. It has served us well for many years thanks to many dedicated parent volunteers!

Student Officers

Because our coaches are not employed by the District and are not at school during the day, the team is organized by the students inside the school. They get approval for signs, handle locker decorations, and do a great job of promoting the team among many other activities. The coaches appoint the captains early in the season, and officer positions are available based on the needs of the team.

Middle School

Middle school students (6th, 7th, and 8th grade) are eligible to join the Speech and Debate team. They practice with the high school students and can attend tournaments as indicated on our schedule. Middle school students do not compete with high school students.

COVID-19

- Tournaments. It is the current goal of the Ohio Speech and Debate Association and the BBH Speech and Debate Team to have a fully in-person season. The coaches will keep the team and parents updated of any and all changes to the schedule.
- Practices. It is the current goal to have primarily in-person practices. We will proceed with the guidance of the school policies. If the school closes due to COVID-19, then our practices will move to an online format. Note that Coach Kaylyn may host some virtual practices due to maternity leave this season, but Coaches Brittany and Alex will continue hosting in-person practice.
- Health and Safety. Any student, judge, or coach experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, or who has been ordered to quarantine, should not attend in-person practice or tournaments under any circumstances. Speech and Debate is important but not as important as your health.
- Masks. We will follow the mask guidance of the facility we are in. If BBH does not require masks, but a school we are visiting for a tournament does, then we must follow the guidelines of that school. Students, coaches, and judges who refuse to follow a facility's mask guidance could cause the entire in-person speech season to be moved online for everyone. No one wants an online season if we can help it. Any fees incurred due to a student or judge not following COVID-19 regulations will be the responsibility of the student or parent. This includes the \$20 student drop fee or the \$50 judge drop fee. We will do our best to get information on mask guidance before each tournament.

Contacts

Please contact Coach Kaylyn (bbhspeech.kaylyn@gmail.com) or Coach Brittany (brittanywilhelm@gmail.com) with any questions throughout the course of the season.