

The Debate Uniform

Clothes Make the Man/Woman!

Definition

- Uniform: standard clothing worn by members of a group, organization, team, etc.
- Debate Uniform: professional attire to reflect the professionalism of the activity

Uniform for Guys

- Suit
 - Jacket and pants (that match)
 - Black or blue is preferable!!!
- Shirt
 - Dress shirt - white
 - Collar, button up, long sleeve
- Tie
 - Properly tied
 - Matches the shirt
 - NO NOVELTY TIES!
- Shoes
 - Dress shoes
 - Black
- Socks
 - Black
 - Mid calf



Uniforms for Girls

■ Suits

- Jacket and pants or skirt
 - Skirt must be no more than 3 inches above the knee
 - NO TIGHT SKIRTS!!!
- Blue, black, or gray preferable
- Avoid bright colors or “flashy” styles

■ Blouses

- No low cut blouses!!!
- No spaghetti strap or strapless
- No belly exposure

■ Shoes

- Closed-toed only!
- NO spiked heels!
- No more than 2 inches

■ Hose

- Preferred but not mandatory



Justification

- Nonverbal Communication is Powerful!
- Looking professional gives the appearance of confidence and competence.
- Some judges consider clothing when voting
 - Some are offended by inappropriate clothing
 - None are offended by “the uniform”
 - So.....why take the chance?
- Every activity has some form of uniform
 - Ex: football players can not play in t-shirts and bare feet
- Mrs. Smallwood’s class is a tyranny – she IS the tyrant!

Final Word(s)

- Debate is a professional competition, and looking the part is half the battle.
- If you want to be taken seriously.....
DRESS SERIOUSLY!

The End!!!