



STATE JUDGES

Ballot Pick-Up and Stand-By

Making sure all ballots get picked up is critical. Gone are the days of walking through the UTC to see who's available to pick up a ballot. To make this process smoother, we need the help of our amazing judges in a few key ways.

1. All judges check in at the table on the ground floor in the breezeway of UTC before your first scheduled round for your judge nametag and parking pass. If you are an LD Debate Judge, your assembly will occur in GSB 2.124 just across the street from the UTC building. Maps are posted on the State Tournament webpage.
2. Ballots become available on *live.speechwire.com*. There is a large highlighted yellow banner to take you there if you are on the *SpeechWire* homepage, or you can go directly to: <https://live.speechwire.com/>
3. If you are pushed a ballot, you should receive an email and/or text from *SpeechWire* alerting you to the ballot, but make sure to be in the vicinity of the Judge's Table in the breezeway during the time when ballots are being pushed so that we may locate you if we need you.
4. If you DO NOT receive an eballot, please wait near the Judge's Table at least the first 10 minutes after the start of the round so that you can be easily located.
5. Review the complete tournament time schedule on the state tournament webpage. Judges are requested to be in their contest rooms 15 minutes before the start of the round.
6. At the beginning of your round, make sure to formally **"start the round"** on your *SpeechWire* Ballot. This allows the tab room to determine which eballots need to be pushed or what judge is missing from the round.
7. You will be asked to provide your **cell phone number** with the first electronic ballot that you open. Please provide a cell phone number at which you can be reached for the entirety of the tournament.
8. If there are multiple judges in the room, (there will be three judges for all rounds of Prose/Poetry/Informative/Persuasive but one judge in preliminary rounds of LD Debate and three in elim rounds) don't begin the round until all judges are present.
9. On the speech state tournament webpage is a Judges section with resources each judge should review. These include judging instructions for each contest. Complete contest rules are located on each specific contest webpages and links to these can be found on the left side of the screen. These will be helpful to you as you approach your responsibilities as a state championship judge. Remember that you are evaluating the top twelve competitors in the state within each conference. They have worked hard and they deserve your very best as a critic judge.

<https://www.uiltexas.org/speech/info/25-speech-state-tournament>

Access your judging assignment schedule

<https://www.speechwire.com/p-uil-judges.php>

***LD judging panels for Elimination Rounds will be added following verification.**

REMEMBER:

Judges ALWAYS go to this page to log in and judge online tournaments through SpeechWire.

<https://live.speechwire.com/>