



AUSTRALIAN
DISPUTES
CENTRE



ADC's Schools Invitational Debating Competition



Each year, the Australian Disputes Centre (ADC) invites Year 10 students from across Australia to participate in the ADC Schools Invitational Debating Competition.

The competition offers students a unique opportunity to collaborate in mixed-school teams in learning the art of debating, enhancing their oratory skills and working together to develop arguments on contemporary issues.

Competitors are selected from within the student body of public and private schools across Sydney. The ADC actively encourages students who have limited or no previous experience in debating to join.

Throughout the 6-week competition, students have the opportunity to engage with other like-minded students from different backgrounds. ADC seeks to provide a supportive and fun space to empower students to develop their own voice. Students receive careful guidance and specialised coaching from members of the legal profession and experienced university debaters.

Role of the Coaches & Adjudicators

- Introduction and ground-work to debating (basic Asian/Australasian debating style).
- Develop a team from first to last week, and a mentor-student relationship.
- Share research and debating methods (e.g. structure of an argument).
- Facilitate the event by adjudication rounds, providing feedback and coaching to participants.

Risk Management

ADC invites teachers to discuss their school's particular needs, but we note the following requirements:

- All volunteers to have 'Working with Children' (Volunteer) clearance.
- At least one teacher or other responsible adult to connect online each week in support of students.
- Participating students are to remain online with their team between 5.15 –6.30pm.

Student Commitment

Students agree to the 'ADC Debating Program Participation Contract'; they will commit to the full debating program over 6 weeks [subject to unforeseen circumstances]; willingness to use their best endeavours to participate; working constructively with peers from other schools, following directions of the coaches, adjudicators and ADC staff, and maintaining exemplary standards of behaviour online [recognising that they are representing their school].

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For more information please contact us:

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