

October 15, 2016

Dear CCA Families,

In an effort to better fulfill CCA's mission and vision, the CCA Board is implementing the following major changes; please review all appropriate documents for minor changes.

Annual Release of Debate and IE Documents

In the 2015-16 academic year, the CCA Board began releasing IE and Debate rule changes to the CCA website by Noon, EST, on the third Saturday of October, in order to provide consistent access to all families in CCA in the states of Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio. Beginning with the 2016-17 academic year, the Debate Resolution will be among those documents.

Permitted Debate Case Structures

The dictated CCA debate judge paradigm is strictly stock issue based. The Criteria Affirmative Case structure is not appropriate for that paradigm therefore; it is of limited educational benefit and a cause of complexity and confusion in the debate program.

The preamble portion of the Criteria Affirmative Case Structure is clearly a waste of Affirmative speaking time, since harms, plan, and advantages still need to be presented (based on current CCA rules) and the criteria cannot introduce a unique judging paradigm. (based on current CCA rules) The criteria and goal are superfluous and a cause of confusion, given our judging paradigm.

Effective for the 2016-17 academic year, the Criteria Affirmative Case Structure is no longer permitted; the Needs Analysis and Comparative Advantage Case Structures will remain as the two allowable affirmative case types in CCA debate.

IE Age Brackets and Participation Restrictions

In an effort to balance several needs, changes are being made to the IE age brackets and participation restrictions.

- 1. To aide CCA affiliated clubs that need to recruit younger families, the restriction of a family to have a Varsity competitor in order for their Junior Varsity age students to compete is lifted effective the 2016-17 academic year.*
- 2. Junior competitors will still be required to have a competing sibling in either the Junior Varsity or Varsity brackets.*
- 3. In order to address the three interrelated issues of tournament facility room constraints, inability to consistently allow Varsity competitors to participate in three events at some tournaments, and an inconsistency with the Varsity Debate age bracket, the IE age brackets will be changed to 5-8 for Juniors, 9-13 for Junior Varsity, and 14-18 for Varsity. This change will become effective for the **2017-18** academic year.*

The CCA Board