

## **Patriot Debate Program at Dallas Baptist University**

### **Constitution & Bylaws**

#### Article I: Organization

- A) Faculty Sponsor(s)
  - a) One or more academic faculty at DBU will serve as faculty sponsor(s) for this program.
- B) Appointed Student Officers
  - a) Enrolled students at DBU will serve as student officers for this program.
  - b) Officers serve at the discretion of the sponsor(s) and any other relevant university faculty members.
  - c) Officer positions are as follows:
    - i) President
    - ii) Vice President
    - iii) Secretary
    - iv) Social Director

#### Article II: Procedures

- A) Authority Appointments
  - a) In a collective act, the current group of officers and the sponsor(s) will appoint enrolled students at DBU to occupy any open officer role(s).
  - b) The resignation and/or graduation of a current officer will constitute the opening of an officer role.
    - i) An appointee must be decided before said officer retires.
- B) Meetings
  - a) This program will have weekly meetings on campus.
  - b) Officers will design, plan, and administer said meetings, which will include lectures and integral group-thinks to provide practice and growth for program members.
  - c) Meetings and lectures must be provisional and work towards the growth and/or the strengthening of the team's competitive skill.
- C) Extra Events
  - a) Officers and members will coordinate the planning of on-campus and off-campus events (i.e. round robin(s), outreach/informational meetings, etc).
- D) Constitutional Amendment Process
  - a) This Constitution may only be amended by the sponsor(s). Changes may be initiated by officers, but must be approved by the sponsor(s).

#### Article III: Participation

- A) Meeting Attendance
  - a) All members must regularly attend weekly program meetings and lectures.
- B) Tournament Attendance
  - a) All members must attend 75% of the team's competitions at regional tournaments.
  - b) All members must attend the national championship.
- C) Practice Round Participation
  - a) All members must debate once weekly against other team members.
    - i) Officers and select varsity members may be allowed to coach in place of weekly practice rounds.

## Article IV: Requirements

### A) Application Process

- a) To be considered for membership, students must first fill out the program application form and provide two letters of recommendation.
  - i) Students with previous debate experience must provide a forensic resume.
- b) Officers must set up an interview with approved students, asking them about their commitment and debate experience, gauging their skill.
- c) Upon approval, students will become a member of the debate program.

### B) Travel Requirements

- a) Tournament participation will be based on member records in practice rounds.
  - i) Members must complete a minimum of six practice rounds prior to competitive travel.
  - ii) In select cases, members who have not yet fulfilled the practice round requirement may be approved for competitive travel per the discretion of the program officers and sponsor(s).

### C) Code of Conduct

- a) All members must read and adhere to the Dallas Baptist University Honor Pledge as the debate program code of conduct.
- b) In the case of a violation of the code of conduct, officers, sponsor(s), and any other relevant university faculty members reserve the right to remove any member involved in the violation of this code. Violators may be barred from joining the team again in the future.

### D) Dress Code

- a) During competition, members must wear appropriate professional business attire.
  - i) Gentlemen. Suits or slacks and a sports coat, with a shirt and tie, and dress shoes.
  - ii) Ladies. Skirt or pant suits; slacks, skirts or dresses with jackets, and professional dress shoes.

*Created and authored by Mr. Greyson Goebel and Mr. Jascha Ely, President and Vice President of the Patriot Debate Program at Dallas Baptist University, March 24, 2021.*

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