

**2026 SHS Country Week (Revised 070626)
Speech and Debating Awards 29 June – 3 July**

to be held at

**Bendat Basketball Centre
(Ellis Rooms Nth and Sth, Ellis Mezzanine)**

and

**High Performance Stadium
(Bloomfield Lecture Theatre, Champions Room, Hall of Champions)**

Mt Claremont



**The Speaking and Debating competition is part of Country Week for SHS's
which is co-ordinated by School Sport WA**

Prizes for the Debating Competition are provided by the RAC



COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

SCHOOLS COMPETING

	School	A Deb	A OC	A PP	B Deb	B OC	B PP	C Deb	C OC	C PP
1	Albany SHS	*	*	*	*	*	*			
2	Bunbury CGS	*	*	*	*	*	*			
3	Bunbury CC				*	*	*			
4	Bunbury SHS	*	*	*	*	*	*			
5	Christmas Island DHS	*	*	*	*	*	*			
6	Collie SHS							*		
7	Cunderdin WACOA							*		
8	Dalyellup College							*		
9	Denmark SHS	*	*	*	*	*	*			
10	Eastern GGC				*	*	*	*	*	*
11	Geraldton CC							*		
12	Great SGS				*	*	*			
13	Hedland SHS				*	*				
14	Hope CC							*		
15	Karratha SHS	*	*	*	*	*	*			
16	Katanning SHS							*		
17	Manea SC	*	*	*						
18	Manjimup SHS				*	*	*	*	*	*
19	Margaret River SHS	*						*		
20	Newton Moore SHS							*		
21	St Lukes C				*		*	*		

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

Monday 29 June

10.00 – 11.30: WADL Demonstration Debate (Bendat Basketball Centre, Ellis Room)

12.00 noon: Debate topics released in Ellis Mezzanine and Hall of Champions

Day	Deb Prep - move to room	Debate Time	Ellis Nth	Ellis Sth	Bloomfield LT	Champions Room
Monday 29 June	12.00 - 12.30	12.30 - 1.15	A Division Pool 1A	A Division Pool 1A	A Division Pool 2A	A Division Pool 2A
			BCG1 v MRSHS1 (1A)	Denmark1 v CIDHS1 (2A)	ASHS1 v Manea (3A)	BSHS1 v Karratha1 (4A)
	1.00 - 1.30	1.30 - 2.15	B Division Pool BA A1 v A2	B Division Pool BB B1 v B2	B Division Pool BC C1 v C2	B Division Pool BD D1 v D2
			BCG2 v Hedland (1B)	StLukes v Manjimup (2B)	EG1 v GSG (3B)	Karratha2 v ASHS2 (4B)
	2.00 - 2.30	2.30 - 3.15	C Division Pool CA A1 v A2	C Division Pool CA A3 v A4	C Division Pool CB B1 v B2	C Division Pool CC C1 v C2
			Collie v Hope (1C)	NMSHS v Cunderdin (2C)	Dalyellup v Katanning (3C)	GCC v EG2 (4C)

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

Day	Deb Prep + move to room	Debate Time	Ellis Nth	Ellis Sth	Bloomfield LT	Champions Room	
Tuesday 30 June	7.45 - 8.15	8.15 - 9.00	B Division Pool BC C1 v C3	B Division Pool BD D1 v D3	B Division Pool BA A1 v A3	B Division Pool BB B1 v B3	
			BCC v EG1 (7B)	BSHS2 v Karratha2 (8B)	Denmark2 v BCG2 (5B)	CIDHS2 v StLukes (6B)	
	8.45 - 9.15	9.15 - 10.00	C Division Pool CC C1 v C3	C Division Pool CB B3 V B4	C Division Pool CA A2 V A4	C Division Pool CA A1 v A3	
			StLukesv GCC (8C)	Manjimup v MRSHS2 (7C)	Hope v Cunderdin (6C)	NMSHS v Collie (5C)	
	9.45 - 10.15	10.15 - 11.00	A Division Pool 2A	A Division Pool 2A	A Division Pool 1A	A Division Pool 1A	
			BSHS1 v ASHS1 (7A)	Karratha1 v Manea (8A)	Denmark1 v BCG1 (5A)	MRSHS1 v CIDHS1 (6A)	
	10.45 - 11.15	11.15 - 12.00	B Division Pool BB B2 v B3	B Division Pool BA A2 v A3	B Division Pool BD D2 v D3	B Division Pool BC C2 v C3	
			Manjimup v CIDHS2 (10B)	Hedland v Denmark2 (9B)	ASHS2 v BSHS2 (12B)	GSG v BCC (11B)	
	B Division teams will be ranked 1-12 & 4 new pools (BE, BF, BG , BH) created by placing teams ranked 1 - 3 in Pool BE, teams ranked 4 - 6 in Pool BF, etc						
		11.45 - 1.15	OWN COMP A - 13 entrants				
		1.15 - 3.15		OWN COMP B - 19 entrants	NOTE: Manjimup & EGC in both B and C Divisions. To present last in B Division		
		1.30 - 2.00	OWN COMP C- 3 entrants				

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

Day	Deb Prep + move to room	Debate Time	Ellis Nth	Ellis Sth	Bloomfield LT	Champions Room	
Wednesday 1 July	7.45 - 8.15	8.15 - 9.00	B Division Pool BE	B Division Pool BF	B Division Pool BG	B Division Pool BH	
			BE1 v BE2 (13B)	BF1 v BF2 (14B)	BG1 v BG2 (15B)	BH1 v BH2 (16B)	
	8.45 - 9.15	9.15 - 10.00	C Division Pool CA A1 v A4	C Division Pool CB B1 v B3	C Division Pool CB B2 v B4	C Division Pool CC C2 v C3	
			Cunderdin v Collie (9C)	Manjimup v Dalyellup (10C)	Katanning v MRSHS2 (11C)	EG2 v StLukes (12C)	
	9.45 - 10.15	10.15 - 11.00	A Division Pool 1A	A Division Pool 2A	A Division Pool 2A	A Division Pool 1A	
			Denmark1 v MRSHS1 (10A)	Manea v BSHS1 (12A)	Karratha1 v ASHS1 (11A)	CIDHS1 v BCG1 (9A)	
	10.45 - 11.15	11.15 - 12.00	B Division Pool BG	B Division Pool BH	B Division Pool BE	B Division Pool BF	
			BG3 v BG1 (19B)	BH3 v BH1 (20B)	BE3 v BE1 (17B)	BF3 v BF1 (18B)	
	11.45 - 12.15	12.15 - 1.00	C Division Pool CA A2 v A3	C Division Pool CB B1 v B4	C Division Pool CB B2 v B3		
			Hope v NMSHS (13C)	MRSHS2 v Dalyellup (14C)	Katanning v Manjimup (15C)	(16C)	
	A Division teams now be ranked 1 - 4 in each pool AND C Division teams now ranked P1 to P11						
		12.00 - 1.00	PP A - 13 entrants				
		1.15 - 2.45		PPB - 20 entrants			
		2.00- 2.30	PP C - 3 entrants				

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

Day	Deb Prep + move to room	Debate Time	Ellis Nth	Ellis Sth	Bloomfield LT	Champions Room	
Thursday 2 July	7.45 - 8.15	8.15 - 9.00	C Division P1 v P4 (17C)	C Division P2 v P3 (18C)	C Division P5 v P8 (19C)	C Division P6 v P7 (20C)	
	8.45 - 9.15	9.15 - 10.00	B Division Pool BE BE2 v BE3 (21B)	B Division Pool BF BF2 v BF3 (22B)	B Division Pool BH BH2 v BH3 (24B)	B Division Pool BG BG2 v BG3 (23B)	
	9.45 - 10.15	10.15 - 11.00	A Division 1st ranked Pool 1 v 2nd ranked Pool 2 (13A)	A Division 1st ranked Pool 2 v 2nd ranked Pool 1 (14A)	A Division 3rd ranked Pool 1 v 4th ranked Pool 2 (15A)	A Division 3rd ranked Pool 2 v 4th ranked Pool 1 (16A)	
	10.45 - 11.15	11.15 - 12.00	C Division Winner 19 v Winner 20 for 5/6 (21C)	C Division Loser 19 v Loser 20 for 7/8 (22C)	C Division P11 v P10 Loser is 11th (23C)	(24C)	
	All B Division teams will again be ranked based on all 4 of their debates. Teams placed 9th to 12th will not debate on Friday.						
		11.45- 12.30	OC FINALS B Division x 7 finalists	PP FINALS A Division x 5 finalists			
		1.00 - 1.45	OC FINALS A Division x 5 finalists	PP FINALS B Division x 7 finalists			
		2.00 - 2.30	OC FINALS C Division x 3 finalists	PP FINALS C Division x 3 finalists			

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

Day	Deb Prep + move to room	Debate Time	Ellis Nth	Ellis Sth	Bloomfield LT	Champions Room
Friday 3 July	7.30 - 8.00	8.00 - 8.45	A Division Winner 13A v Winner 14A for 1/2 (17A)	A Division Loser 13A v Loser 14A for 3/4 (18A)	A Division Winner 15A v Winner 16A for 5/6 (19A)	A Division Loser 15A v Loser 16A for 7/8 (20A)
	8.30 - 9.00	9.00 - 9.45	B Division 1st ranked v 2nd ranked for 1/2 (25B)	B Division 3rd ranked v 4th ranked for 3/4 (26B)	B Division 5th ranked v 6th ranked for 5/6 (27B)	B Division 7th ranked v 8th ranked for 7/8 (28B)
	9.30 - 10.00	10.00 - 10.45	C Division Winner 17 v Winner 18 for 1/2 (25C)	C Division Loser 17 v Loser 18 for 3/4 (26C)	C Division Winner 23 v P9 for 9/10 (27C)	

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

DEBATE TEAMS / STUDENT NUMBERS

Number	School	A Debating
DA01	Albany SHS 1	William Schupp
DA02	Albany SHS 1	Freya Idle
DA03	Albany SHS 1	Sienna Barbarich
DA04	Albany SHS 1	Henry Manser
DA05	Bunbury CGS 1	Charlotte Rawlinson
DA06	Bunbury CGS 1	Oliver Barrett
DA07	Bunbury CGS 1	Malak Mohamed
DA08	Bunbury CGS 1	
DA09	Bunbury SHS 1	Belle Harris
DA10	Bunbury SHS 1	Claire Lindroth
DA11	Bunbury SHS 1	Sophie Hawker
DA12	Bunbury SHS 1	Nina Tovar
DA13	Christmas Is DHS 1	Inayah Sultan Syed
DA14	Christmas Is DHS 1	Jeslyn Tee
DA15	Christmas Is DHS 1	Sophia Retallick
DA16	Christmas Is DHS 1	Abby Kwong
DA17	Denmark SHS 1	Imogen Rowling
DA18	Denmark SHS 1	Katelyn Py
DA19	Denmark SHS 1	Aiden Cull
DA20	Karratha SHS 1	Ka'el Calixto
DA21	Karratha SHS 1	Dipesh Giri
DA22	Karratha SHS 1	Grace Byrne
DA23	Karratha SHS 1	Haki Mautama
DA24	Manea SC	Jannah Baldonado
DA25	Manea SC	Blair Driscoll
DA26	Manea SC	Sreesha Shaji
DA27	Manea SC	Daina Armstrong
DA28	Margaret River 1	Maya Wostear
DA29	Margaret River 1	Sophie Johnson
DA30	Margaret River 1	Violet Mckillop

Number	School	B Debating
DB01	Albany SHS 2	Beau Hokianga-Baker
DB02	Albany SHS 2	Isabel Baker
DB03	Albany SHS 2	Estella Scally
DB04	Albany SHS 2	Riley Eaton
DB05	Bunbury CC	Ryan Berry
DB06	Bunbury CC	Grace Richardson
DB07	Bunbury CC	Abigail Bovell
DB08	Bunbury CC	Grace O'Neill
DB09	Bunbury CGS 2	Annabel Reid
DB10	Bunbury CGS 2	Vincent O'Malley
DB11	Bunbury CGS 2	Chris Cunningham
DB12	Bunbury CGS 2	
DB13	Bunbury SHS 2	Katalina Chalker
DB14	Bunbury SHS 2	Caitlyn Sainsbury
DB15	Bunbury SHS 2	Rory Fortune
DB16	Christmas Is DHS 2	Lumi Hamanaka
DB17	Christmas Is DHS 2	Lashana Yeap
DB18	Christmas Is DHS 2	Madalyn Tresize
DB19	Christmas Is DHS 2	Elliot Ong
DB20	Denmark SHS 2	Kess Vincent
DB21	Denmark SHS 2	Mirella Edgar
DB22	Denmark SHS 2	Eliza Gentle
DB23	Eastern Goldfields C 1	Cassidy Allen
DB24	Eastern Goldfields C 1	Isabella Wilson
DB25	Eastern Goldfields C 1	Natasha Taylor
DB26	Eastern Goldfields C 1	Izabella Hughes
DB27	Great Southern GS	Tilly Bradshaw
DB28	Great Southern GS	Fraser Ravenhill
DB29	Great Southern GS	Alina Harms
DB30	Great Southern GS	Darcey Perkins

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

Number	School	B Debating cont'd
DB31	Hedland SHS	Shaquille Brierly
DB32	Hedland SHS	Endurer Acheampong
DB33	Hedland SHS	Jesse Asare
DB34	Karratha SHS 2	Celeste Canning
DB35	Karratha SHS 2	Naomi Van Styn
DB36	Karratha SHS 2	Fay Lalande
DB37	Manjimup SHS 1	Finn Cavannah
DB38	Manjimup SHS 1	Maddison French
DB39	Manjimup SHS 1	Mazlyn Membry
DB40	Manjimup SHS 1	Seraphina Norris
DB41	St Luke's College 1	Caleb Mills
DB42	St Luke's College 1	Coby O'Connor
DB43	St Luke's College 1	Chloe Varvell
DB44	St Luke's College 1	Giselle Downham

Number	School	C Debating
DC01	Collie SHS	Leah Robertson
DC02	Collie SHS	Mercades Ingram
DC03	Collie SHS	Mackayla Hickson
DC04	Cunderdin WACOA	Rani Chamberlain
DC05	Cunderdin WACOA	Riley Hughes-Odgers
DC06	Cunderdin WACOA	Jacob Wood
DC07	Cunderdin WACOA	Lilah Watt
DC09	Eastern Goldfields C 2	Remi Lieberwirth
DC10	Eastern Goldfields C 2	Thomas Moore
DC11	Eastern Goldfields C 2	Sewami-Samson Yepwi
DC12	Eastern Goldfields C 2	Stephanie Porte
DC13	Geraldton CC	Ella-Sandra Millington
DC14	Geraldton CC	Taj Evans
DC15	Geraldton CC	Sepehr Khalighi

Number	School	C Debating cont'd
DC16	Geraldton CC	Lucas Offszanka
DC17	Hope CC	Ryan Mellowship
DC18	Hope CC	Isabella Cameron
DC19	Hope CC	Isla Pritchard
DC20	Hope CC	Christine Balasta
DC21	Katanning SHS	Merekei Hannan
DC22	Katanning SHS	Liam brewer
DC23	Katanning SHS	James standage
DC24	Manjimup SHS 2	Jack Roberts
DC25	Manjimup SHS 2	Cerella Nixon
DC26	Manjimup SHS 2	Sage Nixon
DC27	Manjimup SHS 2	Angus Manser
DC28	Margaret River 2	Saphira Decaux
DC29	Margaret River 2	Angus Male
DC30	Margaret River 2	Aimee Bosman
DC31	Newton Moore SHS	Willow Jenkins
DC32	Newton Moore SHS	Lola Kelly
DC33	Newton Moore SHS	Jade House
DC34	Newton Moore SHS	Claire Swan
DC35	St Luke's College 2	Ezra Crain
DC36	St Luke's College 2	Hayley Parker
DC37	St Luke's College 2	Jappreet Kaur
DC38	St Luke's College 2	Patrick Fowler
DC39	Dalyellup College	Keirah Dolan
DC40	Dalyellup College	Tayla Crosby
DC41	Dalyellup College	Noah Sutherland
DC42	Dalyellup College	Katelyn Green

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

DEBATE POOLS

	A Division		B Division				C Division		
	Pool 1A	Pool 2A	Pool BA	Pool BB	Pool BC	Pool BD	Pool CA	Pool CB	Pool CC
1	BCG1	ASHS1	BCG2	StLukes1	EG1	Karratha2	Collie	Dalyellup	GCC
2	MRSHS1	BSHS1	Hedland	Manjimup	GSG	ASHS2	Hope	Katanning	EG2
3	Denmark1	Manea	Denmark2	CIDHS2	BCC	BSHS2	NMSHS	Manjimup	StLukes 2
4	CIDHS1	Karratha1					Cunderdin	MRSHS 2	

ABBREVIATIONS

Bunbury Catholic College - BCC
 Cunderdin WACOA - Cunderdin
 Newton Moore SHS – NMSHS

Bunbury Cathedral GS - BCG
 Geraldton CC - GCC
 St Luke’s College - StLukes

Bunbury SHS - BSHS
 Great Southern Grammar - GSG

Christmas Island DHS - CIDHS
 Margaret River - MRSHS

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

OWN COMPOSITION ORDER OF PRESENTATION

Number	School	OC A
OCA1	Albany SHS	Sienna Barbarich
OCA2	Albany SHS	Henry Manser
OCA3	Karratha SHS	Ka'el Calixto
OCA4	Karratha SHS	Dipesh Giri
OCA5	Bunbury CGS	Charlotte Rawlinson
OCA6	Bunbury CGS	Oliver Barret
OCA7	Christmas Is DHS	Jeslyn Tee
OCA8	Christmas Is DHS	Sophia Retallick
OCA9	Bunbury SHS	Claire Lindroth
OCA10	Bunbury SHS	Sophie Hawker
OCA11	Denmark SHS	Katelyn Py
OCA12	Manea SC	Jannah Baldonado
OCA13	Manea SC	Daina Armstrong

Number	School	OC C
OCC1	Eastern Goldfields C	Remi Lieberwirth
OCC2	Manjimup SHS	Jack Roberts
OCC3	Manjimup SHS	Sage Nixon

Number	School	OC B
OCB1	Great Southern GS	Tilly Bradshaw
OCB2	Great Southern GS	Fraser Ravenhill
OCB5	Bunbury CC	Ryan Berry
OCB6	Bunbury CC	Grace Richardson
OCB8	Karratha SHS	Naomi Van Styn
OCB9	Christmas Is DHS	Lumi Hamanaka
OCB10	Christmas Is DHS	Madalyn Tresize
OCB11	Hedland SHS	Shaquille Brierly
OCB12	Bunbury SHS	Katalina Chalker
OCB13	Bunbury SHS	Caitlyn Sainsbury
OCB14	Denmark SHS	Eliza Gentle
OCB15	Denmark SHS	Mirella Edgar
OCB16	Albany SHS	Beau Hokianga-Baker
OCB17	Albany SHS	Estella Scally
OCB18	Bunbury CGS	Annabel Reid
OCB19	Bunbury CGS	Chris Cunningham
OCB3	Manjimup SHS	Finn Cavannah
OCB4	Manjimup SHS	Maddison French
OCB7	Eastern Goldfields C	Cassidy Allen

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

PERFORMANCE PIECE ORDER OF PRESENTATION

Number	School	PP A
PPA1	Bunbury SHS	Belle Harris
PPA2	Bunbury SHS	Nina Tovar
PPA3	Denmark SHS	Imogen Rowling
PPA4	Denmark SHS	Aiden Cull
PPA5	Bunbury CGS	Charlotte Rawlinson
PPA6	Bunbury CGS	Malak Mohamed
PPA7	Manea SC	Blair Driscoll
PPA8	Manea SC	Sreesha Shaji
PPA9	Albany SHS	William Schupp
PPA10	Albany SHS	Freya Idle
PPA11	Christmas Is DHS	Inayah Sultan Syed
PPA12	Christmas Is DHS	Abby Kwong
PPA13	Karratha SHS	Grace Byrne
Number	School	PP C
PPC1	Manjimup SHS	Cerella Nixon
PPC2	Manjimup SHS	Angus Manser
PPC3	Eastern Goldfields C	Thomas Moore

Number	School	PP B
PPB1	St Luke's College	Caleb Mills
PPB2	St Luke's College	Coby O'Connor
PPB5	Bunbury SHS	Katalina Chalker
PPB6	Bunbury SHS	Rory Fortune
PPB7	Christmas Is DHS	Lashana Yeap
PPB8	Christmas Is DHS	Elliot Ong
PPB9	Denmark SHS	Kess Vincent
PPB10	Bunbury CC	Abigail Bovell
PPB11	Bunbury CC	Grace O'Neill
PPB12	Karratha SHS	Fay Lalande
PPB13	Karratha SHS	Celeste Canning
PPB14	Great Southern GS	Alina Harms
PPB15	Great Southern GS	Darcey Perkins
PPB16	Albany SHS	Riley Eaton
PPB17	Albany SHS	Isabel Baker
PPB3	Bunbury CGS	Annabel Reid
PPB20	Bunbury CGS	Vinnie O'Malley
PPB4	Eastern Goldfields C	Izabella Wilson
PPB18	Manjimup SHS	Mazlyn Membry
PPB19	Manjimup SHS	Seraphina Norris

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

THE DEBATING COMPETITION

1. **All members of a team should be in the correct preparation area (Bendat Mezzanine or the Hall of Champions - whichever is appropriate for their debate) 10 MINUTES BEFORE the coin toss is scheduled.** (DEBATERS ONLY - NO STAFF).
2. Both schools must be present for the topic to be released. However, after 2 minutes, if one school does not have its three members present the team with three members present may choose whether to argue the affirmative or the negative case, advise the supervisor of their choice and be given the topic to begin preparation. The team that is late will have less time to prepare.
3. **The coin toss will be made by the supervisor before the topic is given.** The team mentioned first in the program will 'call' the toss. The team winning the toss will choose to argue the affirmative or the negative case.
4. Before the coin toss, opposing teams may greet each other & shake hands and then follow the 'no intimidation / no contact rule' (no talking between the teams during coin toss, prep, and debate) until after the result of the debate is announced, when teams may offer congratulations.
5. Speech Coordinators / Teachers CANNOT be advised of the topic by their students as they move to the debate room.
 - a. All team members will be permitted to take part in the preparation.
 - b. Schools **to advise ALL students**, including those taking part in sporting events, that the prep areas are for Debate Prep ONLY and are out of bounds except for students prepping for the next debate on the program.
6. **The use of the internet is not permitted during preparation time or during a debate. No mobile phones, tablets, smart watches etc. are permitted. All such electronic devices are to be left with Speech Coordinators before going to Coin Toss and Topic Release. Before the coin toss the Awards Supervisor will check that no one has an electronic device. Any such devices (including watches) will be confiscated until the end of the day. Schools to provide their debate team with a stopwatch for use during their debates.**
7. After the coin toss any team found with an electronic / smart device will automatically forfeit the debate for which they are prepping but **MUST** still debate.
8. **Teams may use a hard copy dictionary and a hard copy thesaurus ONLY. To be supplied by each school.**
9. Please be seated in the room 1 minute before the start of the debate. For every half minute a school team is late there will be a penalty of half a point.

Please note:

 - Where 2 teams have the same number of points, the team that was the winner of the debate between the two equally ranked teams will be ranked higher.
 - If there are three teams with the same number of points, or if two equally ranked teams did not debate against each other, the ranks will be determined by the Winning Margin (the team with the highest WM will be ranked higher).
 - The winning margin is calculated using points scored for a team and against a team in all debates to that point. 224 points for and 223 points against is a WM of +1. 224 points for and 225 points against is a WM of -1.
 - If two equally ranked teams have the same WM, then the order of teams will be determined by their speaker score (the team with the highest speaker score will be ranked higher) which will be calculated as the total speaker scores for all debates. For example, if a team receives 225 in debate 1, 228 in debate 2, 227 in debate 3 and 229 in debate 4 their Speaker Score is 909.

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

IMPROMPTU DEBATE RULES

1. ***At the coin toss, opposing teams may greet each other & shake hands and then follow the 'no intimidation / contact rule' (no talking between the teams during coin toss, prep, and debate) until after the result of the debate is announced, when teams may offer congratulations.***
2. **Speech Coordinators / Teachers are not permitted to be present at the coin toss or at topic handout and are not permitted to take part in the preparation. They can be advised of the topic at the end of prep time when they see their students.**
3. **All members of a debate team should be on the Bendat Mezzanine Floor or in the Hall of Champions (whichever is appropriate for your debate) 10 MINUTES BEFORE the coin toss is scheduled.** The team winning the coin toss will decide whether to argue the affirmative or the negative case BEFORE the topic is given to each team.
4. Both schools must be present for the topic to be released. However, after 5 minutes, if one school does not have three members present the teams will be given the topic to begin preparation, with the team with less than its full complement of students being at a disadvantage.
5. Preparation will take place in the Ellis Room Mezzanine at Bendat Stadium and in the Hall of Champions at HPC.
 - a. All team members will be permitted to take part in the preparation.
 - b. Schools are requested to advise ALL students, including those taking part in sporting events, that the prep areas are for Debate Prep ONLY and are out of bounds except for students prepping for the next debate on the program.
6. **The use of the internet or any smart devices is not permitted during preparation time or during a debate. No mobile phones, tablets, smart watches etc. are permitted. All such devices are to be left with the team's Speech Coordinator before going to Coin Toss and Topic Release. Before the coin toss the Awards Supervisor will check that no one has an electronic/smart device and will confiscate any such devices until the end of the day.**
7. After the coin toss any team found with an electronic / smart device will automatically forfeit the debate for which they are prepping but **MUST** still debate.
8. **Teams may use a hard copy dictionary and a hard copy thesaurus ONLY. To be supplied by each school.**
9. Teams must be seated in the room allocated to their debate 1 minute before the start of the debate. For every half minute a school team is late there will be a penalty of half a point.

NO INTIMIDATION is permitted throughout the Country Week Speaking and Debating Awards

COUNTRY WEEK SPEAKING & DEBATING 2026

SPEAKING AND DEBATING CODES OF CONDUCT

Code of Behaviour for Speakers

- Be on time to greet members of the opposition team.
- Be a good sport.
- Participate for enjoyment.
- Work hard for your team as well as yourself.
- Treat the members of every speech team (including opponents) as you enjoy being treated.
- Do not verbally bully or intimidate any person involved with the Speaking and Debating Awards, either as a competitor, coach or adjudicator.
- Follow all rules.
- Cooperate with team coaches and officials.
- Control your behaviour on and off the speaking stage.
- Learn to value honest effort, verbal skills and improvement.

Code of Behaviour for Speech Coaches

- Set a good example for your speakers.
- Insist on behaviour that is not detrimental or bullying to other participants.
- Encourage and create opportunities to develop individual speaking skills.
- Ensure that the Division entered is appropriate for the age group and the verbal skill development level of your students.
- Teach your speakers to be friendly towards officials and opponents.
- Remove from the competition any speaker whose behaviour is not acceptable.
- Abide by the School Sport Australia policy which prohibits smoking and consumption of alcohol by team officials at any time whilst in the direct supervision of students.
- It is the responsibility of all coaches to ensure that none of their students goes to debate prep with any electronic devices in pockets, on wrists or in bags or cases.