



Policy on Regulation of Adjudication 2007

1. Outline

- 1.1. This is a WADL policy outlining the action that the WADL Committee will take in the event of a complaint against or unacceptable conduct by an adjudicator of its Schools Debating Competition. This policy must be read in conjunction with the Dress Code 2007.

2. Record of Adjudicators

- 2.1. At the start of each WADL season the Administrative Head of Adjudication must create a book or computer spreadsheet of all adjudicators ("the Adjudication Record").
- 2.2. If directed by the WADL Committee the Administrative Head of Adjudication must record a Breach by or positive comment for a WADL adjudicator in the Adjudication Record.
- 2.3. The Administrative Head of Adjudication must not enter anything in the Adjudication Record unless directed by the WADL Committee.
- 2.4. At the end of the WADL season the Administrative Head of Adjudication must deliver the Adjudication Record to the WADL Administrator.

3. Notices

- 3.1. If the WADL Committee commences an inquiry into a Category A, B or C Breach, the President must send a written notice ("a Notice") to the adjudicator before any action is taken by the Committee.
 - 3.2. A Notice must:
 - (i) inform the adjudicator that the WADL Committee is investigating a possible Breach by the adjudicator
 - (ii) detail the alleged Breach
 - (iii) request a written explanation for the alleged Breach ("the Explanation"), and
 - (iv) explain the action which may be taken by WADL in respect of the alleged Breach.
 - 3.3. The Explanation is due by
 - (i) for a Category A, B or C Breach: no less than 7 days prior to the date of the next WADL Committee meeting, and
 - (ii) for a Category D Breach: no less than 7 days from the date of receipt of the Notice by the adjudicator.
 - 3.4. If the President does not receive the Explanation in time the Committee must respond to the Breach without further notice to the adjudicator and solely on the facts before the Committee.
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4. Formal Warning

- 4.1. A Formal Warning is a notice in writing from the President to an adjudicator. The President must only issue a Formal Warning if directed by the Committee.
- 4.2. A Formal Warning must:
- (i) set out the details of the Breach
 - (ii) set out the resolution of the Committee, and
 - (iii) notify the adjudicator that he or she will be ineligible to adjudicate in the next round.

5. Dismissal

- 5.1. If an adjudicator is dismissed for a Category B, C or D Breach that adjudicator is ineligible to adjudicate again in the current WADL season but may adjudicate again from the following season.
- 5.2. If an adjudicator is dismissed for a Category A Breach the adjudicator is ineligible to adjudicate again.

6. Category A Breach

- 6.1. A Category A Breach occurs when:
- (i) an adjudicator arrives at a venue unfit to adjudicate due to, for example, intoxication, or
 - (ii) an adjudicator brings WADL into disrepute due to, for example, sexist or racist conduct or any conduct which in the Committee's opinion is so offensive that it is likely to bring WADL into disrepute.
- 6.2. If an adjudicator commits a Category A Breach he or she will be dismissed instantly.

7. Category B Breach

- 7.1. If an adjudicator fails altogether to arrive at the venue at which he or she was rostered to adjudicate, the WADL Committee must investigate whether the adjudicator has committed a Category B Breach.
- 7.2. If it is the adjudicator has not previously committed any Category B or C Breach, the President must issue a Notice to the adjudicator and the Committee must consider the Explanation (if any) given by the adjudicator and:
- (i) dismiss the adjudicator instantly
 - (ii) issue a Formal Warning to the adjudicator, or
 - (iii) accept the Explanation, in which case no action will be taken against the adjudicator and nothing will be recorded in the Adjudication Record.
- 7.3. If the adjudicator has previously committed a Category B or C breach, the President must issue a Notice to the adjudicator and the Committee must consider the Explanation (if any) given by the adjudicator and:
- (i) dismiss the adjudicator instantly, or

- (ii) accept the Explanation, in which case no action will be taken against the adjudicator and nothing will be recorded in the Adjudication Record.

8. Category C Breach

8.1. If an adjudicator engages in any of the following conduct, the WADL Committee must investigate whether the adjudicator has committed a Category C Breach:

- (i) a Breach of the Dress Code 2007
- (ii) arriving at the venue at which he or she was rostered to adjudicate less than 10 minutes before the scheduled starting time of the adjudicator's first debate, provided that a replacement adjudicator has been called as a result, or
- (iii) failing to arrive at the venue at all, provided that the adjudicator has notified the venue's Head Adjudicator by phone more than 10 minutes before to the scheduled starting time of the adjudicator's first debate.

8.2. If it is the adjudicator has not previously committed any Category B or C Breach, the President must issue a Notice to the adjudicator and the Committee must consider the Explanation (if any) given by the adjudicator and:

- (i) issue a Formal Warning to the adjudicator, or
- (ii) accept the Explanation, in which case no action will be taken against the adjudicator and nothing will be recorded in the Adjudication Record.

8.3. If the adjudicator has previously committed a Category B or C breach, the President must issue a Notice to the adjudicator and the Committee must consider the Explanation (if any) given by the adjudicator and:

- (i) issue a Formal Warning to the adjudicator, or
- (ii) accept the Explanation, in which case no action will be taken against the adjudicator and nothing will be recorded in the Adjudication Record.

9. Category D Breach

9.1. If WADL receives a complaint regarding a technical aspect of an adjudicator's adjudication, or regarding an aspect of an adjudicator's conduct, the WADL Committee must commence an investigation into a Category D Breach and the Technical Head of Adjudication must:

- (i) contact the adjudicator and discuss the debate and the complaint, and
- (ii) respond to the complainant in writing within 14 days.

9.2. A Category D breach will be issued where the Committee, on the advice of the Technical Head of Adjudication, decides that the complaint raises legitimate concerns about the adjudicator.

9.3. In determining whether the complaint raises legitimate concerns about the adjudicator, regard may be had to:

- (i) the nature of the complaint

- (ii) the adjudicator's response to the complaint, and
- (iii) the adjudicator's assessment of the debate.

9.4. The Technical Head of Adjudication may at any time after a complaint is received decide that the adjudicator be removed from the adjudication roster, or not included on the adjudication roster for a particular period of time.

9.5. If a Category D breach is issued, the Committee may decide:

- (i) that the adjudicator be supervised by a Nationally Accredited adjudicator
- (ii) that the adjudicator be removed from the adjudication roster, or not included on the adjudication roster for a particular period of time
- (iii) that the adjudicator be dismissed, or
- (iv) to take any other measures it considers appropriate.

9.6. If a decision is made that the adjudicator be supervised by a Nationally Accredited adjudicator:

- (i) both adjudicators must formally adjudicate the debate and complete score sheets
- (ii) if the adjudicators agree, the adjudicator must deliver the adjudication, and
- (iii) if the adjudicators do not agree, the decision of the Nationally Accredited adjudicator prevails, the Nationally Accredited adjudicator must deliver the adjudication, and the score sheet of the Nationally Accredited adjudicator is to be the official score sheet for the debate.