

## **GFCA – Georgia Forensic Coaches Association**

### **2.893 Electronic Devices**

#### **(a) Debate Events**

- (1) Computers or electronic devices may not be used to receive in round coaching from any source inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs.
- (2) Students electing to use electronic devices have the responsibility to provide a copy of any evidence read in a speech for inspection by the judge or opponent upon request. Printers may be used. Evidence may be printed in the round or produced electronically, but must be provided in a format readable by the opposing team and the judge.
- (3) Students can access the Internet for evidence retrieval during the round.

#### **(b) Extemporaneous Speaking**

- (1) Students may use computers or electronic devices to store and retrieve their subject files to read, but cannot write speeches or organize their thoughts on the computers. Cell phones or smart phones are not to be used in speeches except for timing purposes.
  - (2) Source Materials: Students may consult published books, periodical articles, newspaper articles, think tank articles, government reports or journal articles saved on their electronic retrieval device provided:
    - (a) There are no notations made within or on the saved article other than citation information.
    - (b) Any highlighting or underlining of the articles is done in only one color within each article. Bolding, italicizing, or any other manipulation of the original text of sources (other than highlighting or underlining as previously stipulated) is prohibited.
    - (c) Students from the same school may share computers during preparation. However, communication among contestants during preparation time is strictly prohibited.
  - (3) Prewritten Extemporaneous speeches, handbooks, briefs or outlines are prohibited from the prep room, whether stored electronically or present in hard copy form.
  - (4) Computers or electronic devices may not be used to receive in round coaching from any source inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs.
  - (5) Students can access the Internet for evidence retrieval during the round.
- (c) Contestants electing to use computers are responsible for providing their own computers, batteries, extension cords, and all other necessary accessories. Tournament hosts will not be responsible for providing computers, printers, software, paper, or extension cords for contestants. Students and judges should not unplug anything from classrooms to gain access.
- (d) Contestants choosing to use laptop computers and related equipment accept the risk of equipment failure. Judges and/or contest directors will give no special consideration or accommodation, including no additional speech time or prep time, should equipment failure occur.
- (e) By choosing to use laptop computers in the round, debaters are consenting to give tournament officials the right to search their files. Debaters who do not wish to consent should not use computers in the round.
- (f) Students in violation will receive a forfeit for the debate.