Child Protection Act


- Simple legislation – there is a requirement that all people who come into contact with children must declare whether or not they are prohibited persons.

- CSDA Debating is a school activity and can be used as an agency for child sex offenders.

- Staff, coaches and adjudicators, whether paid or volunteers, have to complete a Prohibited Employment Declaration Form.

- There is a duty of care issue present. Any person who has unsupervised contact with students must sign the Prohibited Declaration Form. This extends to supper helpers and parents who transport children other than their own.

- The Prohibited Employment Declaration Form must be distributed with a letter asking for volunteers to assist in any capacity with debating.

- It will be the responsibility of the Principal to keep a confidential record of forms.

- Each school is responsible for their own representatives. This includes the host school and the visiting school.

- The school must keep a list of staff, paid employees and volunteers who have completed the Prohibited Employment Declaration Form.

- The Principal must confirm in writing to the Association that the people listed have completed declarations.
**Summary as relating to Debating Co-Ordinators**

1. Every adjudicator and volunteer must have completed a Prohibited Employment declaration. The Principal must declare to CSDA that all persons employed (including those as volunteers) have complied with the legislations (i.e. filled a declaration).

2. Adjudicators and parents brought from other schools are to be screened by that school.

3. You must show that you have a structure in place complying with the Act.
   - An adult who patrols every 20 minutes while the students are in prep and therefore unsupervised
   - ensure that you know where all student volunteers are. Provide areas where they are supervised and ensure they do not wander off alone.
   - Students should **always work in pairs**. Especially when directing people.
   - Students should **never** be allowed to take a single adult, who is unknown, alone or in a group. In this situation, a teacher should direct this individual.

4. Many of your volunteers and adjudicators will **be covered**. Check with your Principal. For example, if they have been involved in other areas of the school.

5. Make sure that you return the compliance sheet before the competition begins.
CHILD PROTECTION LEGISLATION

- Speak to your Principal and work out how many helpers you will need.
- Ensure that every volunteer and adjudicator has signed a compliance form.
- Show that you have a structure in place in regards to the Legislation.
- Think about which areas of your school you need to unlock / open.
- Supervise the preparation rooms every 20 minutes.
- When groups arrive at your school late ensure they are directed by students working in pairs.
- A single adult who arrives late should not be directed by students even if they are in pairs. A teacher should always undertake this.
- Ensure that students helping are given limits as to where they are allowed to be on the night. Do not let them simply roam around the school.
- As a duty of care, you must know how your students are getting home on the evening.