

# Maumee High School Speech and Debate Team

## **Subject: Dress Code**

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As we're preparing for a new season, it's important to reflect on what everyone is expected to wear to tournaments! If you have any questions, ask a coach and we'll help you find something that suits you!

First of all, if it violates the MHS dress code, it's out of the question! In addition...

### **Men**

**Clothing** - For the early tournaments, it is acceptable to wear dress slacks, a dress shirt, tie, and a solid-color sweater or blazer. However, this is only temporary until you can get a suit. Once you have a suit, (preferably black, navy, or gray), it is expected that it is worn for every tournament through the season with a dress shirt and tie. Ties should not have characters, pictures, or cartoons on them; patterns and solids are excellent choices. Yes, bow ties are also acceptable. You should always have a belt and dress shoes.

**Grooming** - Men are expected to be shaved or to have neatly kept beards that are no longer than two inches long. Hair should be kept out of your face at all times, and for the duration of the season cannot be dyed any distracting colors. Facial piercings must be taken off prior to the beginning of the tournament and can be put back on after the awards ceremony.

### **Women**

**Clothing** - Women have a wider variety of professional dress options than men. The two most common options are a business dress or a pantsuit with a blouse. Business dresses should not be any shorter than the tops of your knees and should not have a revealing neckline. High heel shoes and dress flats are both acceptable; for those who wear high heels, it may be wise to bring a spare pair of flats in case your feet become sore.

**Grooming** - Women are expected to keep jewelry to a minimum (to avoid loss and distraction). A single necklace, a few small rings, and earrings are acceptable. Facial piercings must be taken off prior to the beginning of the tournament and can be put back on after the awards ceremony. Hair should be kept out of your face at all times, and for the duration of the season cannot be dyed any distracting colors.

Everything else is up to coach discretion. If we feel that something is inappropriate, although it happens very rarely, we reserve the right to send you home or have your parents bring an alternative option. If you are unsure, please ask a coach prior to the day of the tournament.

If you are unable to afford a suit, please talk to a coach at least one week prior to the tournament and we can find you one to borrow.