

## RIDGE FORENSICS TRAVEL TOURNAMENT RULES

In accordance with the Ridge High School Code of Ethics, all Ridge Forensics team members must adhere to a proper standard of behavior that embodies the core values: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Review the student handbook for more detailed information.

1. While at a tournament hotel,
  - a. No "lone" couples in any rooms; groups may quietly congregate or work in hotel rooms.
  - b. No non-Ridge member in any Ridge room, any time.
  - c. No Ridge member in any non-Ridge room, any time.
2. Use public areas of hotels (lobbies, lounges, meeting rooms) when available for socializing and practice, but do not disturb other guests or teams.
3. Room checks will be at 11:00pm unless otherwise directed and communicated by the moderator or coach-in-charge. Students are not permitted to leave the room until 6:00am. Students must have permission from the moderator in order to be out of their rooms between room check and 6:00am.
4. Avoid traveling alone while on campus.
  - Use the buddy system
  - Stay close to other students who are also traveling from a building/room to another.
  - You may call a chaperone or coach for an escort.
  - Remember, the blue lamps on campus will connect you with security.
5. Students are required to remain at the designated tournament site. Any traveling outside the property of the appropriate tournament site is forbidden. While at the hotel, you are not permitted to leave the hotel without proper permission by the moderator and supervision by a chaperone.
6. Students are prohibited from the use of any pools, saunas, or whirlpools while on tournament travel.
7. You must follow all tournament-specific rules & guidelines of coaches (which may vary depending on tournament or specific event). Monitor your schedule. Always 'plan ahead' on eating! Remember, there may not be many restaurants near the hotels. Don't simply rely on food delivery; it may not get there by check-in/room check. Try to pick up food on the campuses/tournament locations.
8. After elimination and while in public spaces of the hotel, attire should follow the Ridge High School dress code. Any student who will be on stage will remain in tournament dress. Student should remain in full tournament attire between rounds (weather permitting).
9. Please exercise maturity and respect during the bus, car, air plane rides to and from tournaments. Please no insulting or condescending remarks about any students, coaches, or other people from Ridge or any other school.
10. The Ridge High School Discipline Code, along with all policies listed in the Student Handbook or Board policy, will be utilized to determine and define inappropriate behavior while participating in any forensics activity (practice, competition, travel, online communication, academic integrity, etc.). Penalties for infractions will be determined by coaching staff and, when appropriate, Ridge High School administration and may involve team, school, and/or legal repercussions.

## TOURNAMENT TRAVEL CONTRACT

Ridge Forensics prides itself on hard work and maintaining a high national standing. In order to achieve this, students need and benefit from exposure at national competitions. These events bring the finest programs from across the country together for multi-day tournaments. While these overnight tournament experiences are not required for students to participate on the team, the privilege of participating comes with a high amount of trust and responsibility between students, parents, coaches, and other chaperones/volunteers. Ridge High School expects students to act appropriately and safely when representing the school at any forensics activity or function. Coaches and chaperones are present on trips to help organize, monitor, guide and assist students during the competition and travel; however, students must demonstrate their own maturity, integrity, and responsibility when making choices and decisions at events, especially at times when a chaperone's immediate oversight is limited. If a student chooses to act in an irresponsible, unethical, or inappropriate manner, the child risks his/her own safety and potentially the safety and reputation of the team.

Recognizing the importance of trust and responsibility while on trips, we agree to the following:

1. All standards and expectations regarding student behavior and discipline, as outlined in the Student Handbook and school/Board Policy, apply to all activities related to the forensics program.
2. At any time, a moderator or coach reserves the right to deny a student the opportunity or permission to participate in any activity related to the Ridge Forensics program. The moderator and coach will communicate this as early as possible with the student, and if pertinent, the parents and school administration.
3. If a student commits a serious offense on the trip, as defined by the Ridge High School discipline code, parents may be required to arrange for early pickup/transit home. School administration will be immediately contacted in such circumstances.
4. Students are expected to respond honestly to any coach, chaperone, or administrative inquiry regarding team or team members' actions as it pertains to the rules, policies, or safety of the team or team members. Non-compliance will be subject to disciplinary consequences.
5. Penalties associated with any choices or decisions that violate school or team rules/policies will be subject to disciplinary consequences including, but not limited to, school suspensions, detentions, team suspensions, removal from travel rosters, or removal from team.

Print Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Moderator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

To be considered for tournament travel, this form must be signed by student and parent(s).