Vox Rationis Speech and Debate Rules and Guidelines 2019-2020

1. Vox Rationis Savannah is a speech and debate club sponsored by Family Education for Christ. In order to participate, students (age 12 -18 as of September 1, 2019) must be homeschooled and members of FEFC.
2. Students are expected to compete in at least one speech and debate event in an NCFCA practice tournament or NCFCA qualifying tournament. In order to participate in National Christian Forensics and Communication Association (NCFCA) tournaments, **a family must be affiliated with NCFCA**.
3. This is a **club**; we register with NCFCA under the name “Vox Rationis Savannah”. Cyndi Mullins is coaching and coordinating the club.
4. The charge for participating in Vox Rationis is $25 per student. This pays for printing, paper, and for other expenses related to club meetings.
5. This year the club will be meeting at St. Andrew’s Anglican Church, 208 Hampton Road. Respect the property of the church, as well as any other place where the club might meet or compete. This includes not climbing on the furniture, writing on things, leaning back in chairs, and spilling/setting drinks on furniture.
6. Younger siblings are not allowed to roam the property unsupervised. An adult must supervise younger siblings at all times.
7. Participating students should prepare for club meetings. They should bring assignment papers, a writing utensil, and a three-ring binder.
8. Any partnership with another student in the club must be coordinated through the parents. Any agreements for a student’s participation in an event outside of the club meetings are the responsibilities of each set of parents.
9. A student who has not yet competed in a Qualifying Tournament is considered “Novice”; a student who has competed is considered “Varsity”.
10. Students are expected to dress appropriately during the meetings. “Dress-casual” clothes, in keeping with FEFC’s guidelines, are suitable for club meetings. ***We prefer no jeans or t-shirts.*** During tournaments, students are expected to follow NCFCA guidelines (coats and ties for guys, suits or dresses for girls).
11. Students are expected to refrain from playing computer games or texting during our club meetings. **They are expected to keep their phones put away during meetings.**
12. Participants must commit to keeping open communication with club leaders and other club members. Because this is a Christian organization, we must strive to glorify God in both words and actions. Students must commit to solving areas of conflict by using Matthew 18:15-17, the “Peacemaker’s Pledge”, and be willing to participate in third-party mediation if required.
13. Parents must agree that all liability for the safety of students while on the property of the church, the Mullins’ family home or a tournament site is the parent’s responsibility.
14. This is not a dating service. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, working together to develop our communication skills. Public displays of affection will not be tolerated.
15. Lincoln Douglas Debate meetings are from 3-4 p.m. Speech meets from 1 to 3 p.m. Students should be picked up promptly after meetings.
16. Students may participate in speech only; debaters must participate in speech and debate.
17. If you can not attend a regular, scheduled meeting, call, text, or email Mrs. Mullins. This important courtesy helps her to plan for how club time will be allotted.
18. **We are studying speech and debate so that we might learn to communicate our faith clearly. We are competing in NCFCA so that we might hone our analytical skills, our organizational skills, and our oratorical skills. We strive to “address life issues from a biblical worldview in a manner that glorifies God”.**

**Contact information for Mrs. Mullins: 912-547-1911**

**email: cyndiruth@comcast.net**