

Parent Cooperation Covenant of Queen City Gavel Club #293872

To ensure the safety (physical/emotional/spiritual) of all, to facilitate our time together more effectively, and to adequately care for the facilities, it is necessary for all of us to agree to observe some guidelines. These will be strictly enforced.

___ 1. I (or my representative) will attend meetings when my student is giving a speech or acting in the role of Toastmaster. This helps to ensure the students have an audience to speak to. I will respect the speaker by being quiet and attentive while he/she has the floor. To ensure a quality experience for members of the club, disruptive guests or siblings will be required to leave. In “real life,” speakers need to be able to deal with distractions, but in this club, where speakers are gaining experience, we want to provide the best environment possible.

___ 2. If I invite friends or family, I am responsible for their actions. It is my responsibility to inform them of the behavior expectations of Queen City Gavel Club.

___ 3. I will be expected to help out when necessary – setting up for and cleaning up after the socials. I am expected to encourage my student to participate in all club activities.

___ 4. I will inform the Sponsor immediately if anything is broken. If anything is broken in a room during our occupancy and no one comes forward, all members in the room will be held responsible to pay for any repairs.

___ 5. Respect for each other and the property is to be observed at all times. Willful intent to harm or destroy meeting room or personal property is grounds for dismissal.

___ 6. No tobacco, alcohol, or drugs are permitted; no weapons, fireworks, matches, lighters, or other dangerous materials are permitted. If my student has a speech concerning any of these items, they will need to bring photographs, not the real thing!

___ 7. I will ensure that my student will dress appropriately. I understand that modesty on everyone's part will allow each speaker to be honored and distractions to be minimized. I understand that gum should not be chewed by my student during the meeting.

___ 8. Toastmaster guidelines call for speakers to “know their audience” and to pick appropriate topics. The audience, in this club, is 6th through 12th graders. Parents with younger siblings in the audience need to realize the topics will not be selected based on the younger child present, but for the members who are in middle/high school; therefore, if parents bring younger children to the meeting, they do so at their own risk. As students mature and proceed to more difficult speeches, i.e. persuasion speeches, they might choose controversial topics. This club is not for people who want to be surrounded by those who think alike, but those who are open to hearing what others have to say and then discussing the subject at home, privately, in light of their own beliefs/values. Gavel Club is not a debate forum.

Attendance Policy

Weekly roles are assigned well in advance of meetings. When members are absent and unable to fulfill their roles, it is disruptive to the overall flow of the meeting and distressing to the other students. Therefore, this attendance policy has been established in an effort to prevent disruptions to the club and to ensure fairness to the members present.

If a member will be absent from a meeting, they should inform the Toastmaster, Alternate, and Sponsor as soon as possible (preferably 24 hours notice).

____ 1. I will make sure my student is on time and prepared for meetings. I, or my student, will notify the Toastmaster, President, and Sponsor as soon as possible in case he/she needs to be absent or is sick.

____ 2. I understand that two unexcused absences, in which my student does not follow this attendance policy, will prevent him/her from serving in a club office capacity, and may result in the reevaluation of their standing in the club.

I have read and agree to abide by this covenant. I understand that a serious infraction of this covenant is grounds for immediate dismissal from the Queen City Gavel Club.

Gavelier

Parent Signature

Date
