

Wisconsin Debate Coaches Association Minutes

October 9th, 2025

Online Meeting

Voting schools represented: Brookfield East, LaCrosse Central, Neenah, Sheboygan South, Marquette, Rufus King, West Bend.

David Henning called to order at 6:01

Stephine King described the flowing below that was disused at previous meetings and described there will be two votes on Rules and Constitutional changes

At the Spring 2025 meeting, there were concerns expressed by multiple coaches surrounding potential ramifications to their teams and/or employment due to the DEI language found in the WDCA Constitution and WDCA Standing Rules. This proposal is an attempt to retain the process which has been extremely beneficial to students and adults over the last few years, while also hearing those concerns and (hopefully) prevent backlash from having DEI explicitly utilized within the WDCA documentation. If there are ideas on alternative wording/phrasings, or if those concerns are no longer felt by WDCA coaches, I am happy to revise or pull back this proposal.

As this involved a constitutional change, it is submitted to the Fall 2025 meeting for discussion and will be formally voted on in Spring 2026.

Stephanie

Constitutional Changes

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

The WDCA shall have the following standing committees: Executive, Judging Standards and

Ethics, Media Communications, New Coaches/Novice Packet/Middle School, Tournament

Practices and Procedures/Handbook, and Belonging Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Section VI Belonging Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Belonging Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee shall consist of a chairperson, appointed by the WDCA election process, and any WDCA coach and/or judge who wishes to join the committee. The committee shall provide resources to sanctioned tournaments on best practices to ensure that the WDCA Harassment and Discrimination equity and harassment Policy is upheld. The Chairperson, with consent of the WSDT Director and WDCA President, shall

appoint Belonging Ombuds Equity Advocates for the WSDT.

John explained what voting rules are for this rule change.

It was motioned and sectioned to pass the Constitutional Changes,
On a vote of 7-0-0 it does pass.

Stephine explained the rules changes once again see below
It was motioned and sectioned to pass to discussion

Ben, Linda, Stephine all agreed this needs to happen but hope things will go back to normal .

It was moved and called to vote
On a vote of 7-0-0 it does pass.

There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 PM

Voting overview

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES DEI Language Changes

On a vote of 7-0-0 it does pass on both parts.