

Texas Forensic Association Constitutional Amendment Form

The following must be provided before your proposal will be accepted by the Executive Committee.

Name: EC _____ School: _____ Region:

_____ Email address: _____

Rationale for Amendment: codify the DEI position at TFA State and clarify the protest process _____

Section of the Constitution where Change occurs:

Constitution ByLaws Code of Professional Standards Standing Rules:

Competition Event Guide Standing Rules: IQT Operations Manual Standing Rules: State Tournament Operations Manual

Page number of change: 110 _____ Select One of the Following: Add Language Delete Language Amend Language Implementation

Time Frame: upon passage

Proposed Change(s) (List the change/add here. Changes should include any language you are replacing from the existing constitution along with the proposed new language.)

Protests: The Tournament Director shall appoint an Ombudsman and a DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Officer to hear protests. The Ombudsman shall have the full power to adjudicate any protest, dispute, or interpretation of the rules. The DEI Officer shall make recommendations regarding fair treatment of competitors, coaches, or judges. All protests must be submitted in writing to the Tab Room Director for the event in question and include the following information

a. Name of the coach filing the protest.

b. Code and/or name of person/team being protested.

c. Round being protested, including section number, room number, and speaker number of person/team being protested.

d. Specific infraction being protested described with supporting details.

e. Signature of the protesting coach.

2. The Ombudsman or DEI Officer will then review and render a decision on the protest. All involved parties will be notified of the decision.

3. Appeals of the Ombudsman's Decision: The Ombudsman's ruling may be appealed to the Executive Council members who shall review the protest and the appeal, retire to closed session, and render a decision that shall be final. _____