

**Professional Code of Standards** (originally adapted from the American Forensics Association Code of Forensics Program and Forensics Tournament Standards for College and Universities)

1. Phi Rho Pi (PRP) is committed to promoting professional communication conduct.
2. The explicit focus of this policy addresses conduct by participants outside the specific time period when a student is performing a speech at a tournament. (Certain language and concept ideas during a performance may be an interpretation of literature and not necessarily a breach in the Professional Code of Standards.) Participants include audience members, students, directors, coaches, judges, and tournament officials.
3. PRP acknowledges the regional and national tournaments sponsored by the association are designed to promote responsible and effective discourse. PRP recognizes that behaviors which belittle, degrade, demean, or otherwise dehumanize others are not in the best interest of the activities sponsored by PRP as such behaviors interfere with the goals of forensic education.
4. All participants in a PRP sponsored event shall recognize the rights of others and are expected to communicate with respect to opponents, colleagues, critics, tournament hosts and audience members. Behaviors by any tournament participants occurring at a PRP sponsored event that violate the community standard of a healthy educational environment shall be deemed "Unprofessional Conduct." Unprofessional conduct is subject to sanction(s) by PRP.
5. Forensics educators shall act in accordance with their own institutional obligations (College Code of Conduct – Student Handbook – Title IX policies). Failure to adhere to employer's policies (e.g., a person suspended or terminated for violations of university sexual harassment policy, substance abuse policy, fiduciary policy or academic responsibility policy) may be subject to sanctions by PRP.
6. A charge of unprofessional conduct may be reported to PRP Ethics Committee or to a member or the PRP Executive Board.