Welcome!

Public Speaking and Debating at Scots provides great opportunities to develop skills and have some fun. I am delighted to see so many boys taking an active interest in these important areas.

Scots boys compete in the Eastside, ISDA and GPS debating competitions, in our popular Friday Afternoon Debating (FAD) squad, and this year in DebatingMates, a new, friendly competition against Monte St Angelo Mercy College. Boys in Year 9 and above can take on Mock Trial, and Mooting. We also have a private tuition program, The Australian Speech Communications Association (ASCA) syllabus, which provides boys with a solid foundation of essential speaking skills into the future. Private and group lessons are available.

All debaters and parents need to know how debating at Scots works, and what the procedures are, so that everything runs smoothly. I have emailed you links to the debating online Calendar and to our website. Please refer to these every week to check team names and fixtures.

Please read this whole booklet, and if there are any questions, contact me.
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Claire Duffy, Director of Public Speaking and Debating. (T-12)
Debating Procedures 2016

**Attendance**
Debating takes up three terms of Friday nights. If you are in a competition team is not realistic to have another activity on a Friday. If you are in a social team we can be a bit more relaxed.

All boys must attend all debates. Absence, especially at short notice, can disable a team. If there is a very good reason (eg another College commitment) for not coming you must seek permission in advance. The website is where you do this.

If you are ill on the day of a debate, please email Ms Duffy as well as logging your leave request on the website.

Rolls are marked, attendance is followed up, and the normal school disciplinary processes apply for unexplained absence and poor attendance.

**Dinner**
At 'home' debates, meals are provided in the dining room for debaters, timekeepers and chairmen who stay after 5pm. This is charged to your accounts, at an approximate cost of $8 per meal.

For ‘away’ debates boys collect a packed meal (sandwich, fruit and drink) which they take on the bus at the same approximate charge.

Boys are not allowed to 'order-in'. Pizza, subway or other food deliveries are not permitted. We ask parents to respect this. If you want a meal from home, please bring it to school with you in the morning.

**Transport**
Buses take boys to ‘away’ debates. THERE IS NO RETURN BUS. We encourage you to watch your sons' debates and car pool with other parents and teammates to bring boys home. Boarders must see the teacher in charge of their cohort to ensure an arrangement is in place to return them to school.

**Friday schedule**
Training is at 3.15, straight after school. The Online calendar has complete details for each fixture. Debates start and finish times are below. At the end of the debate boys will stay and talk first with their adjudicator, then with their coach, and should make notes to refer to in next week's training. Allow about 15 -20 minutes for this.

- **ISDA 7, 8 & 9** prep at 6pm and debate at 7pm, finishing around 7.45- 8.15pm.
  Year 10, and Senior A&B prep at 7pm and debate at 8pm, finishing by 9 -9.15pm.

- **Eastside:** Years 7, 8 & 9 prep at 5.30 and debate at 6.30pm, finishing around 7.30.
  Years 10, 11 & 12 Prep at 6.30 and debate at 7.30, finishing around 8.30.

- **DebatingMates:** All year groups prep at 6pm and debate at 7pm.

- **GPS**
  Year 7,8, and 9 prep at 6pm and debate at 6.45pm. Finished around 7.45
  Years 10 and above prep at 6.45 and debate at 7.30. Finished by 9 .00pm.

- **FAD (Friday Afternoon Debating):** FAD runs from 3.15 –5.00pm. For each home debate, 10 boys will be rostered to stay late to chair and time-keep. They work in pairs and do two debates, finishing at the close, around 8.30 - 9pm.
FADsters will be asked to do this two or three times in the course of three debating terms. We are required to provide people to do these jobs, it’s part of being in the competition.

**What to bring**
You should wear full school uniform - summer or winter.
Bring palm cards, *white board markers* and pens.
Keep a debating book to note your coach’s comments and personal feedback.

**Team Line Up**
Team lists are published on the website on Tuesdays or Wednesdays. The coach decides each week what the speaking order will be. Coaches must balance giving boys speaking experience with the need to choose the best team for Scots. There is no ‘rotation’ system. Coach’s decisions are final and a good team player will understand and support this.

**Way Finding**
At Scots we debate in the Graeme Clark Centre (the Maths/Science rooms), Anderson Hall, and Robert Iles Theatre. Occasionally we use the Coote Theatre. Social debates may be in the Main Building from time to time.

Locations for debates at other schools are on the Debating calendar, and detailed specific instructions (if we are given any) are published on our website in the week of the debate.

**Suppers**
The Parents support group does a magnificent job of providing supper for our guests. All parents are asked to assist by providing food and help on the night with suppers at home debates. [Bettina Samengo](#), Support Group President would love to hear from you.

Suppers are served before debates start and are available until the beginning of the second debate. We do not serve after the second debate has finished – you all need to get home and be fresh for sport on Saturday morning.

**Code of Conduct**
- No Mobile Phones or laptops in debates
- All communication during debates must be non-obtrusive
- Audience members must *not* communicate with debaters while the debate is taking place, and photography or filming your child (or anyone else’s) is not permitted.
- Adjudications should be treated with respect
- Debaters must stay back for feedback from their coach, and to help tidy the room.

**Survival Summary**
- Bookmark the online calendar and the debating website – check them every week.
- There is no return bus from ‘away’ debates.
- Avoid other Friday commitments (comp teams especially).
- Seek leave in advance if you really need it.