

mock trial **...code of ethical conduct**

The mission of the Nevada High School Mock Trial competition is to promote an understanding and appreciation of the American judicial system through academic competitions. To ensure everyone in attendance at the State Bar of Nevada mock trial regional or state competition follows Rule 1.2 of the *Nevada High School Rules of Competition* and adheres to the highest standards of professionalism and deportment, the following Code of Ethical Conduct will be followed by all team members (both official and non-official), coaches and observers during the competition.

1. Team members, coaches and other observers promise to participate in all events associated with the Nevada High School Mock Trial Program with the highest standards of professionalism and deportment, showing respect for their fellow team members, opponents, coaches, judging panel volunteers, competition staff, trial coordinator volunteers and courthouse personnel.
2. Coaches and observers will focus on the educational value of mock trial, will zealously encourage fair play, will serve as positive role models for team members by displaying the highest level of professionalism and ethical behavior, and will focus on accepting success and defeat with dignity, civility and restraint.
3. Attendees must comport themselves with professionalism and decorum at the courthouse, both inside the courtrooms and common areas. No food or drink, other than water, is allowed in the courtrooms and attendees must not go to parts of the building that are not designated as part of the competition.
4. It is expected that at in all rooms of the courthouse team members will respect their surroundings, including but not limited to, following all published courthouse regulations; **using appropriate receptacles for all trash and recyclables**; leaving restrooms and all other court and common areas in good order; and otherwise acting as young professionals.
5. Team members promise to compete with the highest standards of sportsmanship and will avoid all tactics they know are wrong and in violation of the letter and spirit of the Rules. Displays of bad sportsmanship at any time during the competition are prohibited. Whether winning or losing, team members, coaches and all other participants are expected to be gracious and supportive of other teams.
6. No one associated with the team acknowledging this Code of Ethical Conduct can enter any courtroom in which his or her team is not competing.
7. The use of alcohol, drugs and weapons is forbidden in course of this Competition, at all competition sites.

The State Bar of Nevada High School Mock Trial Committee possesses discretion to impose sanctions, up to and including forfeiture or disqualification, for any misconduct or violation of this Code of Ethical Conduct while participating in the regional or state tournament.

Team Representative: By signing this form, I acknowledge that the team has read and understands the statements in this Code of Ethical Conduct and the Rules of Competition, including the sanctions which may result from violation of the Code.

School: _____ **Name:** _____ **Signature:** _____