



Start Strong

Launching  
New Clubs

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**NCFC**A  
CHRISTIAN SPEECH & DEBATE



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## Launching Your Club

You are ready to launch your club! Congratulations!

Dear club leader, before you begin your new club journey...

Thank you for taking this step of faith to impact the students and families placed within your sphere of influence for this season!

What you are doing has great Kingdom impact! The NCFCA team prays for you regularly as you engage daily in the work of challenging and equipping ambassadors for Christ to communicate truth with integrity and grace.

You are part of the NCFCA community! As you step out in faith to serve your families, the NCFCA team is available to serve and support you.

## What do I need to get started?

Clubs come in a myriad of shapes and sizes. There is no one-size-fits-all checklist! But there are folks who have walked this road ahead of you.

Designed to prime your planning, this **Club Launch Top 10** is built on success stories shared by club leaders around the league. We pray the ideas captured here will generate needful questions and aid you on your own club leadership journey.

Let's get started!

# Club Launch Top 10

## 1. Purpose

Is the NCFCA Christian Speech and Debate league a good fit for you?

Our mission is *to challenge and equip ambassadors for Christ to communicate truth with integrity and grace.*

Does NCFCA align with your club vision?

- [NCFCA Statement of Faith](#)
- [NCFCA Position Statements](#)
- [NCFCA Values](#)

In order to affiliate, families **must certify that they have read and agree with** the NCFCA Statement of Faith and Position Statements.

## 2. People

Consider your club makeup. What will the club community look like?

- You and a friend, learning alongside your children
- A few families creating a small club co-op
- A large group of families creating a larger learning community
- An after-school program

Whom will you serve?

- NCFCA “Senior” Competitors (ages 12-18)
- NCFCA “Juniors” Competitors (generally for students 7-11 years old)
- Families with small children in tow
- Seasoned NCFCA families with a wealth of experience
- Brand new NCFCA parents



### 3. Meetings

What could your club setting look like?

- Where
  - In a home, a coffee shop, a library, a church, a school, etc.
  - In person, online, or using a combination of the two
- When
  - Weekly, biweekly, monthly, etc.
- Structure
  - Independent group
  - Subgroup operating in conjunction with an existing co-op
  - School program
- Parent involvement
  - Parents stay at your club to learn alongside the students and serve alongside other parents
  - Dropoff program

### 4. Competition

What competition [categories](#) would you like to study with your students?

- [Speech](#)
  - Interpretive Speaking (*Biblical Thematic, Duo Interp, Open Interp, Original Interp*)
  - Platform (*Digital Presentation, Informative, Persuasive*)
  - Limited Prep (*Apologetics, Impromptu, Extemp*)
- [Debate](#)
  - Policy Debate
  - Value Debate
- [Moot Court](#)

What do NCFCA competition events look like? Are they a good fit for you?

- NCFCA offers Speech, Debate, and Moot Court competition.
- Tournaments are in person and online.

- Typical qualifying tournaments are three-day events (tournaments range from one-day to five-day events).
- Descriptions of **tournament opportunities** and **parent commitments** can be found on the NCFCA website.
  - [Registration policies and tournament types](#)
  - [Tournament participation requirements](#)
  - [Parent commitment](#)
  - [Upcoming tournaments](#)
- Especially check out the [Tournament Prep FAQs!](#)

## 5. Teaching Tools

What tools will guide your instruction?

Take time to explore the [NCFCA resources](#) available to help you efficiently plan your club content. Start with:

- **Competition Resources:** *Find what you need for coaching and competing*
- **League / Clubs / Education:** *Learning Resources, League Policies, and Other Tools*

## 6. Plug into NCFCA

How do you help your club members connect to NCFCA?

- Connect with your [Regional Director](#) (look under **Region # Team**).
  - She will be an excellent resource for you!
  - Club leader calls are offered by your Regional Director. These are a great way to connect with other club leaders and learn more about what's happening in your part of the country!
- Clubs associate with NCFCA to stay connected to league happenings.
  - Fill out [NCFCA's Club Information Form](#) to stay connected.
  - There is no fee to associate your club with NCFCA.
- Families [affiliate](#) to compete in NCFCA tournaments. .
- Once families are affiliated, check in with them to make sure they are seeing weekly email communication from NCFCA Communications,

and encourage families to explore the resources housed on [NCFCA's website](#).

## 7. Tournament Season

How do you help your club prepare for the season?

- Learn about NCFCA together! Encourage all club members to carefully read the **League Information & Connections** information found on the [NCFCA Resources page](#) (click on *League / Clubs / Education tab*), starting with:
  - [Mission and Foundational Beliefs](#)
  - [League Policies](#)
  - [Affiliation Options and Pricing](#)
- Help your club get ready for their first tournament!
  - Visit [NCFCA's Tournament Prep page](#) to learn about:
    - Account Setup
    - Registration
    - Payment
    - Check In
  - Model for your club parents how to find and use their [NCFCA dashboard](#) to register for events.
- If you've been around NCFCA for a season already, tell them about your tournament experience!

## 8. Other Considerations

Depending on the context and size of your club, what else might you need to think about?

- Who will share the load?
  - Will parents learn alongside their students?
  - Will you teach classes or provide the students with accountability?
  - Do you have NCFCA competitors or alumni who can teach with you?
- What frameworks might you need in place for club management?
  - Communications - email, social media, texting apps

- Shared club documents - Google Drive, club website
- [NCFCA Logos for Club Use folder](#)
- Will you need to charge families to cover club costs?
- Do you have finance and safety needs (bank account, insurance, facility fees, etc.)?

## 9. Grow in Leadership

Competitors aren't the only ones growing! At NCFCA, *all of us* are growing in integrity, grace, knowledge, and experience! Here are some starting point resources for *you*.

- 2022-2023 Club Leader Webinar Series
  - [Session 1 Recording: Mission, Statement of Faith, and Bylaws](#)
  - [Session 2: Finance, Safety, and Marketing](#)
  - [Session 3: Education and Competition](#)
- [2023 NCFCA Education Extras](#)  
*All sessions recorded at the 2023 NCFCA National Championship, June 2023 at the University of Northwestern, St. Paul, MN.*
- [2024 NCFCA Education Extras](#)  
*All sessions recorded at the 2024 NCFCA National Championship, June 2024 at Anderson University, Anderson, SC.*

## 10. Contact NCFCA for Support

We're here to support you!

- Contact list for [Specific Helps](#)
- [Click on your Region](#) to find contact information for your **Regional Director**
- Would you benefit from a one-on-one support call? Please contact us!
  - email our Club Support Manager, Lisa Krug, at [LisaKrug@NCFCA.org](mailto:LisaKrug@NCFCA.org),
  - use our [NCFCA contact form](#), or
  - call (682) 802-2727
- Are you ready to start your own club? Fill out [NCFCA's Club Information Form](#) to stay connected!

***Thank you, Club Leader, for the investment you are making. Your work matters!***