



## Member Document

### **CLUB VERSE:**

A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
*“Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.  
Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low.  
The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.  
And all people will see God’s salvation.”*  
~ Luke 3:4b-6 ~

### **VISION:**

Like John the Baptist, **God has also placed a call on each of us to prepare the way for Him to be known** in this very broken, hurting, and confused world. By learning to speak the truth boldly for Christ, we join His great mission of leveling the highs and lows, straightening out crooked roads, smoothing over rough ways, and preparing the way for Him so that ALL people will see His salvation! What a tremendous privilege! He attaches us like plumbs to the line of His Word so that those around us can clearly see what is right and true. He is asking us to live and speak in such a way that our very lives serve as plumb lines to point every broken, hurting, and confused person to Him.

### **MISSION:**

To become plumb lines for Christ speaking the truth boldly and in love. We will navigate this great journey through weekly coaching, practice, community building, and also by participating in tournaments where skills can be further honed and cultivated. We are also open to whatever other ministry doors the Lord might open for us to participate in as a club and/or with other Colorado clubs.

## STAFF:

**Club Directors:** Aaron and Ralina Ankrum

**Club Advisor:** Chris Jeub

**Hospitality:** Wendy Jeub

**Head Coaches:**

- Ralina Ankrum
- Aaron Ankrum
- Ben Miller

**Assistant Coaches:**

- Chris Jeub
- Wendy Jeub
- Anna Miller
- Mindy Miller
- Sofia Ramirez

## DATES:

**Fall Semester:** Every Tuesday, September 10 - December 17, 2024 @3:30pm-8:30pm

*Thanksgiving Break: Tuesday, Nov. 26; Christmas Break: Dec. 18, 2024 – Jan. 6, 2025*

**Spring Semester:** Every Tuesday, January 7, 2025 – April 29, 2025 @3:30pm-8:30pm;  
(May will be prep for NITOC competitors)

*Spring Break: TBD*

**LOCATION:** Heart of the Springs Church, 2726 N. Union Blvd, Colorado Springs 80909

**CLUB EMAIL:** [plumbforensics@gmail.com](mailto:plumbforensics@gmail.com)

## CLUB SCHEDULE:

*(Club schedule subject to change)*

**3:30 – 4:00** ~ Devotions & Announcements

**4:00 – 5:30** ~ Speech

**5:30 – 6:00** ~ Apologetics

**6:00 – 6:30** ~ Family Potluck Dinner \*

**6:30 – 8:30** ~ LD/TP/Parli

\* All family members are encouraged and invited to attend the weekly potluck dinner! We see this time as a part of building inter-club community and relationships.

## REGISTRATION & FEES:

Plumb registration begins with a conversation. Reach out and let us know that you're interested! We want to be able to have the chance for you to get to know us and for us to get to know you. What exactly is speech and debate? Is this a good fit for your family in this season? What does speech and debate coaching look like? There are always a lot of questions on both sides and a conversation gives us the opportunity to discuss those topics prior to actual registration.

Post conversation, you can register on our website and pay there by selecting the "Student Registration" tab at the top of the page (**online registration opens July 1!**). Only online payments will be accepted. Registration is considered complete once payment has been made and the Signature Form has been submitted.

**All registration fees include class handouts/materials and a club T-shirt.** (T-shirts will be ordered after September 30 and handed out in club upon their arrival. Parents will have the option to also order a shirt. Pricing info for parent shirts will be announced in club and over Email before the September 30th order.)

- Earlybird Registration, July 1 – July 22: \$200/speech; \$200/debate
- Regular Registration, July 23 – September 9: \$225/speech; \$225/debate
- Late Registration, September 10 – September 30: \$250/speech; \$250/debate

**Registration for the 2024-25 season is closed after September 30.**

**Registration costs are per student**

REFUND POLICY: Cancellations made prior to the first day of club will receive a full refund (minus the Stripe surcharge). Cancellations made by September 30 will receive a 50% refund (minus the Stripe surcharge). After September 30, all registration fees are final and non-refundable.

## CODES OF CONDUCT & STATEMENT OF FAITH:

### PLUMB'S CODE OF CONDUCT:

- *Be on time for club and come prepared.*
- *Be an active participant in club meetings. Be willing to stretch your comfort level and try new things.*
- *All comments of others performance/work must be of an encouraging and constructive nature.*
- *No cell phones, texting, or unrelated internet activity.*
- *Refrain from gossiping about others and encourage others to do the same. Treat everyone – whether present or absent – with respect. Seek to have your speech and actions reflect the character of Christ.*
- *Club dress code will be modest at all times and will be professional at events.*
- *Remain in tournament attire for the duration of all tournaments.*
- *Always support other competitors (club member or not) by watching rounds when available.*
- *At tournaments, reach out to new and out-of-state competitors and make them feel welcomed.*
- *Leave every location better and cleaner than how you found it.*
- *Be gracious and Christ-honoring whether you win or lose.*

### STOA'S CODE OF CONDUCT:

#### *I. Preamble*

*The mission of Stoa speech and debate is to train homeschool students to speak boldly and change the world for Christ. To accomplish this, we train students to uphold a biblical worldview through their conduct as well as their speech.*

*As a Christ-centered organization dedicated to a biblical worldview, Stoa requires each student to affirm and abide by this Code of Conduct. A student's commitment to and ongoing compliance with this Code of Conduct, as amended from time to time, is an essential condition of his or her membership and participation in Stoa.*

#### *II. Student Character, Speech, and Conduct*

*At all times, in both public and private, a student must exhibit Christ-like character, following His example in word and deed. While we do not expect a student to be perfect, we do expect that he or she will strive always to be like Christ in a*

spirit of truth and humility. As the Apostle Paul said, “Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me” (Phil. 3:12).

Accordingly, each student must:

- Advance Stoa’s mission and not act or speak in a way that undermines it.
- Understand and respect, and not act or speak inconsistently with, the Stoa Statement of Faith.
- Understand and respect, and not act or speak inconsistently with, Stoa’s position on marriage and gender, which consists of the Nashville Statement.
- Submit to the civil authorities of our country and obey its laws, consistent with the commands of a biblically-informed conscience.
- Respect others in speech and actions. This means treating everyone with respect and submitting to those in authority over a student. A student’s speech—whether in person, in written communication, or on social media—must be decent, respectful, and Christ-honoring. Speech must never be profane, indecent, deceitful, abusive, or disrespectful of the Lord’s name.
- Commit to academic integrity and ethical behavior in all areas of competitive forensics.

### III. Conduct at Stoa Tournaments or Other Events

Stoa tournaments and events are an opportunity for students to compete, connect, forge friendships, and deepen their faith. In order to build an edifying community and foster a Christ-centered environment at Stoa tournaments and events, each student must:

- Refrain from any use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, vaping and e-cigarettes, marijuana, pornography, and illegal drugs.
- Refrain from any behavior that, in the opinion of Stoa, endangers the health, safety, or well-being of oneself or others.
- Compete with integrity by being truthful, honorable, and complying with the rules of the competition.
- Adhere to the dress code.

### IV. Administration and Enforcement

Any student found by Stoa to be in violation of this Code of Conduct will be subject to discipline. Such discipline may include, but is not limited to: (i) formal or informal correction, (ii) conditions upon participation in Stoa tournaments and other events, (iii) conditions upon Stoa membership, (iv) probation or suspension from participation or membership, and/or (v) expulsion from participation or membership.

The interpretation, application, and enforcement of this Code of Conduct is solely within the discretion of Stoa, and no person shall be considered a third-party beneficiary or acquire any rights under this document. Stoa is committed to administering the Code of Conduct fairly and in a manner consistent with its identity and convictions as a Christian organization.

This Code of Conduct may be amended from time to time at the discretion of Stoa and its leadership. Stoa will endeavor to provide timely notice to students and parents of any material revisions.

### **STOA’S STATEMENT OF FAITH:**

1. There is one God eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 3:16, Matthew 28:19, John 10:30, 2 Corinthians 13:14)

2. Man is sinful and therefore separated from God, who is holy and perfect. (Isaiah 53:5-9, Romans 3:23, 1 Peter 1:15-16)

3. Jesus Christ paid the eternal penalties for our sin through His death on the cross. (Luke 24:46, 1 Peter 2:21)

4. Jesus Christ also resurrected bodily and ascended into heaven and will return one day to fulfill His kingdom. (Matthew 28:6, Revelation 19:11)

5. Only through Jesus Christ and the grace of His provision of salvation, may we be saved from eternal punishment, enter into God’s family and receive eternal life. (Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 6:23, Romans 8:11, 1 John 1:9)

6. The Bible is the inspired, inerrant, infallible and authoritative Word of God and the truth for Christian faith and practice. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, John 17:17, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, Psalm 19:7-11, John 6:67-69)

## PLUMB MEMBERSHIP PREREQUISITES:

As Plumb is registered with the national organization, Stoa, we require the following prerequisites to be met prior to gaining Plumb membership:

- Students must be eligible to compete according to Stoa guidelines.
- Families must agree to uphold the Stoa Statement of Faith, the Stoa Code of Conduct, and the Plumb Code of Conduct.
- Families must agree to comply with the Mandatory Member Requirements.
- Families must become Stoa members. There is a family fee associated with this.

*All above information can also be found on the Stoa website.*

**Once you have read all of the required documentation, you will need to sign the Signature Form available on the Plumb website.**

## MEMBER REQUIREMENTS BY YEAR:

Year:	Student Requirement:	Parent Requirement:
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend club weekly</li> <li>• Do all assigned homework</li> <li>• Compete in 2+ events (must include Impromptu and Original Oratory)</li> <li>• Compete in the fall tournament and at least two spring ones</li> <li>• Recruit at least three community judges (per student) for every local tournament you participate in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend club monthly to learn and grow along with your students</li> <li>• Help students with homework</li> <li>• Bring a dish to share for the weekly family potluck</li> <li>• Judge at the tournaments your students compete in</li> <li>• Help your students recruit required number of community judges</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend club weekly</li> <li>• Do all assigned homework</li> <li>• Compete in 3+ events (one from each category)</li> <li>• Compete in the fall tournament and at least two spring ones, but will be encouraged to compete more, if possible</li> <li>• Recruit at least three community judges (per student) for every local tournament you participate in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend club monthly where you will now be given a specific role in which to serve</li> <li>• Help students with homework</li> <li>• Bring a dish to share for the weekly family potluck</li> <li>• Judge and/or staff at the tournaments your students compete in</li> <li>• Help your students recruit required number of community judges</li> </ul>
<b>3+</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend club weekly</li> <li>• Do all assigned homework</li> <li>• Compete in 3+ events (including ones your coaches are challenging you to do)</li> <li>• Be prepared to support novice and younger students</li> <li>• Compete in the fall tournament and at least three spring ones, but will be encouraged to compete more, if possible</li> <li>• Recruit at least three community judges (per student) for every local tournament you participate in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend club monthly and serve in your given role (may or may not be the same as last year)</li> <li>• Help students with homework</li> <li>• Bring a dish to share for the weekly family potluck</li> <li>• Judge and/or staff at all tournaments your students compete in</li> <li>• Help your students recruit required number of community judges</li> </ul>

**Note:** Novice students who are older will be expected to meet the above requirements, but may also be challenged personally to take on more depending on their own personal development and interest. The above information is just a baseline from which to start and assumes the student is beginning in middle school.

**Note 2:** The study of and training in apologetics is required for all speech members even if they are not competing in this event. We feel that every one of us should be well-versed in Biblical truth and that this is the most important training we can invest in.

**Note 3:** While not all debate students will be participating in Parliamentary Debate, they will be included in any training that takes place for that as it is included in debate registration.

**Note 4:** We will discuss parent schedules with each family ahead of time and come up with a parent rotation schedule for club meetings. We want to respect your commitment of only needing to come monthly, while also making sure we have the help needed on a weekly basis.

## **STOA TOURNAMENTS:**

Tournaments are an intrinsic part of speech and debate training ("We compete to train; not train to compete!") and are NOT optional. While Colorado club members do widely participate in the tournaments we offer in our home state, students are always invited and encouraged to compete in other states as well. Many families combine trips and vacations with a tournament!

Stoa provides an excellent tournament calendar to keep us all updated on all of the competitions being offered nationwide. Be sure to check it out frequently as it will become more populated throughout the season.

## **OUT-OF-CLUB PARTNERSHIPS:**

As Plumb will be offering three partnered events (Team Policy, Parliamentary, Duo Interp), there is always the question of whether or not out-of-club partnerships are offered or allowed. The Plumb policy is that out-of-club partnerships will NOT be considered students who are in their first year or under the age of 15. For beyond their first year or 15+, out-of-club partnerships are still inadvisable and not preferred. However, for the students who meet those specifications, there may be circumstances that warrant discussion between coaches, students, and parents and a discretionary coach decision can be made in order to accommodate certain atypical situations.

Plumb's goal is training, mentorship, discipleship and the cultivating of a student's character and skills. Out-of-club partnerships often remove some coaching opportunities or present issues for the students to be adequately coached according to our vision and standards. We seek the best for each student and their individual training and seek to avoid situations where that guidance could be compromised or the student placed in a position of disadvantage.