

Member Roles and Account Permissions

This document provides a brief description of the three main roles on an NSDA speech and debate team: **advisors**, **coaches**, and **students**. Plus, we share what each group can see on their account dashboards based on their role and permissions.



ADVISORS

Advisors are the main contact for a speech and debate program at a school. One advisor is listed under **Primary Advisor** on the school profile page of your NSDA account. In addition to the benefits all coaches receive (see page 2), there are some actions that can only be taken by an advisor, which fall under three main categories:

- ▶ **Creating and paying invoices, including:**
 - Renewing a school membership
 - Purchasing NFHS insurance
- ▶ **Entering the school's vote for:**
 - Debate topics
 - Competition and Rules Leadership Committee elections
 - District leadership elections

Note: only one advisor per school can vote
- ▶ **Serving as the primary recipient of NSDA mail:**
 - Receiving the school's copy of *Rostrum* magazine
 - Receiving award mailings and other membership-related items on behalf of the school

Dashboard Highlights:

- 1 NSDA Voting:** Here, one advisor can cast the school's vote for debate topics and in elections. *Note: Topic votes are weighted—coach votes are worth 75% and student votes are worth 25%.*
- 2 School Roster:** From the student section of this tab, advisors can add students, transfer students, and approve pending students. From the coach section of this tab, advisors can add a coach, transfer a coach from another school, and transfer a coach who was a student member.
- 3 Enter School Points:** On this tab, advisors can confirm pending autoposted points and add points manually.
- 4 Purchases:** This tab lets advisors renew their school and purchase NFHS liability insurance.
- 5 School Finances:** From this tab, advisors can view, email, or print invoices and see payment history.

*Note: Some advisors grant other coaches permissions.
See details on page 2.*

Member Roles and Account Permissions



COACHES



Air Academy HS

#14035

Home Profile Students Coaches Awards

1

School Info

Primary Advisor: [Renee Motter](#)

School Level: **HS**

District: [Colorado Grande](#)

2

School Roster

[Student Roster](#)

[Coach Roster](#)

3

Awards

Sweeps Points: **641**

Nats Appearances: **32**

Academic All-Americans: **21**

[See All](#) [Learn More](#)

Strength

126

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Charter Status

Degrees To Charter Status: **96 / 50**

Hi, Jeremy!

J B

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How-To Guides

[Adding Students](#)
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An adult who has an account linked to their school but is not an advisor is known as a coach.
All coaches can:

- ▶ Access resources
- ▶ Earn awards and degrees
- ▶ Submit service citations for recognition
- ▶ Pursue our professional development opportunities
- ▶ Read *Rostrum* online—or borrow the advisor's copy!

Dashboard Highlights:

- 1 School Profile:** On this tab, coaches can access school-level data about the program.
- 2 School Roster:** On this tab, coaches can see a list of students on the team, their contact info, their current points, and whether they are eligible to compete at districts.
- 3 District Info:** This tab lets coaches see district contacts, standings, and award winners.

PROTIP —

Designating Special Permissions:

Our system is set up so that advisors can grant coaches specific permissions, including:

- Edit school info.
- Manage members on the team roster.
- Manage team finances.
- Enter points for students.
- Vote in elections and for topics.

To grant permissions:

1. The advisor will click on the “School Roster” (2) and then the “Coaches” tab.
2. Select the pencil icon (✎) next to a coach's name to edit their permissions.
3. Permissions can be set with the toggles located under the selected coaches' name (see example below):

Coach Roster

[Certificates](#) [+ Add Coach](#) [Export CSV](#) [Options](#)

First	Last	Degree	Points	Advisor	
Jeremy Beckman (#10406693)	Archive Coach				
Permissions					
Advisor	Edit School	Manage Members	Manage Finances	Enter Points	NSDA Voting
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Advisors always have full permissions.					
Cancel					

Stephanie	Botsford	1st Diamond	15,000	✎
Kale	Davis	Premier Distinction	2,012	✎
Rashaan	Davis		0	✎
Dominik	Goodman	Special Distinction	662	✎
Renee	Motter	3rd Diamond	79,249	✎



STUDENTS



Manvitha Narasimhan

#10854922

Home Profile Affiliations Points Citations Awards

Points

+ Add

1,817

History

Details

Degrees

Export CSV

Certificate



Premier Distinction

7/29/2025



Outstanding Distinction

4/30/2024



Superior Distinction

10/28/2023



Social Distinction

4/5/2022

Awards



See All

Schools

+ Add

Bentonville HS

See All

NSDA Campus

Go To Campus

NSDA Voting

No open ballots

Hi, Manvitha!

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Of the honor societies in which students can earn recognition, ours—the National Forensic League—is one of the oldest and largest. Since 1925, we've offered a tiered recognition approach that allows students at various levels of success to earn distinction. When students compete or perform service activities, they earn Honor Society points. Entering points can help motivate students to stick with competition, even if they are experiencing losses or difficulty from time to time. Students can:

- ▶ Access resources
- ▶ Earn degrees and distinction in our Honor Society
- ▶ Vote on debate topics
- ▶ Submit Public Forum topic suggestions
- ▶ Receive recognition for service activities
- ▶ Attend the National Tournament, if eligible

HIGH SCHOOL ONLY:

- ▶ Compete at the district tournament to qualify to Nationals in their main event
- ▶ Earn awards, including:
 - District Student of the Year Award
 - All American Award
 - Academic All American Award (if eligible)
- ▶ Wear honor cords at your high school graduation (if allowed by your school)

Dashboard Highlights:

- 1 Your Profile:** On the Profile tab, students can check their degree level, see how many points until they reach the next level, or download their digital membership certificate.
- 2 NSDA Voting:** On this tab, students can vote for upcoming debate topics. *Note: Topic votes are weighted—coach votes are worth 75% and student votes are worth 25%.*
- 3 School Roster:** Students can see who else is on the team and view their degree levels.