

Texas Public Service Association  
**Policies**

Effective January 17, 2020

## Photo Identification

All competitors must present a valid, original, current photo ID that is issued by a city, state or federal government agency or by the competitor's school in order to be admitted into their competition event. If the competitor does not have an acceptable form of ID listed above they will be ineligible to compete with TPSA.

- School ID's must be for the current academic year and in a hard plastic card format.
- The first and last name must match as it appears on the competition event registration .Competitors must register with their legal name that matches their valid ID.
- The photo must be current and recognizable.
- Government-issued passports will **NOT** be accepted.

### Examples:

- Government-issued driver's license or non-driver ID card
- Official school-produced student ID card from the school the competitor currently attends

## Electronic Devices

The purpose of the TPSA Electronic Device Policy is to establish the rules and conditions that Competitors, Advisors, and any individual associated with the managing or execution of competitive events must accept in order to participate in events sanctioned by the Texas Public Service Association. Electronic devices are defined as cell phones and smart/electronic devices of any kind, including anything that can be used to record, transmit, or receive anything that may enable a competitor to gain an unfair advantage. This includes but is not limited to, phones, cameras, body cameras, smart watches, fitness trackers, gps trackers, drones, nanotech, etc.

*Please note that the Executive Board reserves the right to add additional restrictions at competitions and events, these restrictions will be clearly marked with signs, tapes, barriers, etc.*

### Cell Phones And Smart/Electronic Devices Are PERMITTED When

- Competitors, Advisors, and any individual associated with the managing or execution of competitive events are located within the boundaries of the general event holding area. (E.G.: Large Gym, Cafeteria, Flex Area, or any other space designated as the general event holding area)
- Used as a timing device by an event manager, moderator, or judge in the absence of a stopwatch or digital/ manual timer.

### Cell Phones And Smart/Electronic Devices Are STRICTLY PROHIBITED When

- Competitors, Advisors, and any individual associated with the managing or execution of competitive events (excluding Regional Representatives and Executive Board members) are outside of the general event holding area. (E.G. Competition/ Testing Rooms, Hallways, Restrooms, Parking Lots where a competition event is visible, etc.)

### Storing / Sharing of Electronic Data

- Digital Cameras utilized by competitors during their designated event time to complete the requirements of the event, must clear their memory cards of any images documenting the event prior to their exit from the event area. It is the responsibility of the competitor to remove the images and notify the judge upon completion. Cameras are **only** permitted in events that specifically require the use of a camera in the event equipment/materials. Cellphones, tablets, or smartwatches may not be used as a camera or calculator in a competitive event.
- While electronic devices are permitted within the general event holding areas, privacy must be respected. Everyone is responsible for obtaining permission from those included in photographs/ videos prior to dissemination on any electronic platform.
- Sounds produced via electronic devices must be kept to a minimum. Broadcasting of music, videos, or any other disruptive material is strictly prohibited unless approved by a TPSA Board Member.

**Violations** of the aforementioned policies shall result in review by the TPSA Executive Board in accordance with the Bylaw Grievance Process. Board decisions are final and cannot be appealed.

Violations of the Electronic Device Policy may be reported by any individual to the Executive Board.

### Dress Code

The Texas Public Service Association has set these minimum dress requirements. Failure to follow the dress policy outlined in the event's guidelines and defined here will result in the team/competitor forfeiting the competition (disqualified).

- All competitors must have naturally occurring hair color and long hair must be pulled back and off the collar.
- Make-up should be minimal and conservative (daytime makeup)
- No visible tattoos, perfume, or body sprays; pale color nail polish only
- Keep hair and jewelry simple (i.e. studs for earrings); remove all other jewelry and piercings (i.e. nose rings, etc.)

### Uniformed Law Enforcement

This Dress Code is notated by "Competitors shall wear a uniform consistent with current standards in law enforcement patrol." within the event guidelines. Some events will have specific equipment notated such as a duty belt, those definitions are below.

- All Competitors in a team event requiring uniformed law enforcement shall be wearing matching shirts (T-Shirts are prohibited), pants, and footwear.
- Competitors may wear all black tennis shoes instead of black patrol boots.

### Duty Belt

- Handcuffs (and holder)
- Training Firearm (and holder)

- Additional equipment may include, flashlight, training taser, training OC spray, radios (Radios must be non-functioning training radios), etc.

## **Business Professional**

*In accordance with the TPSA Non-Discrimination policy, the following minimum requirements must be met by all competitors required to wear business professional dress.*

- Dress Pants or Skirt that extends to the knee
- Pressed, collared shirt
- If a tie is worn it must either be solid, stripe, or simple pattern
- Dress shoes with dress socks; or closed-toe heels/pumps/flats (No platform shoes or heels greater than 2.5 inches)
- Suit Jacket/Sports Coat
- Light briefcase or portfolio case

## **Competitive Dishonesty**

The Texas Public Service Association has adopted a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** in regard to competitive dishonesty. Competitors found to have violated the integrity of a competitive event will be removed from all registered competitive events. Substitutions will not be allowed in the event the removed competitor is on a team, please note this will disqualify the team from their competitive event.