



Dear Coordinator,

We are pleased to invite you to the 2011 Goulburn Regional Debating Competition.

Since 2003, the DAV has run regional programs around Victoria to encourage students in rural areas to become involved in debating. Last year the Goulburn competition in Shepparton ran very successfully and attracted a wide variety of local schools. The competition is open to any student in Years 7 to 10, regardless of their debating experience. The competition this year will include a training session and a day of debates for students in Year 7/8, and a separate debating competition for Year 9/10 students.

The training day (for Year 7 and 8 debaters) will be on **Wednesday, October 27th** at **Goulburn Valley Grammar School**. This session will cover the basics of debating, discuss methods of preparation and practice for the competition, and provide an opportunity to ask questions of DAV representatives, as well as a chance to practice debating skills. Those schools unable to attend the day will be sent a debating guide and a resource guide including resources for the topics. The draw and topics will be released on this day. The training day will run from 1pm until 3pm.

The debating competitions, for both the Year 7/8 and Year 9/10 divisions, will be on **Wednesday, November 3rd**, also at Goulburn Valley Grammar School. Each division has three debates, with the last debate a secret/advised topic. The debating competitions will run from 9:30am to 2:45pm.

The cost of the competition is **\$80 per team** (with a \$30 membership fee, per school, if your school has not participated in any DAV competitions yet this year).

Participating in debating is a great opportunity to build public speaking skills, discuss issues, and work closely with other schools in the region. The DAV's adjudicators and trainers are very experienced and we are sure that the competition would be an excellent experience for students from your school.

To register, simply fax the attached form to (03) 9348 9466 by **October 24th**. If you have any questions about the competition, please call me at the office on (03) 9348 9477.

Thanks very much, and we hope to see your school at the competition!

Yours faithfully,

Michael Ciesielski
Schools Administrator

