

HOSA APPENDIX F

HOSA CELL PHONE and SMART/ ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Cell phones and smart/electronic devices, of any kind, include anything that can be used to record, transmit, or receive anything that may enable a competitor to gain an unfair advantage. Most competitors that have cell phones or smart/electronic devices will use them appropriately; but all competitors deserve a fair space to perform their best. That is why it is important that everyone understand HOSA policies related to the use of cell phones and smart/electronic devices.

- A. Cell phones and smart/electronic devices **ARE acceptable** when:
 - 1. Used as electronic notecards per event guidelines.
 - 2. Used in holding rooms or on buses to and from off-site events.
 - 3. They are in the 'off' position and placed face down on a table in front of a competitor, or completely out of sight/sound.
 - 4. Used as a timing device by event personnel (competitors should be notified this is happening and phone set in airplane mode to reduce unnecessary bells/sounds).
 - 5. Medical devices are required (event personnel should be notified prior to competition).
- B. Cell phones and smart/electronic devices are **NOT acceptable** when:
 - 1. Making noise of any kind.
 - 2. Touched by competitors at any time during the event (except as noted above).
 - 3. Use violates event confidentiality and/or HOSA ethical standards, as indicated in the [General Rules and Regulations \(GRRs\)](#).

Competitors: Please be sure to turn OFF your cell phone or smart/electronic device, including watches, during testing events. These **MUST** be placed face down on the table in front of you, or left in your belongings. Watches with a second hand may be allowed or required during timed or skill events, as addressed within the event guidelines. *HOSA is not responsible for loss or damage to electronic devices during competition.*

Judge and event personnel: Personal cell phones or smart/electronic devices should be OFF during competitive events, unless being used as a timer. If so, please notify competitors and place the device in airplane mode to silence unnecessary notification sounds.

Event Personnel: If a violation occurs, document the violation in consultation with the Event Manager and CE Lieutenant. *Violations of any part of the cell phone or smart/electronic device policy may result in the assessment of penalty points. Violations during a written test may result in the test not being scored.*

Manual Watches: Manual watches are acceptable in all HOSA events.