

# Cyber-Parliament:

Teaching Parliamentary Procedure Concepts Using the Game *Mafia* in Virtual Classrooms



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**College of Agricultural, Consumer  
and Environmental Sciences**  
Agricultural and Extension Education

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## WE NEED A WAY TO TEACH AND COACH PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE LESSONS AND LDE'S IN A VIRTUAL SETTING.

### HOW IT WORKS

- The game *Mafia* was used as the foundation for this activity (Davidoff, 1999).
- The rules of the game and names/roles of players were adjusted to include concepts from *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*.
  1. Using an online video conferencing platform, the President private chats with players to ask them to make decisions on who to use their power on.
  2. After a player has been removed by the Parliamentarian, a motion must be made to remove the assumed Parliamentarian from the game, with debate to follow.
  3. Removed players must be muted for the remainder of the activity.
  4. Players have the option to use additional parliamentary motions. The activity will continue until all players are removed or the Parliamentarian is discovered.

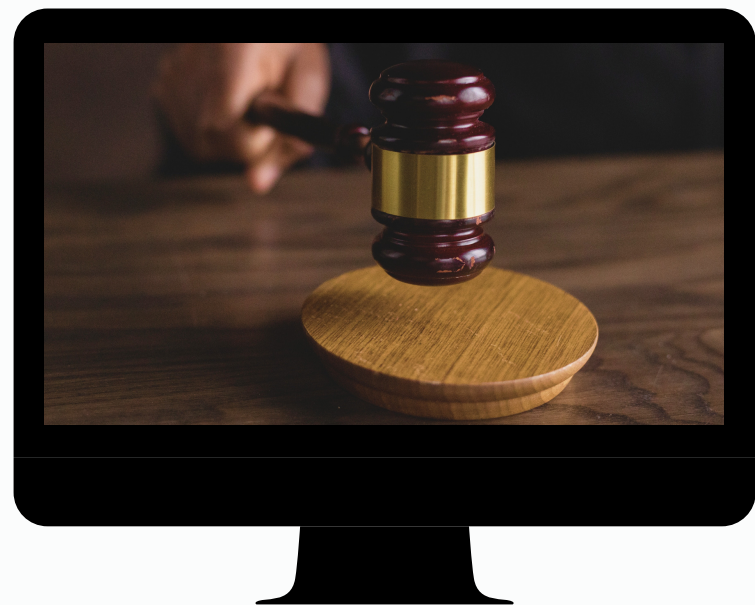
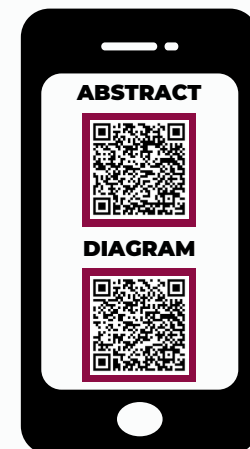
### ADVICE TO OTHERS

- Best used in an introduction to parliamentary procedure lesson or as an assessment tool.
- Provide a one-page diagram explaining the activity to participants.
- Allow students to rotate specific roles and/or make specific motions.
- The online game, *Among Us*, can also be used to reinforce student learning and the activity.

### RESULTS TO DATE

- Activity was first completed in an advanced agricultural education course focusing in CDE/LDE preparation at NMSU.
- The instructor served as President, which helped model expectations and keep the activity running smoothly.
- At some points, students became confused by the rules of the activity, so formative feedback and recaps of the rules were helpful.
- Students proposed using a one-page diagram, as opposed to a PowerPoint presentation on the rules. Scan to the right.

Scan Us!  
⚡



### INTRODUCTION

- The COVID-19 pandemic forced public education to transition online (Daniel, 2020).
- The National FFA Organization has been affected by the pandemic, resulting in the replacement of CDE's/LDE's with Leadership Challenge Events for 2020 (National FFA Organization, 2020a).
- Teaching parliamentary procedure is difficult to maintain student engagement online.

### RESOURCES NEEDED

- Access to an online video conferencing platform.
- Diagram handout explaining the activity.
- Copy of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*.

**#CyberParliament**