

Illinois Science Olympiad Event Supervisor's Meeting

Contact Information

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Overview of Science Olympiad

Science Olympiad is an academic tournament that involves competing in a range of 23 different events with other middle schools from central Illinois. Each team may have at most 15 students. The top winners are promoted to the state tournament, which is always hosted by the University of Illinois.

All Science Olympiad events are designed to be hands-on. The tournament encompasses all areas of science in the same competition. Biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics are emphasized. Engineering and technology are also combined with several of these disciplines in events. Science Olympiad is unique in its ability to combine these areas and vary the way the students are tested in them.

The range of testing modes includes paper/pencil tests (limited in number) to lab practical events to design and building devices that require the students to calibrate devices to accomplish a goal before competition.

Dates

- o Invitational Tournament: Saturday, December 2, 2017 @ Millstadt Consolidated School
- o Regional Tournament: Saturday, February 10, 2018 @ Lindenwood University-Belleville

Schedules

Please see the tentative regional & invitational schedule. This will be emailed to you by Mike sometime in October.

Rules

Ensure that you have the 2018 rules pages appropriate for your event.

Event Supervisor Responsibilities

You are responsible for:

1. knowing the rules (and clarifications and FAQ's see www.soinc.org),
2. writing the event as well as the test and scoring sheet,
3. bringing all the supplies you need to carry out the event,
4. setting the event up,
5. tearing the event down,
6. returning the classroom to its original state,
7. scoring the event, and
8. score counseling your event when turning in the scores at HQ

The Event

Name of school, team number should be on first page of test after students' names.

Students may not have any access to cell phones, etc. during competition. Have students put all inessential materials away from the competition area. Space students around the room as much as possible. Working in teams is difficult to keep others from hearing discussions. If you set up the room in advance, this problem can be minimized. If students are moving in a lab practical format check to make sure students have not modified the station or moved materials complicating timed events. Supervise from behind and move around the room to set the tone that everyone is to stay on task (more a concern for B level than C level).

1. Have a volunteer check attendance and wristbands.
 - a. You will receive an attendance form
 - b. Teams must compete at scheduled times
2. Write an event that follows the rules
3. For difficulty level of questioning, follow this as an example: 1/3 easy, 1/3 moderate, 1/3 difficult ("The 1/3 Rule")
4. **Make it a hands-on event!**
5. **NO Ties!!** Have tie-breaker questions (at least three) designated in advance. Check rules of event as it may be precisely stipulated how these should be selected.
6. Competitors have a total of **50 minutes** for the entire event
7. Bring a copy of the event/questions and answer sheet
8. Please submit a digital copy a week in advance of the tournament.
9. No graded tests will be returned to competitors, only their scores
10. You may give HQ blank portions of the test to hand back (never give anything directly to the competitors)
11. **Spirit of the rule:** (ex. allow late competitors to the event- but no extra time)

12. Do NOT give any team an **unfair advantage** in your event
13. Absolutely **NO** parents/coaches allowed in the competition area
14. Let Headquarters know about any interference
15. Allow media access to events

Grading

1. Please be ready to report winners at least **one hour before awards**
2. Consistency when grading: one person grading the same section
3. Please have answer key/rubric ready **before** competition
4. Be available 1 hour after competition by phone

Volunteers

- o Better to bring your own
- o We also reach out to other organizations for Event Assistants.
- o If you need proctors/graders, please let your Regional Director know as soon as possible.

Have fun!