

CODE OF ETHICS & GENERAL RULES

GENERAL RULES, CODE OF ETHICS AND SPIRIT OF THE PROBLEM (rev. 2/7/2011)

Students, coaches, event supervisors, parents, and guests are expected to follow current Science Olympiad Rules. The goal of competition is to give one's best effort while displaying honesty, integrity, and sportsmanship, and not violate the spirit of the problem. All are expected to display courtesy and respect toward one another. Failure to show honesty, courtesy, or respect for the rules by a participant, coach, parent or guest of the team may result in penalty points being assessed or disqualification of the team from the event, the entire tournament or future tournaments. Our collective example will promote the spirit of cooperation among all participants. Therefore:

1. Teams may not interpret the rules so that they have an unfair advantage over the rules or another team.
2. Unless otherwise stated, it is generally understood that if notes, resources, calculators, actions, etc., are not excluded, then they are permitted unless they violate the spirit of the problem.
3. All non-permitted electronic devices must be turned off and if so directed, left in a designated spot.
4. Once teams have entered the event area to compete, they must not: leave until they are finished, return once they have left, communicate with outside resources, including people, places, etc. by any means (this effectively excludes the use of any computer, PDA, calculators, wireless devices, phones, etc. that have access to external communication or data retrieval during an event unless specifically permitted).
5. Safety is of the utmost importance. Event supervisors are obligated to prevent unsafe acts and devices. Safety decisions are not subject to appeal. Students should not risk being penalized for safety violations such as activating devices or removing goggles without supervisor permission. Contestants must not bring harmful items to a tournament. Teams may only bring items that are specified in the rules.
6. Coaches, teachers, parents, students, and other adults are responsible for ensuring that any applicable laws, regulations, and school policies are not broken.
7. One or more of the 15 current team members must have constructed all pre-built devices presented for judging. Any of the current team members may demonstrate or operate the device at the competition unless stated otherwise in the rules.
8. During competition on event day teams are responsible for setting up for testing, and testing, independently and without coaching from fellow team members or anyone else including but not limited to coaches and parents.
9. **Depending upon the level of an infraction, at the supervisor's or tournament official's discretion, a student or team may be penalized, removed from the event at that point, or disqualified.**

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD CODE OF ETHICS

Student participants are expected to compete in tournament events with honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of the competition. Team members are expected to be the builders of all the devices used in the events. The goal of competition is to give one's best effort while displaying honesty, integrity, and sportsmanship. Students, coaches, parents, and guests are expected to display courtesy and respect toward Olympiad officials, other teams, and guests of the Olympiad. Failure to show honesty and/or courtesy by a participant, coach, or guest of the team may result in the disqualification of the team from that event, the entire tournament or future tournaments.

STUDENT'S PLEDGE

I pledge to put forth my best effort in the Science Olympiad tournament and to uphold the principles of honest competition. In my events, I will compete with integrity, respect, and sportsmanship towards my fellow competitors. I will display courtesy towards Event Supervisors and Tournament Personnel. My actions will exemplify the proud spirit of my school, team, and state.

COACH'S PLEDGE

On behalf of the coaches and assistants at this tournament, I pledge to encourage honesty and respect for tournament personnel, our fellow coaches, and other team members. We want our efforts to bring honor to our community and school.

PARENT'S PLEDGE

On behalf of the parents and spectators I pledge to be an example for our children by:

- respecting the rules of Science Olympiad,
- encouraging excellence in preparation and investigation,
- supporting independence in design and production of all competition devices,
- and respecting the decisions of event supervisors and judges.

Our examples will promote the spirit of cooperation within and among all our participating teams.

EVENT SUPERVISOR'S PLEDGE

On behalf of my fellow supervisors and tournament personnel, I pledge to run my event with fairness and respect for the participants and their coaches. Our actions will reflect the principles of the Science Olympiad program and display the pride we feel as representatives of our colleges, universities, companies, states or organizations.