

Hello Coaches & Coordinators,

The Tournament Approaches!

Judges and Volunteers

WE NEED YOUR JUDGES! We really need your help right away. We need folks who love kids and who will help celebrate a wonderful tournament day with all the teams. They need to register NOW so they can be assigned to a judging team and we can prepare training materials. It is very difficult to manage a lot of folks that register at the last minute! Judges training is Feb 18th - in three weeks!

Every team is responsible for providing a judge. THANK YOU if you have already been successful. It is only fair that each team put in the effort to locate someone and support our tournament needs.

We will not prevent or disqualify teams from competing if they fail to meet the requirement to provide a judge, but the regional board policy is that an Unsportsmanlike Penalty can be assessed against a team that is taking advantage of judges provided by others but does not supply a judge themselves.

A "membership" or team can find out if they have been credited with supplying a judge (and volunteer) by looking at information available in the member area of www.odysseyofthemind.com.

If you haven't supplied a judge and/or if you know someone who is willing to give their time and would be good, ask them to register at www.ncome.org. You can also go to www.odysseyofthemind.com to your team information in the Members area to send team information to a nominee. You will need your membership number and zip code.

If you know a computer oriented person with a recent version of Excel on a laptop who might consider being a score-checker judge please let me know. Score checkers are be considered judges too! We would need their full attention all tournament day.

We also need your volunteers on tournament day. More information will come out to these folks after the schedule is released so that they can know their team's performance time when they select a time to serve their three hour commitment.

Tournament Preparation Webinar!

Please add 10:00AM to 11:30AM on Saturday, February 4th (a week from Saturday...) to your calendar and join board members Tom Bojanski and Randy Burton for a webinar/teleconference addressing preparation for the upcoming tournaments (Primary Division on Feb 18; Divisions I-III on March 4). While the focus will be to assist firstyear coaches on tournament day preparations, there will be helpful information for anyone, regardless of your experience. Topics will include:

- What should we do between now and tournament time?
- Don't forget to practice Spontaneous problems
- Forms. What are forms?
- When should we arrive at our Long Term presentation site?
- How can we avoid Outside Assistance on tournament day?
- Is there anything coaches and parents can help with?

- Q&A

Webinar details:

URL to view the web

presentation: https://join.freeconferencecall.com/randy_burton1

Dial in number: 712-770-4074 (***) There is no 800 dial-in number, so long distance charges may apply if you don't use a cell phone.)

Access code: 115685

Online meeting ID: randy_burton1

(For 24/7 customer service please call 844-844-1322)

Spontaneous Fair Wrap-up

WE HAD A GREAT TIME seeing many of your teams at the Spontaneous Fair on Saturday, January 21st! Everyone was so energetic and charged up! I hope your team really had fun! Thank you to Morris Grove and all the presenters that helped this event be successful. I hope your team learned about Spontaneous and about themselves! We will soon post the problems - so you can take advantage even if your team did not get a chance to attend.

Dates

Judges Training:

8:30AM to 3:30PM on Saturday, February 18, 2017 at Wake Tech South (Each team must provide one judge and one volunteer. Volunteers don't need training.)

Regional Tournament:

Primary - Feb 18th, 2017 – Wake Tech South. Schedule released soon.

Div 1,2,3 - March 4, 2017 – Wake Tech South. (Judges need to stay all day and cannot leave to see "their" team) (3-hour Tournament Day Volunteers can leave to see "their" team) Schedule released before Feb 18th.

Let us know if you have questions. There is more information on the web!

NCOM Eastern Region web site: www.ncome.org

NCOM State web site: www.ncom.org

Your kids will never forget the experience! Thank you for the time you give!

Lexie Groner
Tournament Director

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