

# North Carolina Odyssey of the Mind



**Eastern  
Region**

Hello Coaches & Coordinators,

We are really looking forward to seeing many teams at the Spontaneous Fair on Saturday, January 21st at Morris Grove Elementary in Chapel Hill! Everyone gets so energetic and charged up for this event! I hope your team really has fun!

Registration for the Spontaneous Fair will close a week from Saturday or when we fill up. We have room for more teams. (Link is at [www.ncome.org](http://www.ncome.org).) Your team must be registered to attend. Remember, we always post the problems - so you can take advantage even if your team can not attend.

**FINAL DEADLINE FOR TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION IS JANUARY 21ST!** All teams must be registered for the regional tournament by the date of the Spontaneous Fair so that we can begin planning the schedule, assigning venues, and determining how many judging teams we will need to form. **MAKE SURE ALL YOUR TEAMS ARE REGISTERED!**

Please forward this email to anyone who should receive it and who may not have added their email to the list ([www.ncome.org](http://www.ncome.org) to sign up!).

It is coming up on crunch time for your team! I know your team is working hard to finish their brainstorming and turn their ideas into some form of reality! You'll be seeing and your team will be feeling a little more stress as the time gets shorter! But relax a little, you can only do what you can do! Revisit your team's planning, devote some real time to working on things so they are proud of what they have done, and do some fun things too! We know they are kids and sometimes... - that is all we need to say!

Your regional board is working hard to prepare a wonderful experience for your team at the two tournaments: Primary and Div 1, 2, 3. Both are at Wake Tech. The Primary Tournament is February 18th. The Div 1, 2, 3 Tournament is March 4th. We are excited to return to Wake Tech (South) this year with no parking constraints! We'd like to invite all of the Primary Teams to attend the Div 1, 2, 3 tournament to get a glimpse of the amazing solutions that will be on display there!

Here is what your regional board is doing:

1.) Based on the number of teams in each problem and division, we will determine the venues in

which your kids will perform. So far we need about 11 areas suitable for competitions.

2.) We are figuring out how many teams of judges we will need to train and prepare to interact with your team. We need about 10-11 persons on a long-term judging team and 3 or 4 per spontaneous judging team. Our goal is to train and provide great judges to validate, evaluate, and celebrate the work your team displays!

3.) We will begin to lay out the team schedule for long-term and spontaneous - taking into account the number of judges we have, the venues, and time constraints.

This must all be finished by February 18th when all judges are trained.

**MORE JUDGES ARE NEEDED!** We really need your help right away. We need folks who love kids and who will help celebrate a wonderful day with all the teams. I need them now so that I can assign them to a judging team, and we can prepare training materials. It is very hard if we have a lot of folks at the last minute! **ALL JUDGES MUST BE TRAINED FEB 18th AND MUST SERVE THE DIV 1, 2, 3 TOURNAMENT ON MARCH 4TH!**

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 and 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](http://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](http://www.ncome.org). You can also go to [www.odysseyofthemind.com](http://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 JUDGE score-checker please let me know, we are considering a separate evening of training for them. We would need their full attention all tournament day.

## Dates

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

Primary (K-2) Tournament: Noon and after on Saturday, February 18, 2017 at Wake Tech. Judges

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are in training on this day and judges will participate with your kids in the tournament.

Div 1, 2, 3 Regional Tournament: Saturday, March 4, 2017 at Wake Tech. (Judges need to stay all day and cannot leave to see "their" team) (3-hour Tournament Day Volunteers can leave to see "their" team)

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

NCOM Eastern Region web site: [www.ncome.org](http://www.ncome.org)

NCOM State web site: [www.ncom.org](http://www.ncom.org)

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

Tom Hansen

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NCOM - Eastern Region

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