



NCOME NEWSLETTER

CREATIVITY IN THE EASTERN REGION SINCE 1982

DECEMBER 2020 • ISSUE 5 • VOLUME 2

Welcome!

Tournament registration is closing soon, so be sure your team is prepared for this year's competitions! For information about regular and Early Bird tournament registration, check **page 3** and take a look at our website: ncome.org

Just in time for the holiday season, the NCOM store is now open! Check it out at <http://store.ncom.org> and on **page 2**.



DOING YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING ONLINE THIS YEAR?

Support NCOM when shopping on Amazon by using AmazonSmile and choosing the Odyssey of the Mind Association of North Carolina to donate 0.5% of your purchase to our organization!



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Spontaneous Fair

January 23, time TBD

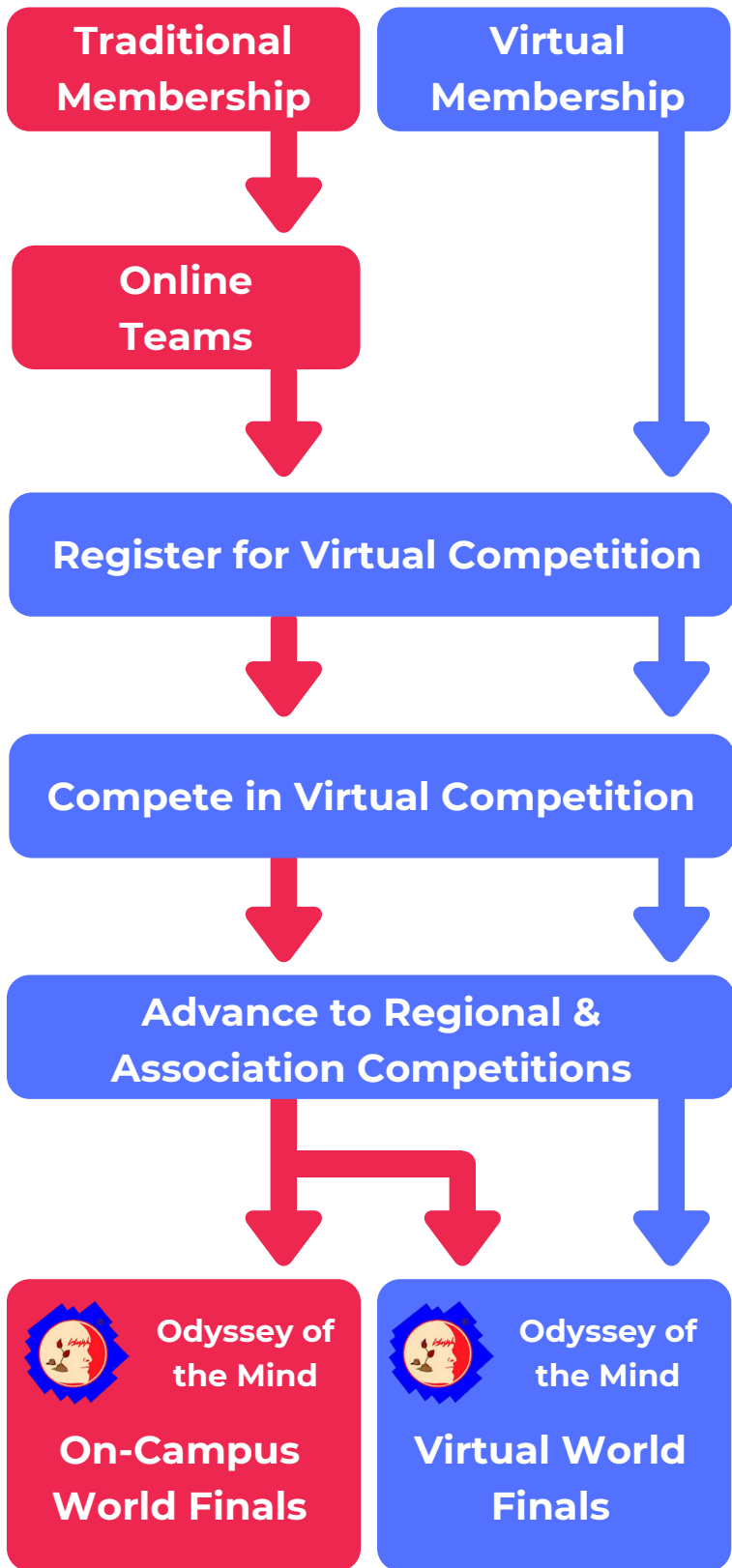
We will be offering sessions that focus on spontaneous as a whole and the new virtual format.

Registration and more information is coming soon!

Watch your emails and social media for more updates.

2020-2021 OM Flow Chart

Note that there will be no North Carolina in-person competitions this year. *New updates at our website



THE NCOM STORE IS OFFICIALLY OPEN!

We have an incredible selection of pins: 19 total for our 2020-2021 collection. And instead of shirts, in the true 2020 spirit, NCOM is printing our problem icons on face masks. Our masks come in different sizes, and are comfortable and adjustable--the perfect Christmas gift!

Go to <http://store.ncom.org>

Odyssey Academy

James A. Mourey from the Illinois OM Association has created a series of 15 free videos designed to introduce new members to Odyssey of the Mind. These videos are excellent for all teams, and especially for new students and coaches. Check them out! Link also at our website.

<https://ncome.org/2020/09/25/check-out-the-odyssey-academy/>

PODyssey of the Mind

Our friends in Pennsylvania have started a podcast on all things OM! Check it out on all podcast platforms. Find more info at

<https://paodyssey.com/podyssey/>

TOURNAMENT DETAILS!

Tournament registration is officially open! Go to our website for more details about registering!

Fees (cost per team): The Early Bird fee is \$80, the Full Fee is \$115, and the Primary Team fee is \$25.

Problem 4: Your board members have a long-term problem of their own this year. How do you virtually crush all the structures?! Most likely we will have several crush days around the area that will be set up following social distancing guidelines. More information to come!

Spontaneous: HQ has confirmed that only virtual problems will be given at all virtual competitions. Please check out the spontaneous session from coaches training for more details.

Tournament Timeline

December 18: Early Bird Registration ends

January 15: Registration closes

March 5: Last day for long-term problem submissions for regional tournament

March 6: Regional judging begins

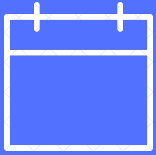
March 20: Regional Virtual Awards Ceremony

April 9: Last day for long-term problem submissions for state tournament (if team advances)

April 10: State judging begins

April 24: State Virtual Awards Ceremony

World Finals is still TBD!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Skills Fair

Saturday, Dec 5, 2020
Zoom Meeting, TBD

Spontaneous Fair

Saturday, Jan 23, 2021
Zoom Meeting, TBD

Virtual Regional Tournament

Saturday, March 6, 2021

Virtual NCOM State Finals

Saturday, Apr 10, 2021

World Finals

May 26-30, 2021
Michigan State University

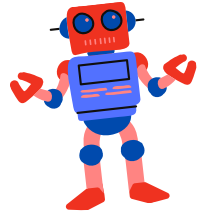
Spontaneous Practice

Escape!

Hands-On Problem

Materials:

- 1 action figure
- 1 can (of any kind)
- 1 ball string
- 3 straws
- 1 foot of tape
- 2 index cards
- 1 spoon



The Problem:

All of the above materials should be lying on the floor next to a table.

You (the action figure) are trapped inside a deep hole. You find the given materials and build a way to get out (reach the top of the table). Use the materials to get the action figure to the top of the table.

Spontaneous Tips and Tricks!



MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Q&A with a few of our board members

Diana White: Primary Captain

How long have you been involved in OotM?

About 12 years.

How did you get started in OotM?

I was inspired by my friends, the Bojanskis, and their involvement in OM. When I was moved into a new position at my school, I had the opportunity to start OM at Club Blvd. Once I showed the parents what it was, we were hooked!

What roles have you held in OotM?

I have been a school and district coordinator, judge, and problem captain.

What is your favorite problem?

I really enjoy both the performance and technical problems. It's so exciting to see how students creatively solve each one. I've been judging problem 3 for years and I am fascinated every time by how students redesigned the classics. Seeing a Shakespeare character use a cell phone or Mona Lisa made from Skittles, I can't help but smile. On the other hand, as the primary problem captain, watching confident six year olds parade in a bug fashion show is hard to beat! So I guess my favorite is whichever I'm watching at the time.

Any interesting facts to share?

I grew up in rural Arkansas on a farm.

Suzanne Ladd: P5 Captain

How long have you been involved in OotM?

Around 10 years.

How did you get started in OotM?

More than twenty years ago, a colleague was going from office to office asking people to judge for her daughter's team. I ended up judging for two years in a row. Ten years ago, when I had a child of my own, her school's PTA was considering starting an OotM program, and I found myself in the school coordinator role.

What roles have you held in OotM?

I've been a judge, coordinator, parent, coach, and problem captain over the years.

What is your favorite problem?

Problem 5! I was a theater kid so the performance problem is right up my alley.

Any interesting facts to share?

I'm an attorney now, but I was a student teacher and a 1.5 credit hour class away from a K-6 Education degree before I changed my mind in college. Sometimes I second guess that decision, but OotM lets me back into the world of education in a fun and inspiring way.

CONTACT INFORMATION AND BOARD MEMBERS

Regional Director: Tom Hansen

Tom.Hansen.OotM@gmail.com

Tournament Director: Lexie Groner

ncometd@gmail.com

Score Room Captain: Stephen Downhower

Spontaneous Problem Captain: Ann Ross

Assistant Problem Captain: Zoe Hansen Burnet

Problem 1 Captain: Randy Burton

ncomePC1@gmail.com

Assistant Problem Captain: Tom Bojanski

Problem 2 Captain: Barry Groner

ncomePC2@gmail.com

Assistant Problem Captain: Lee Rafalow

Problem 3 Captain: Marj Moe

ncomePC3@gmail.com

Assistant Problem Captain: Gretchen Westman

Problem 4 Captain: Rita Welsh

ncomePC4@gmail.com

Assistant Problem Captain: Jacob Welsh

Problem 5 Captain: Suzanne Ladd

ncomePC5@gmail.com

Assistant Problem Captain: Sean Stickel

Primary Captain: Diana White

ncomePC6@gmail.com

Your 2020-2021 Board!

Regional Director: Tom Hansen

Assistant Regional Director: Lexie Groner

Tournament Director: Lexie Groner

Secretary: Gail Hemedinger

Treasurer: Bob Pecaut

Web Master: Andy Cordes

Web Assistants: Alison Blake and Dawn Imershein

Sales: Andy Cordes

Communications Team: Lexie Groner, Suzanne Ladd, Zoe Hansen Burnet, Elizabeth Fleming, Evelyn

Hemedinger, Zaria Vuksan, Ben Cruz

Pin Team: Jackie Burton, Marc Blake

Questions and Answers

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on social media or feel free to contact our Regional Director, Tom Hansen, or our Assistant Regional Director and Tournament Director, Lexie Groner, at their email addresses provided to the left!



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