



# NCOME NEWSLETTER

CREATIVITY IN THE EASTERN REGION SINCE 1982

JANUARY 2020 • ISSUE 6 • VOLUME 2

## Welcome!

**TOURNAMENT  
REGISTRATION IS  
CLOSING SOON!!**

The final date to register a team for this year is **JANUARY 15**, so be sure you and your team has properly registered before this date!

For more tournament information see **page 3** and take a look at our website: [ncome.org](http://ncome.org)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### *Spontaneous Fair*

To better mirror the virtual tournament, we will have **TWO** dates for this year's fair and some team activities to do in between.

#### January 23

Kick-off Zoom session with introductions to all 3 types of spontaneous problems with an emphasis on verbal. Teams will be given 3 problems formatted to the virtual tournament process and a time frame to solve them and submit online. Solutions will be judged by an experienced regional spontaneous judging team and scores/feedback will be returned to coaches.

#### January 30

Zoom Q&A session for teams to come back and discuss problem solutions and strategies.

# 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***

### ***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

### Spontaneous Fair

Saturday, Jan 23, 2021  
Zoom Meeting

### Spontaneous Fair Q&A Session

Saturday, Jan 30, 2021  
Zoom Meeting

### 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

### *Language Invention*

Hands-On Verbal Problem

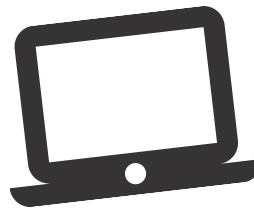
#### Materials:

- 1 Piece of paper
- Pencil or pen



#### Virtual Alternative:

- 1 Shared Google Document all members can view



#### The Problem:

Each team member comes up with three made-up words and writes them on the Google Document or piece of paper.

After each team member has written three words, work together to come up with a definition for each word.

### Spontaneous Tips and Tricks!



## Attention OMERS!

There are now two new ways to recognize your engagement and dedication to Odyssey of the Mind!

### EMERGING ALUMNI AWARD

Eligible to current high school juniors and seniors

Winners will be awarded a \$250 gift card and a membership donated in their name

### ALUMNI AMBASSADOR AWARD

The winner of this award will be the COU representative at World Finals and receive free WF room and board with a \$250 travel stipend

To find more info and apply by February 15th, visit [odysseyalumni.org/awards](http://odysseyalumni.org/awards)

## 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 for anyone to wear!

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/>

# MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

*Q&A with a few of our board members*

## **Ann Ross: Spontaneous Problem Captain**

### **How long have you been involved in OotM?**

I have been involved in OM since 1998.

### **How did you get started in OotM?**

I got started in OoTM as a favor to a fellow teacher who was coaching and needed a judge.

### **What roles have you held in OotM?**

I have been a staging judge for problem 4, a spontaneous judge, spontaneous assistant problem captain and problem captain.

### **What is your favorite problem?**

Spontaneous problems, of course!

### **Any interesting facts to share?**

I have a John Deere tractor and love driving it on the farm.

## **Zoe Hansen Burnet: Spontaneous Assistant Problem Captain**

### **How long have you been involved in OotM?**

Over 20 years!

### **How did you get started in OotM?**

I started OM in 4th grade competing in problems 3 and 5.

### **What roles have you held in OotM?**

I've competed (including a 2003 1st place finish at Worlds!), been a part of the NCOME board since finishing high school, volunteered, judged, was the Primary Division PC and am now the Spontaneous Assistant PC for the Eastern Region.

### **What is your favorite problem?**

Who can choose?

### **Any interesting facts to share?**

I was the feature Baton Twirler at NC State University.

## 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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