

North Carolina Odyssey of the Mind



**Eastern
Region**

Lexie Groner, Tournament Director
Tom Hansen, Regional Director
NC Odyssey of the Mind, Eastern Region

Congratulations, Team!

We are glad you will represent the Eastern Region at the

North Carolina Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament!

We are very excited about your accomplishments this year! Please ask all team members, coaches and parents take this opportunity as an occasion to **celebrate your success**. At the next level, every team is very good. **Good sportsmanship** is very important. You may not advance any further, but we want you to do your best - and to know how **proud** we are to have you represent the Eastern Region and demonstrate your solution at the state tournament.

Publicize your team's demonstrated success in advancing to the State Tournament! Let your group or school, your PTSA and administration or governing body know! You have enhanced your group or school's reputation. You have earned the **respect** of everyone who has seen you. You are learning great creative ways to solve problems. **You are becoming a great team!**

Please read the enclosed information carefully. You **must register** for the state competition right away. Let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lexie Groner, Tournament Director
Tom Hansen, Regional Director
Board of Directors
NCOM Eastern Region

(over)

Going to the State Tournament?

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1.) Can the team change their solution?

Yes. Anything they want. But, remind them that they had high scores at the regional tournament! Don't give up great ideas and execution!

2.) Some team members will not be able to participate. Do we need to do anything?

No. Team members remain on the team even if they cannot participate for any reason. Their ideas remain an important part of the solution.

3.) Can we add a team member?

Yes. Up to seven. If your team has fewer than seven "minds" that contributed to the team's solution, the team can add a member at any time.

4.) Can parents come to the State Tournament?

Yes! By all means! Everyone should try to come and celebrate the team's accomplishment! The team has an amazing solution that they demonstrated in an amazing way! There is plenty of room for everyone to see the tournament - and the award ceremony is very exciting!

5.) What should we expect with scores at the State Tournament?

Problem Captains (PCs) will emphasize that judges are to remain consistent within themselves the whole day of competition. We do not instruct judges about numeric scoring values. Judges do not discuss their scores with others. Often we see slightly lower scores - most judges at the State Tournament are very experienced. We know this is disturbing to coaches and teams because these are the very best teams in the state! Please do not get wrapped up in numerical values - the "RAW" scores do not communicate very well how a team will place once the "CALCULATED" scores are computed. Remember to turn this tournament into a celebration of the team's accomplishment over the year!

6.) What happens if we place 1st or 2nd at the State Tournament?

(Lightning must strike for this to happen!)

Congratulations! Your team will be invited to demonstrate their solution at the World Finals Tournament at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa on May 23rd through May 26th. The World Finals Tournament has about 800 teams from all around the world - 20 countries - and is a wonderfully amazing experience. Full room and board in Iowa State dormitories, and the fee that covers the use of the campus facility amounts to about \$1000 per team member for the four days. There are many ways to organize fund-raising for this wonderful contingency. I think every team ever invited from North Carolina has found a way to get there!

7.) What about 3rd place teams? Keep your materials for a few days. Your team could be advanced if the 1st or 2nd place team cannot attend World Finals!

Tom Hansen

Regional Director

NC Odyssey of the Mind, Eastern Region