



Exploring the World of Science

New York State Science Olympiad, Inc.  
984 Leeds Drive  
North Bellmore, New York 11710-1027  
[www.newyorkscioly.org](http://www.newyorkscioly.org)

### **Volunteer Code of Conduct:**

In order to ensure fair, orderly, safe, and efficient tournaments, New York State Science Olympiad, Inc.'s ("NYSSO") Board of Directors (the "Board") maintains the following policy regarding the volunteer code of conduct at Invitational, Regional, and State Tournaments:

Science Olympiad Tournaments rely on hundreds of volunteers during each tournament, many of which will be adults interacting with students under the age of 18. As such:

#### 1) **Science Olympiad Tournament Volunteers must:**

- a) Check-in with Tournament Officials at registration;
- b) Bring and be prepared to show identification;
- c) Wear a badge or nametag matching the identification presented at registration at all times during the Science Olympiad Tournament;
- d) Follow the NYSSO Never Alone Policy when working with students. Science Olympiad is by definition a team activity, with most contact between adults and students in very large group settings. ***It is in the best interest of all volunteers to never be alone with a student;*** and
- e) Report any irregularities, concerns, or violations of the NYSSO Never Alone Policy.

#### 2) **Science Olympiad Tournament Volunteers shall also adhere to the following guidelines:**

- a) Follow the Code of Ethics & General Rules and Spirit of the Problem posted on Science Olympiad, Inc.'s website and printed in each official Rules Manual. These statements cover safety, laws, and the applicable National Science Olympiad Policies that apply to all participants, volunteers, etc.
- b) For reference, the above can be found here: <https://www.soinc.org/code-ethics-general-rules>

#### 3) **Volunteers shall:**

- a) Refrain from smoking, consuming alcohol, or using profanity when acting as a volunteer;
- b) Not engage in any inappropriate behavior or contact with student or minors;
- c) Provide for the general welfare, health, and safety of all Science Olympiad participants; and

- d) Report anything observed, either in the physical environment or an individual's behavior, to which the volunteer may believe may cause potential harm of any kind whatsoever.

All team coaches are to discuss this policy with all assistant coaches and adult chaperones. A signature from the designated head coach of each team acknowledging this policy, its consequences, and the responsibility to disseminate this information will be required at the time of the team's registration for the tournament.

*Any questions or concerns regarding this policy should be directed to the President of NYSSO's Board of Directors and the State Director.*

Submitted, Reviewed, and Approved by NYSSO BOD Dated: Saturday, September 4, 2021	<hr/> <i>John J. Beauregard</i> John J. Beauregard, Secretary NYSSO Board of Directors
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