

Midstate Region Science Olympiad Coaches Meeting

October 22, 2024



Introduction to Beth and Meredith

Beth Krauss: I am recently retired from Homer High School where I taught Biology AP Biology and a Chemistry elective. I have been a Science Olympiad coach for the past 10 years starting at MPH and finishing at Homer. I am looking forward to continuing the tradition of having a well run, fun tournament.

Meredith Callaghan: I have just retired from Clinton High School where I taught chemistry for 30 years. I have coached a Science Olympiad team for the past 20+ years. This is my first year in the role of Regional Site Coordinator and I'm so grateful to Beth that I'm not doing this alone!

Registration

1. You **must register** for the Regional tournament **in order to participate** in any competition including in-State or out-of-State invitational tournaments.
2. Registration includes:
 - a. [A form you complete online](#) (found at newyorkscioly.org) - you will receive an email acknowledging receipt of this form, but you are not registered until you pay
 - b. Payment of **\$275 per team**
 - i. **Payment must be a check**; purchase orders are not accepted
 - ii. Your Business office will need the Science Olympiad W9 [form](#) (which is found at the bottom of the page)
 - iii. You can check your registration status [here](#)
3. The registration [deadline of 12/31](#) determines the # of teams we can send to the State competition.

Forming your team

Each team is composed of a maximum of 15 students. And of those 15 students, only 7 can be seniors.

If you have more interested students, you will need to form (and pay for) a second team.

Teams may have alternates who may need to step up on competition day if a team member is unable to attend. However, alternates cannot compete in any of the 23 events if the regular 15 are in attendance.

Alternates can assist with timing tasks in some events. Let us know if you have alternates interested in helping out.

Coach's responsibilities before competition day

- Have all of your team members download the [rules manual](#) and carefully READ the rules for their events.
- Assign your team members to their events based on the [schedule](#).
- Regularly check for changes to the event rules on the national website
 - [Rules Clarifications](#) are replies to commonly asked questions.
 - [Rules Corrections](#) are posted when a response changes the meaning or corrects a rule
- Review important Science Olympiad policies with your students and adult volunteers (see slide below)

Policies you should review with your team

Read all of the General Rules on page 2 of the Rules Manual where it states:

“The goal of competition is to give one’s best effort while displaying...courtesy and respect...and [making] an honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of the problems”

Other important [policies](#) to review:

- Interference
- Device construction & Parent participation
- Respect for host facility
- Wristbands

Event Updates for our Regional Competition

- No Trial Events at Regional or State Competitions
- **NO** puck drop for Materials science; this means students do not have to bring a pre-made puck. However, there still will be a lab component to this event.
- Optics and Wind Power will have the written test and testing event during the same block.
- We are working on having a scantron available for MC questions.
- Changes to this information will be posted on the Midstate [website](#).
- [Link](#) to the National website - another spot for rules clarification.

Coaches' Clinic

If you would like advice on how to help students prepare for their events, consider registering for the:

Mid-Atlantic Coaches Clinic: This is a virtual Coaches Clinic hosted by the Pennsylvania Science Olympiad (PASO) on **November 9, 2024**. The cost of the Clinic is \$50.00 for New York State Coaches.

In case we get cut off...

We hope this meeting will last less than an hour, but just in case we need to go over the Google Meet time limit, here's what we're going to do.

An email will be sent by 4:35 with a new link to the meeting.

Tournament Day

The Midstate Regional Tournament is on January 25, 2025 at Le Moyne College
Snow date February 1

Check-in occurs between 7:00 am - 8:00 am in Grewen Hall outside the
Auditorium on the 3rd floor

[These forms](#) are **required** for teams to compete - bring them to the check-in
desk. If your school requires a different medical form, that is acceptable.

Students are required to wear a wristband in order to compete.

January 25, 2025 Science Olympiad Event Schedule

Event	Location TBD	Check in & Impound 7:00-8:00am	Block 1 8:00-8:50	Block 2 9:00-9:50	Block 3 10:00-10:50	Block 4 11:00-11:50	Block 5 12:00-12:50	Block 6 1:00-1:50
A & P						A	B	C
Air Trajectory		IMPOUND		SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE
Astronomy			A	B	C			
Bungee Drop		IMPOUND		SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE
Chem Lab			A	B	C			
Codebusters			A	B	C			
Disease Detectives			A	B	C			
Dynamic Planet						A	B	C
Ecology			B	C	A			
Electric Vehicle		IMPOUND		SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE
Entomology						C	A	B
Experimental Design			B	C	A			
Forensics			B	C	A			
Fossils			B	C	A			
Geo Mapping			C	A	B			
Helicopter				SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE
Materials Science			C	A	B			
Microbe Mission			C	A	B			
Optics			A	B	C			
Robot Tour		IMPOUND		SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE
Tower				SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE	SELF SCHEDULE
WIDI			C	A	B			
Wind Power			B	C	A			

Letters A, B, C, represent rotations
Teams will be assigned to rotations

Event Day Reminders

There must be 1 adult in team room at all times. This can be a coach, parent or volunteer, but cannot be a student regardless of their age.

All adults are strongly advised to never be alone with a single student (see the [NYS Never Alone Policy](#))

Team rooms and Event rooms must be left as they were found - take a picture before you move anything so you can return it to its original location.

Document any potential damage and **tell us immediately.**

Food!

A light lunch will be provided for event supervisors and proctors in Grewen Auditorium

The Le Moyne cafeteria will be open - more on the cost and hours at a later date.

Teams may order food in from other local restaurants.

Awards Ceremony

It is our goal to start and be done earlier than in past years.

The ceremony will be held in the rec center as usual, but we have a limited budget. We are working on funding for chairs and AV equipment; it is possible that there may be no slide show, or chairs.

Medals will be awarded for 1-10 places

Trophies will be awarded for districts 1-6

Coaches' Event Signup

Exams are already written - none of our coaches need to compose any part of the exams.

Each team is asked to supply one coach to be an Event supervisor or proctor. Both roles will be scoring the exam.

If your school is sending 2 teams, please have 2 coaches sign up for a role.

Here is the [link](#) to request the events you feel comfortable supervising.

Information we will be sending before January 25

- Team rotation letter - all teams from a single school will be assigned to the same rotation
- Home base room numbers
- Event Locations
- Maps of the campus
- Specifics on cafeteria options
- Proctoring duties
- Drop Off and parking

And here's another opportunity for you to participate :)

We are looking to form a Steering Committee that will help us with many tasks both before and during the tournament. We will be asking several seasoned coaches who can share their wealth of experience with us. But we would also like to have a few new faces on the committee so that the Science Olympiad experience can continue even after we all retire.

There is no pay attached to this and we will ask you to give us a few hours here and there. But your insight into this competition will be greatly enhanced and we might even buy you a doughnut!

Questions?

We are looking forward to another exciting tournament this year!