

Greetings from the Idaho Science Olympiad Board of Directors,

We would like to offer an apology and clarification on an email sent earlier this week which announced the cancellation of the Idaho Science Olympiad on April 24th.

First, we would like to apologize for this miscommunication on our part. As a Board, we agreed that due to the still present nature of COVID-19, and the likely extension of in-person event cancellations at universities, that the best path forward would be to conduct our events online this year. This would also prepare teams for The National Science Olympiad Tournament, which will be hosted virtually by Arizona State University on May 22nd. As a result, we cancelled the In-person Idaho State Science Olympiad at Boise State University, with the intent of holding a similar competition online to pick our representatives to Nationals.

We regret the impact that erroneous email had on both students and coaches alike. We do not take cancellation lightly, and we promise clear and precise communication in the future.

Let us be clear: **The Idaho Science Olympiad will take place as scheduled on April 24th, 2021, in a virtual setting.** We will be offering 14 events for each Division, all of which can be conducted in the comfort of one's home or classroom, and as a tested format. Those events are:

B Division:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Circuit Lab
- Crime Busters
- Density Lab
- Disease Detectives
- Dynamic Planet
- Experimental Design
- Fossils
- Machines
- Meteorology
- Ornithology
- Reach for the Stars
- Road Scholar
- Water Quality

C Division:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Astronomy
- Circuit Lab
- Code Busters
- Detector Building
- Disease Detectives
- Dynamic Planet
- Experimental Design
- Fossils
- Geologic Mapping
- Machines
- Ornithology
- Sounds of Music
- Water Quality

These will be events where medals will be awarded to the top 3 places, and the winning team in each division will go on to represent Idaho at the 2021 National Tournament, held virtually at Arizona State University on May 22nd. As this format differs than our usual state tournament, we have lowered our entry fee from \$125 to \$60. This ensures that medals and trophies can be ordered. Also, to help with logistics and timeliness, we have set the maximum number of teams from each school at 1. These changes are most likely only for this year, and we look forward to welcoming more teams in a safer, in-person environment next year.

We thank you for your understanding in these hectic times, and look forward to seeing you and your students virtually on April 24th.

Important documents can be found at <https://statescioly.org/idaho/Docs/UsefulDocs> including:

- Schedule of remaining 2021 Mini-Olympiads and online State Competition on April 24.

- Registration for your team.

- Email addresses of Event supervisors for each event (included in schedule)

- Rules for Mini-Olympiads and Online State Competition on April 24th

Sincerely,

Idaho Science Olympiad Board of Directors.