

## **Coaches, students, parents, and everyone associated with Maryland Science Olympiad:**

Welcome to the 2024-25 Science Olympiad season! We look forward to seeing everyone for another exciting STEM season! Mark your calendars. We will open registration for the upcoming season on 9 September 2024. In the meantime, here are some guidelines for the upcoming season:

### **SO Rules Manuals 2025**

The rules have officially dropped and can be found here: <https://www.soinc.org/rules-2025>

### **Registration and Fees 2025**

Team registration will open 9/9/24 and close 12/13/24.

For the 2024-25 season we separated registration for Div A from Div B/C, putting them on different sites to remove confusion for both coaches and volunteers.

Div. B/C registration will continue at <https://scilympiad.com/md>

Div. A registration will now take place at <https://scilympiad.com/md-a>

As we mentioned last year, this season we will raise our registration fees for Divisions B and C because our National Office raised their fees. Maryland's team registration costs per team will be up \$15 from past seasons. Our new rates will be \$375 for the first team and \$265 for second and third teams.

Division A (elementary) is unaffected by this National cost increase and will remain at \$100/team for the first team and \$75 for second and third teams.

### **Team Regions**

Regional Tournament assignments are defined geographically to the school's location. Refer to the Region map links below to identify your assigned region:

Div B: [https://scilympiad.com/data/org/md/public/MSO\\_DivB%20Region%20Map\\_231106.jpg](https://scilympiad.com/data/org/md/public/MSO_DivB%20Region%20Map_231106.jpg)

Div C: [https://scilympiad.com/data/org/md/public/MSO\\_DivC%20Region%20Map\\_231106.jpg](https://scilympiad.com/data/org/md/public/MSO_DivC%20Region%20Map_231106.jpg)

### **Tournament Dates**

We are still finalizing tournament dates and will announce them with email updates and on the Scilympiad platforms as we finalize them. This includes both Regional and State Tournaments.

**TENTATIVE** dates for several events include:

UMBC Invitational – 1/18/25

Div C West – Montgomery College, 2/8/25

Div B East/West – Richard Montgomery, 3/1/25

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Div B Baltimore – Morgan State, 3/8/25

Div A States – Clarksville MS, 4/26/25

### **We Need A New Regional Tournament Location**

We are looking for a new location to host the Div. C Eastern Regional! We've had some turnover in regional directors and are in need of a new regional director and location for our Division East tournament.

If you and your school might be interested in hosting a 2025 regional tournament, please reach out to us and we'll be happy to talk you through the possibilities! Tournament costs are generally covered by MSO and hosting a tournament can offer fundraising opportunities for schools and their boosters or vendors!

### **MSO Mailing List**

We would like to expand the number of teams competing in Science Olympiad this season. Our initial email list is based on last year's participants. If you wish to be removed from this list, let us know. OR if you know someone who should be added, let us know as well! Feel free to forward to other teachers and schools that might be interested in competing this season.

As teams are added, we will automatically add registered coaches. Please make sure anyone who should be receiving messages is listed as a co-coach with your team. Contact us at [mso.communications2023@gmail.com](mailto:mso.communications2023@gmail.com) and provide additional email addresses.

MSO does NOT knowingly collect and hold minors' personal information, and that means our policy is not to have minors' personal emails on our mailing list. Teams may set up a common use email (such as [SchoolScienceOlympiad@gmail.com](mailto:SchoolScienceOlympiad@gmail.com), or the like) to receive direct communication for their students. Otherwise, we will make broad emails available at <https://scilympiad.com/md> to be accessed by anyone.

### **Leadership Opportunities**

We are always looking for enthusiastic folks to help us run the MSO season. Please reach out if you'd like to be one of them. Whether you have a couple of hours a week, or a month, or more time, we would love to have you join us. Reach out to the Comms team at [mso.communicatons2023@gmail.com](mailto:mso.communicatons2023@gmail.com) and we'll get you to the right place!

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We'll keep you updated as more dates and details are known. In the meantime, let us know if you have any questions, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Robert

September 8, 2024

MSO Communications Team  
mso.communications2023@gmail.com