Bucks Invitational Policies



**BUCKS COUNTY INVITATIONAL**

**SCIENCE OLYMPIAD COMPETITION**

Code of Conduct

Student participants are expected to compete in tournament events with an honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of that competition. The goal of competition is to give one’s best effort while displaying honesty, integrity, and sportsmanship.

Students, coaches, parents, and guests are expected to display courtesy and respect toward Olympiad officials, other teams, and guests of the Olympiad.

Failure to show honesty and/or courtesy by a participant, coach, or guest of the team may result in the disqualification of the team from that event, the entire tournament, or future tournaments.

Science Olympiad Pledge

I pledge to put forth my best effort in the Science Olympiad and to uphold the principles of honest competition.

Cheating Policy

1. An individual who cheats during the competition will be penalized by disqualification of the team from that event. Disqualification results in a score that is three points greater than the number of teams registered in the competition.
2. If cheating occurs by a team in more than one event, or in successive years, the team may be disqualified that year, or the following year, from the entire competition.
3. If an event team, or team member, or anyone associated with the team, deliberately takes an action that impairs the ability of other teams to fairly compete, that team will be disqualified from the event and be awarded three points greater than the number of teams registered in the competition. In addition, the event team member(s) involved in the incident, may be ineligible to attend this competition in the future. Furthermore, the teams may be penalized points not to exceed the value of two last place rankings.

Picture / Video Policy

Taking pictures or videos of other team’s devices without their permission is considered cheating. This will be punished according to the cheating policy above. The person taking the picture will have to demonstrate that they have properly deleted the picture from their device or have their device confiscated until it can be done.

Wristband Procedure

1. Students will not be allowed to compete without wristbands. Please make sure that you have 15 wristbands in your package.
2. Wristbands are to be placed securely on the wrists of up to 15 competing team members on Saturday morning before the competition or events begin.  Everyone with a wristband should be on the submitted team roster. Wristbands need to be tight enough so that they cannot be slipped off.  If it can be slipped off, it may be confiscated.
3. If a wristband is defective or damaged, the coach and student must bring the band to registration for validation and replacement before they are allowed to compete.
4. Event Supervisors will check student’s wrists to see that students have their wristbands in place before their event begins.

Weather Plan

Since this Invitational Tournament is held in the middle of winter in the Northeast US, there is a chance that we may have to delay or cancel the event due to inclement weather beyond our control. Every effort will be made to still hold the tournament on the scheduled day.  If it snows, an attempt will be made to run the event the following day, but since it requires the participation of many teams running the events, this may not be possible. In such cases, teams running events will be required to send in electronic copies of their exam, answer key, or scoring sheet to the tournament organizer no later than (3) days following the tournament. These files will be compiled, and the sample exams will be made available to all the registered teams via a secure, web-accessible folder.

Any team that does not provide a copy of their exam may be banned from attending future Bucks County Community College Invitationals.

Due to the nature of one-time use supplies generated for the organization of the tournament, the registration fees are non-refundable. However, access to the sample tests and answer keys will prove to be quite valuable to your team for the season.

Room Coverage Policy

Please plan to bring enough school district-approved adult chaperones to the Bucks County Community College Invitational. There should be an adult chaperone in your assigned home base room all day. If a team room is found to not have an adult chaperone in it at any time during the day, the team (or teams) in that room will receive a 25-point penalty and may not be allowed to return in the future. You may use more than one person, but someone must be in the room from when you arrive to when you leave the room at the end of the day to ensure no problems happen.

Bucks County Community College will have some floating volunteers that can cover your room for brief periods throughout the day, but it is important that this is not for extended periods of time. If any supervisors are struggling to find room coverage while running an event, please us know at SciOly@bucks.edu no later than 1 week before the invitational.

Your home school must approve any adults brought with your teams to volunteer with your Science Olympiad Program and have appropriate state and local clearances.

Vandalism Policy

If a team member or members or persons associated with a team commit(s) an act of vandalism, the team will be disqualified from the competition and will receive no points. No member of that team will be awarded a medal in any event. An individual who commits an act of vandalism may be barred from future competitions.

Each sponsoring school must agree to pay the cost of repairing damage from any act of vandalism. A school must pay this restitution before it can register a team for the invitational the following year.

Vandalism means a deliberate action that results in damage to property. This includes, but is not limited to, graffiti, damage to facility property, and damage to the personal property of competitors, judges, and spectators.