

Science Olympiad Tournament Basics – Updated 2/15/2023

1. The Team

- a. Up to 15 students per team and up to three teams per school until further notice. Participants must be from same school and can only compete on **one team**.
- b. Division B (Middle School) maximum of five 9th grade participants (can be from feeder school) Division C (High School) maximum of seven 12th grade participants
- c. ***Must have school Principal's permission to participate which means your team's participation in the tournament is considered to be school-sanctioned/school affiliated. All school/district rules must be followed and the principal must approve the team's coach as well.***
- d. Up to 5 alternate team members who can assist with impound on event day and take the place of a regular team member at the State Finals only (team must qualify) **Cannot compete in the Regional event.**
- e. Must participate in their Region: Santa Clara County Regional or all other SF/Bay Area areas: Bay Area Regional
- f. Each team has one coach of record who receives all tournament information and is responsible for all aspects of the team including attending the tournament.

2. Tournament Events

- a. There are 23 events in five scientific categories in each division (B middle & C high school)
- b. A team can participate one time in each event and is not required to participate in all events
- c. See rule book for number of students allowed in each event. Each team takes one test
- d. Multiple teams from a school must test in the same time slot, except sign up events, as indicated on the schedule unless noted otherwise. Teams testing in a different time slot will be disqualified. Event Supervisors cannot make time slot changes except for Build events.

3. Rule Book

- a. The current year rule book contains the official rules for each of the 23 events per division.
- b. Once a team registers online, access to the online rule book will be sent to the coach of record
- c. Copies of the rule book are allowed for use within the registered school and cannot be posted online anywhere
- d. Rules for each event must be followed and cannot be changed to the advantage of a team
- e. Build events must follow all rule specifications or risk being placed in a lower tier or being disqualified
- f. If a rule is not clear a team may submit a rule clarification on the National Science Olympiad website at www.soinc.org click "Menu" in the upper left corner, then click "Rules Clarifications"

4. Tournament Schedule

- a. The general schedules (by alpha and by time) and division schedules are available online
- b. The schedule is a DRAFT and subject to change based on Event Supervisor availability
- c. Once registered a team receives a team number. Teams must participate in their designated time slot according to team number **or risk being disqualified. No Exceptions!**
- d. All events start and end on time. A team arriving late only has the time remaining to test
- e. Impound times are strictly adhered to. A team arriving late for ANY reason will be placed in a lower tier and can be disqualified from the event. **Adults not allowed at impound.**
- f. Once a team member leaves a testing room they cannot return
- g. Any regular team member or alternate team member can impound a device UNLESS the event requires the team members to describe how a device was built
- h. It is the responsibility of the team members to know the start times and locations for events
- i. It is the responsibility of the team members to turn in their test to the event official BEFORE leaving the room
- j. Teams must follow the FINAL schedule available at registration on event day

5. Resources

- a. Information for all events is available on the National Sci Oly website at www.soinc.org
- b. See individual event rules for information on what participants may bring into an event

6. Volunteers

- a. More than 150 volunteers are needed for the tournament. Each TEAM must choose an event in which to provide volunteers (Event Supervisor and Assistants). A school new to the Science Olympiad is not required to provide volunteers their first year of competition. However, they are encouraged to do so.
- b. Each event requires an Event Supervisor otherwise the event must be cancelled (Please see Event Supervisor Responsibilities under the "Volunteer" tab on the website.)

7. Scoring

- a. Each team is ranked and receives points according to their score, first place is one point, etc
- b. Scores and rankings are available on the website after the close of awards
- c. Tests are NOT returned and will not be reviewed without just cause
- d. The top four scoring teams (overall team points) in each division advances to the State Finals. Only one team from a school advance to the State Finals

8. Conduct and Arbitration

- a. See Code of Conduct on the website
- b. Arbitration officials review complaints regarding a rule violation only and their ruling is final

9. Host Site

- a. Teams may set up their scramble area on campus **OUTSIDE** in areas that **do not block buildings or room entrances**. BBQ devices or open flames are not allowed anywhere on campus
- b. Teams must remove all trash and equipment from the area – Leave campus as we found it
- c. Students are not allowed to enter a classroom without the Event Supervisor or assistant present
- d. Anyone caught damaging, defacing, or stealing anything and anywhere on campus will be disqualified from the event and will be prosecuted by the host school authorities.

10. Awards

- a. Individual event awards for 6 places
- b. Overall team points receive awards for first through third place (see website for detailed info)

Contact Information

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Websites: <https://statescioly.org/santa-clara-so> (Santa Clara County)

[NorCal Science Olympiad](#) (NorCal) www.soinc.org (National Website)