

## SCIENCE OLYMPIAD GENERAL RULES

The goal of competition is to give one's best effort while displaying honesty, integrity, and good sportsmanship. Everyone is expected to display courtesy and respect to all tournament officials, Event Supervisors, volunteers, coaches, other competitors, and parents. Teams are expected to make an honest effort to follow the rules and not interpret the rules so that they are provided an unfair advantage.

Failure by a Participant, Coach, or other Guest to follow accepted safety practices, the directions of tournament officials and Event Supervisors, behave in a polite and respectful manner, or follow the General Rules listed below, may result in the assessment of a penalty, or in rare cases, disqualification by the Tournament Director from an event, the tournament, or future tournaments

1. At a tournament, all Participants, Coaches, and other Guests are expected to follow the directions of the Tournament Director, Event Supervisors, and other Science Olympiad officials and are responsible for ensuring that any applicable school or Science Olympiad policy, law, or regulation is not broken.
2. No parents, coaches, chaperones, or other adults not assigned a specific role in an event by the Tournament Director are allowed in the competition space and may not coach, advise, instruct, or interact with the Participants in any way for the duration of this event.
3. While competing in an event, Participants may not leave without the Event Supervisor's approval and must not receive any help or guidance from a coach, parent, or a team member not competing in the event.
4. All electronic devices capable of external communication (i.e., cell phones, lap tops, tablets, watches) are not permitted unless explicitly allowed by the Event Rules or the Event Supervisor. At the discretion of the Event Supervisor, Participants may be required to turn off their cell phone and/or place their cell phone, or other electronic device (i.e., watch, tablet) in a designated location.
5. All devices built prior to the tournament and presented for judging must be constructed, impounded, and operated by one or more of the Team's current members unless stated otherwise in the rules. If a device has been removed from the event area, appeals related to that device will not be considered.
6. When eye protection is required, indirect vent chemical/splash protection goggles are required. These seal tightly to the face completely around the eyes and have indirect vents constructed so that liquids do not have a direct path into the eye (or no vents at all). If you are able to see through the vent holes from one side to the other, they are NOT indirect vents.
7. Tournament Officials and Event Supervisors are encouraged to apply the least restrictive penalty for any and all rules infractions. Should a penalty, or disqualification, be assessed, the Event Supervisor must provide prompt notification to the Tournament Director who will inform the Team's Head Coach.
8. Tournament Directors must notify teams of any site-dependent rule or other rule modification with as much notice as possible, ideally at least 30 days prior to the tournament.
9. Have fun and enjoy exploring the World of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)!