

NC Odyssey of the Mind, Eastern Region 2009 Tournament Competition Rules

1. Teams and coaches must follow the Odyssey of the Mind™ Program Guide. Any rule in a Long-Term problem takes precedence over the Odyssey of the Mind Program Guide. Clarifications take precedence over Long-Term problem rules. All policies of the Chapel Hill – Carrboro Public School System must be followed, including those regarding weapons, percussions, and explosives. If you have any questions concerning the specific policies of the school system, contact the Tournament Director.
2. Team members **must remain, at all times with a coach or adult chaperone**, who is responsible for the students..
3. Students, coaches, and guests are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship at all times before, during or after competition day. Compliment and encourage all teams and volunteers! Celebrate and rejoice in everyone's efforts. No coach, team member, parent, or spectator may complain about another team. This type of behavior may result in an “Unsportsmanlike Conduct” score deduction. Officials may assess such a score deduction at any time during the tournament.
4. The Score Room, judges' administrative areas, spontaneous judging areas, and officials' hospitality areas are restricted to tournament officials **ONLY**.
5. Our tournament officials and judges volunteer their time and spend hours doing hard work to provide this competition opportunity. Judges have been certified through a day-long training session and many have experience judging regional, state, and world competitions. Please remember to treat them with respect and THANK them!
6. When your team arrives on campus the head coach, or Div III team captain, must check in at the registration desk in the commons area (cafeteria lobby) of Chapel Hill High School.
7. Teams must report to the Check-in area for their long-term 45 minutes before they are scheduled to compete and to the spontaneous check-in desk for spontaneous 15 minutes before they are scheduled to compete. If your long-term site happens to be running behind and will cause you to be late for spontaneous, please do not panic. Complete the long-term problem and report to spontaneous as soon as possible and you will be worked into the schedule.
8. Food and drinks are allowed only in designated areas. Please make sure that you clean up after yourselves and use the appropriate trash containers for your discards.
9. Teams may not use walls, curtains, chalkboards, furnishings etc. at the competition sites in their problem solutions.

10. Teams should be prepared to perform on any floor surface. Floors must not be damaged. Judges will stop any activity they believe to be dangerous or will cause damage to the floor. Score deductions ranging from -15 to -200 points will be assessed depending on the severity of the damage, and in addition, memberships are financially liable for damages.
11. Team rankings will remain confidential until the conclusion of the Awards Ceremony. Results will be available after the awards ceremony. Please have only one coach get the results for your team. Officials will be on hand at this time to help coaches with any questions. Results will also be posted online as soon as possible.
12. The **Chapel Hill** campuses must be left in the condition we found them. Furniture must be returned to its original position. Writing surfaces must be cleaned. Trash must be in the intended receptacles, and **ALL PROPS, COSTUMES, AND PROBLEM SOLUTIONS MUST BE TAKEN HOME**. The schools do not have the resources to dispose of materials no longer wanted by the teams.

Long-Term Problem

1. Doors at competition sites will be closed during the performance. No one will be admitted once a team has begun to perform; please wait quietly outside in this circumstance. There are several venues where two teams alternate their performances in the same space. You must be respectful of the other team's performance and remain quiet.
2. Teams may bring props to the prop storage area, if one is so designated, no earlier than 45 minutes prior to their scheduled performance time.
3. Video cameras may be used during the long-term competition only with the permission of the Head Judge and the team. If permitted, they must be used without extra lights and without disturbing the competition in any way. Video recordings **WILL NOT** be used to make judging decisions. Flash cameras may not be used during performances. Spectator cameras must always remain outside the physical competition boundaries. Video recording or taking pictures of any judging materials is prohibited and may result in an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty.
4. We will judge using clarifications submitted by 15 Feb 09. Clarifications after 15 Feb 09 will not be in effect at the 2009 Eastern Region Tournament. If your team has a specific clarification, it **must** be presented to the staging area judge **PRIOR** to your team's long-term performance. Clarifications are a team's responsibility (See the procedures outlined in the Program Guide.)
5. After a performance, the judging team will want to talk with all team members. The judges may wish to examine problem solution materials and props. This would be a good time to thank the judges! Coaches, parents, and spectators should not approach the team until the Head Judge indicates that props and scenery may be removed. At that time, anyone may help the team remove their props and help with cleanup!

6. At the conclusion of a team's long-term performance, the head judge will notify the coach when he/she may return to receive the team's long-term score. Style and spontaneous scores will not be released until after the tournament. The judge will explain any score deductions the team received and note the time the score sheet is given to the coach. After receiving the team's score, the coach has 30 minutes to return and ask the head judge any questions they have on the scoring form Only coaches or Division III team captains may discuss rulings with the head judge. Parents, Division I or II team members or spectators are not to approach any official concerning competition rulings.
7. If the coach does not return at the appointed time to receive the score, the head judge will release the score. The score will then go to the score room and become official. In that case, the long-term score sheet will only be available to the coach after the tournament award ceremony.
8. Only a coach may question a scoring element on the team's score sheet and discuss it with the Head Judge and, if necessary, the Problem Captain. If the question involves an interpretation of the rules, the coach may request a Tribunal to be convened to review the ruling. This is done by completing and submitting the necessary paperwork. PLEASE NOTE: Subjective decisions of judges (scoring values) cannot be challenged. A Tribunal, assembled by the Tournament Director, will consist of three persons who have a thorough knowledge of the rules. The Tribunal will review the rule in question and, if necessary, talk with the coach, team members and/or judges involved. Once the Tribunal makes a decision, its decision is final.

Spontaneous Competition

1. When teams report to spontaneous, only one coach has the option to accompany their team to the holding room. This coach will need to stay in the holding room until the team is done with spontaneous and cool-down. Coaches are not permitted in cool-down areas. Only five team members will be allowed to be judged in Spontaneous.
2. In the Primary spontaneous problems; all team members can participate. The coaches are also allowed to accompany the team into the spontaneous room.
3. Keep the spontaneous problem a secret! Team members may NOT talk about their problem to anyone (including family and coaches) after they leave the cool-down room until after the awards ceremony. Following the tournament, they may talk to their coach and family at home, but they should not talk about it publicly, especially over the Internet. The same spontaneous problems may be used at Odyssey of the Mind competitions all over the world as much as a month following our competition.

Questions?

Contact Ron Reichen, 2009 Regional Tournament Director

rcpdreic@bellsouth.net

919-851-6855