

Knowledge Bowl Advisors Meeting

September 16, 2014 – 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Attendees via ITV: Darin Walling (Kenyon-Wanamingo), Al Lochner (Spring Grove), Ryan Gatzlaff (Houston), Katie Larson (Mabel-Canton), Becky Carr (Houston)

Attendees: Sarah Johnson (Dover-Eyota), Rebecca Stocker (Lanesboro), Rosario Mollo (Pine Island), Mary Wolter (Rushford-Peterson), Ethan Riggan (Southland), Janet Bren (Chatfield), Alberto Vera (Dover-Eyota), Althea Rood (Kasson-Mantorville), Emily Haag (Lewiston-Altura), Theresa Buendorf (Medford), Jake Giesen (Rochester Mayo), Tim Brennan (Southland), Dave Sklenicka (Stewartville)

Introductions

Communication with SSC

Kirsten Kuehl

Regional Coordinator

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After Hours Cell: 507-259-6810

Katie Hartman

Training and Program Coordinator

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Susan Ward, State Coordinator

Lakes Country Service Cooperative

218-739-3273 or 800-739-2459 or sward@lcsc.org

Contact Information Updates

Advisors should update the information SSC has for them, including cell/emergency contact number your home/cell phone number and any other email addresses we should include. We will use this phone number only in case we need to contact you, after hours (i.e. cancellations, postponements, etc.) or perhaps while you are enroute to a competition. If you would like anyone else from your school (or volunteers) added to our communication list, include their information.

Communication

Most correspondence will be done via email and posted on the SSC website. All schedules and scores will be posted on the website (www.ssc.coop). (Click on the Student Programs tab at the top and select your respective Knowledge Bowl area.) Please bookmark this to your web browser for easy access.

If a competition needs to be postponed (due to weather/late start or closing) SSC will contact the schools/advisors involved. In addition, it will be posted on the website homepage at www.ssc.coop. Advisors should provide home/cell phone numbers and alternate email addresses for after-hours communication. If there is questionable weather, the website will also give the status of the competition.

“Snow Days” have been built into the Round Robin schedule (see list of dates).

2014-15 Handbook

The new handbooks were distributed. It will be posted on our website. Advisors not present will receive theirs by mail. The same handbook is used for junior and senior high. The only difference between junior and senior high is the number of students/team and junior high doesn't have a State competition. Information about ordering equipment, rules and competition format are included.

2014-2015 Dates & Round Robin Schedule

The schedules are filling. To be added to the schedule or make changes, email Kirsten. These are posted on the website.

Coaches Clinic – 10/23/2014 at Metro ECSU

Brochures were distributed and posted on website. This year's clinic is in St. Paul at TIES Event Center. Advisors are encouraged to attend to hear from current, experienced coaches, including keynote by Chris Lenius from Chaska.

Practice Questions

Questions from previous years can be found at [REDACTED] (keep this link confidential). Questions from the past six years are available for you to use as you'd like.

Question Reviews

It was decided not to schedule any question reviews. The state coordinator hires a committee of professionals in each subject area to review the questions before they are sent to each Region. Each Region receives the same question sets.

Fees

Junior High-\$275 per team. Schools will be invoiced October 15.

Senior High-\$360 per team. Schools will be invoiced December 10.

Non-members pay twice this rate.

Competition Format

Round Robins

For Round Robins, both written and oral scores will be included in the final tally. Round Robin competitions will consist of a written test (60 questions with 50 min. limit) taken first, followed by 3 oral rounds (30 questions). Junior High teams can have 6 team members take the written test and 5 team members in each oral round. Alternates can sub in after 15 questions during the oral round and/or between oral rounds. (Senior High teams have one less student/team—5 team members take the written and 4 team members compete in oral rounds.) During Round Robins, scores will be recorded and posted by advisors. After competitions are completed for the month, a copy of all scores will be posted on the SSC website. At the end of the season, awards are given to top teams, although the scores have no bearing at the sub-regional or regional.

Please note: Advisors will read or judge at all competitions. Since we require one adult for every three teams, schools with more than 3 teams must supply another adult (parent, teacher, principal) to serve as reader or judge. Schools with fewer teams will be asked and encouraged, but for schools with more than 3 teams—it is mandatory. At Round Robins we need at least 1 adult per room, but 2 is best.

If a school does not abide by this rule, and if there are not enough adults at the Round Robin competition, one or more of their teams may not be able to compete as listed on the schedule. They may need to re-arrange, or sub in students using fewer teams.

Junior High: One set of written questions will be given to each student.

Senior High: One set of written questions will be given to each team at all events (consistent with the format used at State).

Any extra students (not taking the written test with a team) MUST take the written test (either with other "extras" or by themselves).

Sub-Regional and Regional Formats

Sub-Regional for Junior and Senior will be held at Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC) Heintz Center building and individuals need to bring their own lunch. Dates are picked based on when classes are not in session (winter and spring break). **We are still waiting to hear back and receive confirmation from RCTC.**

Due to the number of teams and rooms being used, teams should bring one set of equipment (pocket box and strips) to Sub-Regionals. SSC may not have enough for all the rooms.

Teams are “frozen” at Sub-Regional. Student composition of teams must remain the same from Sub-Regional to Regional to State.

Junior High Regional: 1 written (60 questions with 50 min. limit) and 4 oral rounds (45 questions each)

Senior High Regional: 1 written (60 questions with 50 min. limit) and 5 oral rounds (45 questions each)

Senior High Regionals for both tiers will be held on Friday, March 20 at SSC.

Frequently there are not enough adults at competitions. It is mandatory that teams provide at least one adult per three teams. It is *especially* important to have two officials in each room at Sub-Regionals and Regionals.

A list of “Rules and Reminders” will be read prior to the first oral round at each competition. Any suggestions or additions to this list are welcome.

Strength of Scoring

The Strength of Scoring method is used at the state meet. Strength of Scoring will be used during Junior High and Senior High Sub-Regional and Regional events. SOS points are given at the end of the meet, as follows: each time in top room = 1.5/round, each time in 2nd room= 1 pt. /round, and each time in 3rd room= .5 pts. /round.

State Meets - April 9-10, 2015 and April 13-14, 2016

Discussion

Mandatory – 1 adult/3 teams. Advisors will read or judge at all competitions. We require two adults for every three teams. Schools with more than 3 teams must supply another adult (parent, teacher, principal) to serve as reader or judge. Schools with fewer teams will be asked and encouraged, but for schools with more than 3 teams—it is mandatory. (At Round Robins we need at least 1 adult per room, but 2 is best.) **If a school does not abide by this rule, and if there are not enough adults at the Round Robin competition, one or more of their teams may not be able to compete as listed on the schedule. They may need to re-arrange, or sub in students using fewer teams.**

Senior High Sub-Regional and Dates

Many schools have conflicts. These included:

KW girls state basketball March 18-22, Rushford-Peterson seniors leave March 21 for senior class trip, Houston-Caledonia-Mabel-Canton, Fillmore Central-Spring Grove- have large group contest on Monday, March 16.

NOTE: On Wednesday it was learned that date was actually March 17.

Jake from Mayo suggested we alter Option 1 for Regional and it would be Friday, March 20 combined at SSC.

Sub-Regional- A- Tuesday, March 17

Sub-Regional- AA-Weds, March 18

Regional -Combined on Friday, March 20

Advisors suggested we remove the pizza option if we combined Regional and have all students in the building.

Determining Tiers for Junior and Senior High will be done the same as 2013-14. Total teams are divided in half using the most current enrollment figures from MDE.

How is the 5th state team determined?

Alberto suggested using the written score to determine the third place winner, rather than overall score. The group did not like this idea.

General idea would be to keep the same system as last year.

Alberto suggested looking at school calendars for a day off in March, go to their building.

Tim suggested going back to a 40-60 choosing.

We will leave it as is for 2014-15, but come up with other options and vote next year.

Student Behavior (Code of Conducts)

Each team is required to submit a Code of Conduct, signed by each student competing in Knowledge Bowl. Teams do not need to be set, just have all students sign the form. Advisors should complete this and bring it to the first competition or fax/email to SSC.

The following rules for students during the competition will be enforced:

- Electronic devices will be collected by advisors prior to the start of the competition
- Students will not be allowed to wear hats.
- Tables must be clear (except for scratch paper and pencils).
- Students must remain quiet and at their table after the written round, until all teams are finished.

A more detailed list of rules/reminders will be read to students prior to the first oral round.

Miscellaneous Information**FYI - "Conference" meets**

"Conference" meets (outside of the Service Cooperative's Knowledge Bowl™ programs) can't technically be called Knowledge Bowl, since it is a trademarked program. If your conference and AD have separate competitions, it needs to be called something else.

SSC cannot provide question sets. Conference meets will need to order these on their own. Companies that have been used by teams in our region are: Academic Hallmarks (www.greatauk.com) and Questions Unlimited (www.qunlimited.com).

Awards

Junior High--Certificates are given for participation in the season, Sub-Regionals and Regional competitions. A team trophy and individual medallions will be awarded to the top 3 teams at each Regional. Plaques go to the top three teams for Round Robins.

Senior High--Certificates are given for participation in the season, Sub-Regional and Regional. Regional: Medallions go to the individual members of the top 3 teams in each tier and a team trophy. Plaques go to the top three teams for Round Robins.

State Meet

The two-tier system is used at State. Determination of which schools will be placed in A and AA at State is made after each region's Regionals when all the teams going to State have been determined. Southeast can send five (5) teams.

The number of teams that each region can send to the State Meet is based on the number of teams sent from each region, based on the previous year's participation. The teams advancing must pay their own expenses.

The Southeast Service Cooperative must send the following persons to State: Regional Coordinator, 2 Computer Operators (students), 2 Judges, 1 Reader. We pay expenses (lodging and mileage) for judges, readers and

computer operators, and request that teams participating at the state event help recruit the computer operators. Anyone familiar with Knowledge Bowl can serve in these positions, especially advisors from teams not going to State. Please consider volunteering!

A state t-shirt design contest is outlined in the handbook. Advisors should inform their students of this contest in case anyone is interested in submitting a design. Information will be sent to art teachers. Please mention this at your school.

Reminders

Consistency among advisors/adults has been an issue. Please review the rules (and ask any "helper" you bring) prior to the start of the season.

Competitions will begin promptly.

The following handouts can be found on the SSC website

Handbook

2014-15 Dates (draft) with Senior High Sub-Regional/Regional Options

Student Academic Program Fees

Round Robin Schedule – Junior High

Round Robin Schedule – Senior High

Junior High Tier Listing

Senior High Tier Listing

Code of Conduct Form – Junior High

Code of Conduct Form – Senior High

Competition Reminders – Junior High

Competition Reminders – Senior High

Equipment Order Form (also in Handbook)

Brochure for Coaches Clinic

2014 State Scores and News Release

List of Top Placing Teams (by year)

Knowledge Bowl Participation (2013-14)

State Advisory Council Minutes

Number of Teams/Region to State Formula