

**Knowledge Bowl Advisors Meeting - September 20, 2010**  
**Southeast Service Cooperative – 4:00-5:30 pm**  
**(and via ITV in Houston, Kenyon-Wanamingo, Pine Island)**

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***PLEASE NOTE and MARK YOUR CALENDARS:***

**The dates for Senior High Knowledge Bowl Sub-Regionals at RCTC have been changed to:**  
**Tier A – Tuesday, March 15, 2011 and Tier AA – Wednesday, March 16, 2011**  
**Regionals remain the same at SSC:**  
**Tier A – Thursday, March 17, 2011 and Tier AA – Friday, March 18, 2011**

**Contact information:**

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*Regional Coordinator*

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Lakes Country Service Cooperative

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Advisors introduced themselves, what school they are from and how long they've been involved in KB.

**2010-11 Dates & Round Robins Schedule**

Junior and Senior dates have been emailed to advisors (be sure the date in bottom corner is the most recent) and can also be found on the website.

**ROUND ROBINS**

- We can accommodate 18 teams at a time at the Southeast Service Cooperative for Round Robins.
- Regarding the number of alternates allowed at Round Robins, we allow "extra" alternates at Round Robins, but only 6 students take written (junior high)/5 students take written (senior high). Extra alternates will take the written test (either individually or with other extras).
- Round Robins will be held at the Southeast Service Cooperative Conference Center. Teams can choose to attend either a morning session (9:00 - 11:30 am) or an afternoon session (12:30 - 3:00 pm) each month. We provide coffee and a pop machine is available for individuals to purchase their own.
- The written round is 60 questions and taken by all students (including extra alternates—either individually or with other "extras"). Requiring all students to take the written round eliminates wandering students with nothing to do.
- Advisors should request the days/times they would like their teams to compete.
- Let Kirsten or Katie Sue know as soon as possible if there will be changes in the number of teams or if changes need to be made to the round robin schedule.
- Snow Days - Dates have changed to accommodate school closings/early release. Most current dates can be found in Student Academic Dates document, dated 9/7 or after.

**Competition Format**

- 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.)

- 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 emailed to advisors and 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 should plan to read or judge at Round Robins and Regional competitions. Since we need two adults for every three teams, schools with 3 or more teams will need to supply another adult (parent, teacher, principal) to serve as reader or judge at Sub-Regional or Regional. Schools with fewer teams will be asked, but for schools with 3 or more teams—it is mandatory. (At Round Robins we need at least 1 adult per room, but 2 is best.)
- 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 in order to follow the state format.
- Any extra students (not taking the written test with a team) MUST take the written test (either with other “extras” or by themselves).

## Fees

Fees remain the same (see below).

### Junior High Fees

- MEMBERS: \$265 for the first team, \$240 for each additional team (up \$5/team)
- NON-MEMBERS: \$530 for the first team, \$580 for each additional team (up \$10/team)

### Senior High Fees

- MEMBERS: \$355 for the first team, \$295 for each additional team (up \$5/team)
  - NON-MEMBERS: \$710 for the first team, \$590 for each additional team (up \$10/team)
- Districts will be invoiced after the season starts and the number of teams has been determined.*

### Other costs schools may incur (for planning purposes)

- Local Competition Days  
*3 half days for Round Robins, 1 full day for Sub-Regionals, 1 full day for Regionals*
  - \*\* Substitute Teacher for Advisor
  - \*\* Transportation to/from Rochester
  - \*\* Lunch at Sub-Regionals and Regionals - *Domino's is what we've used previously.*
- State Competition Costs - *2 full days for State*
  - \*\* Substitute Teacher for Advisor
  - \*\* Transportation to/from Brainerd
  - \*\* Team Expenses - *Hotel Accommodations and Meals*
  - \*\* Expenses for One Extra Adult

## Contact information updates

Be sure we have all your information and that it is correct. Include your home/cell phone number and any other email addresses. We will use this in case we need to contact you after hours (i.e. cancellations, postponements, etc.).

## Communication

- Most correspondence will be done via email and posting on the SSC website. All schedules and scores will be emailed to you and will be posted on the website ([www.ssc.coop](http://www.ssc.coop)). Click on the Programs tab at the top and select Knowledge Bowl. 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](http://www.ssc.coop). Advisors should provide home/cell phone numbers for after-hours communication. If there is questionable weather, the website will also say that the status of the competition.
- “Snow Days” have been built into the Round Robin schedule.

## Sub-Regional and Regional Formats

- Junior High Regional 1 written (60 questions with 50 min. limit) and 4 oral (45 questions)
- Senior High Regional 1 written (60 questions with 50 min. limit) and 5 oral (45 questions)
- Sub-Regionals will be held at the Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC) Heintz Center building. Lunch options will be decided closer to Sub-Regionals.

- 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.
- The Regionals will be held at the Southeast Service Cooperative.

### 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.

### Discussion Topics

Lunch options for Sub-Regional and Regional: SSC will check further, but the group seemed satisfied with Dominos or bringing their own lunches.

Evaluations indicated that about half of the respondents were interested in additional competitions. SSC will look into scheduling a senior high competition on a Friday late afternoon/evening. Details will be sent as they become available.

Consistency among advisors/adults seems to be a problem. Although the questions are reviewed while the students are taking their written round, not all answer options can be covered. The group discussed having a small group of advisors (with representation from many subject areas) review the questions prior to the competition.

Number of rounds in Sub-Regional and Regional will remain the same.

Competitions will begin promptly.

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. SSC will check several organizations/colleges to see about getting volunteers to help.

The list of "Rules and Reminders" that is read prior to the first oral round will be sent to all advisors to review and suggest additional points or changes.

New rules this year:

During 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.

### 2010-2011 Handbooks

The same handbook is used for junior and senior high. The only difference is the number of students/team and junior high doesn't have a State competition. Senior high handbooks have been mailed to senior high advisors. If a junior high advisor would like one, they will be available at Round Robins.

### "Conference" meets

- There cannot be any "conference" meets outside of the service cooperative's Knowledge Bowl™ programs, since it is a trademarked program. If your conference and AD have competitions going, you will need to call it something else with your team your "conference".
- In addition, SSC cannot provide question sets. Conference teams will need to order these on their own. Companies that have been used by teams in our region are: Academic Hallmarks ([www.greatauk.com](http://www.greatauk.com)) and Questions Unlimited ([www.qunlimited.com](http://www.qunlimited.com)).

### Equipment

Order equipment directly from Lakes Country (see handbook).

## Student composition of teams (teams are set at Sub-Regional)

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

## Awards

- **Junior High**--Certificates are given for participation in Round Robins, Sub-Regionals and Regional competitions. A team trophy and individual medallions will be awarded to the top 5 teams at Regional.
- **Senior High**--Certificates are given for participation in Round Robin competitions, the season and Regional (not all teams compete in Round Robins). Regional: Medallions go to the individual members of the top 5 teams in each tier and a team trophy. Plaques go to the top three teams in each tier for Round Robins.

## Student Behavior (Code of Conduct)

The group decided that each team will be required to submit a Code of Conduct, signed by each student competing in Knowledge Bowl. Advisors should complete this and bring to the first competition.

## State Meet

- The State competition will be April 7-8, 2011 (Thursday & Friday) at Cragun's in Brainerd. The two-tier system is used at State. Determination of which schools will be placed in A and AA at State is made after Regionals when all the teams going to State have been determined. **New this year...Southeast can send six (6) teams in 2011.**
  - The number of teams that each region can send to the State Meet has changed due to number of teams from each region in 2009-2010. Southeast can now send six teams (rather than five).
  - After discussion about how to determine tier configuration and how many teams from each tier will advance, it was decided to divide teams in half (based on MDE grades 9-11 enrollment). Half will be designated as Tier A and half as Tier AA.
- The teams competing must pay their own expenses. Number of teams sent from each region is based on previous year's participation. The Southeast Service Cooperative must also send the following persons to State: Regional Coordinator, 2 Computer Operators (students), 2 Judges, 1 Reader
- We pay for lodging and mileage for judges, readers and computer operators, and request that teams participating at the state event help recruit them. 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.

Email Attachments:

Contact information for advisors (Junior and Senior High)

Round Robin Schedules (Junior and Senior High)

List of 2010-2011 Dates (updated 9/23/2010)