



February 12th, 2024

Dear Science Olympiad Coach:

Please read the following letter containing important information about the competition day on Saturday, Feb 24, 2024. We have a Butler University Science Olympiad website this year where most of this info can be found: <https://www.butler.edu/arts-sciences/sci-olympiad/>.

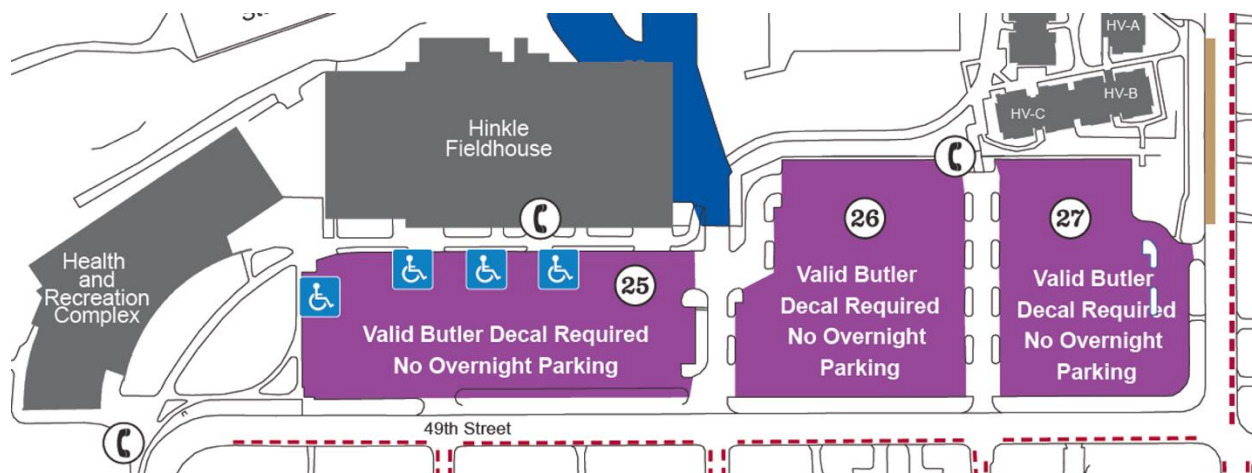
CELL PHONE POLICY

As in prior years, we have the following policy about cell phone usage in the event spaces. If a team is observed taking pictures or using a cell phone outside of a competition room in a way that suggests the team is being dishonest, a coordinator can disqualify the team from that event whether or not they were scheduled to compete at that time. Furthermore, if an event coordinator at any point sees a cell phone in a competition room, prior to or during an exam, the coordinator has the right to disqualify the team. Only the event coordinator can disqualify a team. Grievances regarding cell phones filed by a team with the Regional Director will not be honored. If a competitor sees a cell phone during an exam, he/she should discreetly notify the event coordinator. ***Coaches are encouraged to tell competitors not to bring phones to competition sites to avoid problems.*** The only time cell phones may be allowed is during events where exams are not given, such as construction events.

PARKING

The buses may load and unload students on campus near their destination. After that they should park in the Hinkle lot in the middle section south of the football field. It is lot # 26 on the map below and the area will be coned off. Individual vehicles may find space in the other sections of the Hinkle lot or the parking garage on Sunset. The garage is expected to be in regular operation that day with hourly rates.

Less than 60 minutes	FREE
60-90 minutes	\$2
90+ minutes	\$3
2+ hours	\$4
3+ hours	\$5
4+ hours	\$6
5+ hours	\$7
6+ hours	\$8



FOLDER

Your team folder will be available at 7:00 am on Saturday, February 24th in the Levinson Family Hall lobby (see attached map). Most materials contained in the folder will also be sent via e-mail and posted on our website. Enclosed in this folder you will find:

- 1) a list of team numbers and home base assignments (on the Events Schedules sheet).
- 2) a General Schedule of the Day's Events. (attached to this email)
- 3) a final Schedule of Competition Events for Division B or Division C – any minor changes will be posted at the registration desk. (attached to this email)
- 4) a campus map (attached to this email)
- 5) a Code of Conduct Form - each team must file a completed form at the registration desk the day of the event. (attached to this email)
- 6) nametags - students must wear a nametag to gain admission to competition venues.
- 7) a sample Appeal Form - each event coordinator will be given Appeals Forms to be used in the unlikely scenario in which procedural questions cannot be resolved amicably and simply through dialog between coach and coordinator.
- 8) a sample Code of Conduct Violation Form - each event coordinator will be given a supply of Code of Conduct Violation Forms to be used in the unlikely scenario in which the spirit of the competition is violated by unsavory behavior exhibited by a student, coach, or parent.

COMPETITION

Competition starts promptly at 8:00; participants who are late will not be given extra time. It is necessary to stick to the printed schedule. This is especially important as we approach the time of the award ceremony, since we will not be able to compute the team scores to determine who advances to the State Science Olympiad until the last event scores are tallied.

INTERNET ACCESS

Most rooms will have a computer in it that you can use. The access code should be in the room on the day of the event or will be provided at the registration desk.

Be sure to check the state site often in case of rule changes *especially Forestry as it has a narrowed tree list from the National Forestry event list.*

<https://indianascienceolympiad.org/forms-and-files/rule-clarifications-2/>

LUNCH

Students should either bring their own lunch or purchase a lunch at the Butler food service. Two options are available. Students may visit the cafeteria on the second floor of Atherton Union or Plum Market on the first floor .

Coaches (one coach and two assistants) are invited to a free complimentary lunch in the Ford Salon in Robertson Hall (see attached map) from 11:30 to 1:00. Please stop by and enjoy a good meal and conversation with other coaches and the directors of the Butler Regional.

DISPUTES

In the unlikely possibility that a coach or student disputes the way that the event is being run, the event coordinator will try to resolve the dispute in a manner that is consistent with the rules as spelled out in the student manual and fair to all competitors. If resolution is not possible, the coach may request from the coordinator an appeal form that is to be completed by both of you and given to another event coordinator OR brought to the registration desk in Atherton Center within one hour after termination of your event. An assistant or coordinator will receive the form and call me. I will muster an appeals committee that will rule on the appeal.

Note that there is to be no verbal harassing of an event coordinator by any student, coach or guest of the team. Any such occurrence results in automatic disqualification of that team from your event at the discretion of the event coordinator.

PICTURES

We have several student volunteers that will be taking pictures throughout the day of the events and settings around the campus. The special slide show from 3:15 to 4:00 will be presented in the Reilly Room before the awards ceremony. Copies of the slideshow will be made available sometime shortly after the event day, likely within two weeks. Please remember to have all students and parents sign the picture form and hand it in at the registration desk on the 24th.

AWARDS CEREMONY

The award ceremony is scheduled to begin at 4:00. Division B and Division C medals will be awarded first, followed by school awards. This year we will be giving medals for the first four places in each event. The top four Division B teams and the top four Division C teams will receive plaques. Because of the size of our regional this year, **the top six teams in Division B and the top four Division C teams** qualify to compete in the Indiana State Science Olympiad Tournament on March 23rd at Purdue Northwest. Teams will receive official advancement letters at the awards ceremony with details about state tournament. Remember that schools with multiple teams, only **one** team can receive a plaque and advance to state tournament. Whichever of the multiple teams' total score is best advances. All teams are eligible to receive medals in individual events.

Teams advancing to the State Tournament need to read the tournament letter and respond to the tournament directors as soon as possible. Planning for these events is tight.

CAREERS IN SCIENCE

Many of our event coordinators are professionals from the area. If your students are interested in careers in any of the event categories, I would encourage you to encourage them to talk with the event coordinators after the competitions. I am sure the coordinators would be happy to talk with your students about careers paths and options. For example, nearly all the engineering and technology events are coordinated by engineers from local companies, members from the Indianapolis crime lab run our forensic type events, the meteorology event is coordinated by a meteorologist who works at the airport, Butler science faculty are hosting many of the chemistry, physics, and biology events, and the list goes on. We can host a regional because these volunteers give their time. **Be sure to thank them as you see them throughout the day.**

We wish to express our gratitude to you for the time and energy that you have donated to helping make this Regional Science Olympiad a fun and rewarding experience for the students involved. It is gratifying to see students getting so excited about science that they are willing to spend after-school hours practicing science in order to participate in this event. This is what sustains our efforts as co-directors of the Butler University Regional Science Olympiad. Furthermore, this could not be possible without the assistance of volunteers like you. Thank you.

We wish you and your team an exciting and rewarding day.

Sincerely,

Marva, Ashlee and Carl