

SW WASHINGTON REGIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes for Monday, 12 September 2011, 6:30 PM, Clark College

Members present: David Bufford, Rick Grote, Garry Lee, April Takashima, Jo Shannahan, Jerry Walsh, Cheryl Kryger

Elementary Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament

Saturday, November 19, 2011, Clark College

1. The rules and registration packets were worked on this summer by several people and have now been distributed to the ESD, previous coaches and principals, interested contact list, as well as being available online.
2. The policies for second teams and refunds is now clearly spelled out on the registration form.
3. We reviewed the status of which events will be opened and closed. Some of the open events may have to be changed to closed due to the size of the rooms, but in that case, perhaps a small space can be set aside for parent photo ops.
 - a. Open: Bamboozling Boxes, Barge Building, Paper Rockets
 - b. Closed: Metric Mastery, Pondering Powders
4. Pondering Powders will enforce the Clark College policy that students must wear long pants and closed toed shoes. Cheryl Kryger will strongly emphasize this in emails sent to the coaches by clearly stating that students who are not dressed properly may participate in the other events but will have to sit out that event. It is suggested that the event supervisor have a person assigned to checking this.
5. This year's registration fee includes a "Starter Kit." Rick Grote will be assembling them along with some help from Cheryl Kryger in putting together the conductivity testers. They will be distributed at the Coaches Clinic or by arrangement with Erin.
6. Rick Grote is putting together a coaches manual that will be available online and distributed as a hard copy at the Coaches Clinic. Cheryl (and anyone else that is willing) is helping to proofread it. Garry will help write the section on Bamboozling Boxes.
7. Erin Harwood will recruit event supervisors. Garry Lee and his Jason Lee students will handle Boxes, and Rick Grote is willing to help in Powders. She will also recruit shepherds again this year because they were so successful last year.
8. April Takashima and Jo Shannahan are willing to take care of the food (breakfast items and pizza) for the volunteers. Garry Lee has a contact at Domino's Pizza who might help us get a special deal.
9. Cheryl will check that Erin gets ribbons and prizes. We will again give out participation ribbons to all, place ribbons to the top 5 places, and special prizes to the top group in each event.
10. The Kryger boys will again handle the score room.
11. These are the events and tentative locations on campus:
 - Opening/Closing (Gym) with bleachers down so that coaches can write nametags and seating will be more comfortable.

Bamboozling Boxes (Garry would like to be in 2 rooms in PUB 258)

Barge Building (APH 101 has water)

Metric Mastery (any standard classroom)

Paper Rockets (Gaiser Student Center)

Pondering Powders (any lab)

12. There will be a donation box (something creative) offered at the tournament. It should be clever to grab attention, and be placed at the check-in table at the beginning of the day and then on stage at the end. An announcement will be made about it during the opening.
13. Since we are getting more interest every year and many schools would like to send a second team, Garry Lee suggested that we get a jump on accommodating more teams instead of reaching the point of turning them away. There are several details that would need to be worked out.
 - a. We are maxed out now at 20 as far as how many teams we can handle. Last year we had 17 different schools. If we were to get over 20 different schools and allow second teams, we could quite possibly have 30.
 - b. Running two half day tournaments with one in the morning and one in the afternoon would be more practical than two different weekends. This would be dependent on Clark College having the extra time in the rooms available.
 - c. We should also take into account how much extra cost it will be for security and facility use.
 - d. We should allow the teams to choose which time period they would prefer rather than assigning them or setting up an east versus west scheme. If their first choice is full, then they would have to attend the other.
 - e. Several board members noticed that the higher elementary science scores recently published in the local newspaper were schools that were familiar to us from ESO tournaments. This could be a selling point in getting the extra space and fee structure from Clark.
 - f. If this looks like a viable option, we should announce the possibility at this year's tournament.

Coaches Clinic

Saturday, October 8, 2011, Clark College

1. This year there will only be a single 3 hour session for elementary level from 8-11 AM. Besides covering each of the events, there should also be a short explanation on the day's schedule and procedures.
2. Our first choice for a room is APH 101. We will also need a room for check-in and food close by.
3. As soon as the room is secured, a flyer/registration will be distributed to the ESD, previous coaches and principals, and interested parties as well as being posted online.
4. Erin Harwood will arrange clock hours and presenters. Rick is willing to co-lead. Garry can present for Bamboozling Boxes and would like to be first on the schedule. When the schedule is arranged, Erin can notify the presenters.
5. April Takashima and Jo Shannahan will take care of morning snacks for everybody.

6. Cost is the same as last year: \$25 for one or two coaches, \$5 for each additional coach/parent. Many attendees do not sign up ahead of time, so we don't know for sure how many will be there. We estimate about 10 schools with 2 people each.

BPA FAIR

1. We have been offered the opportunity to participate in the BPA's annual employee volunteer fair on Tuesday, October 11, during their lunch hour from 11AM to 1 PM.
2. Rick will man the display and Cheryl will make a poster. It ought to have a lot of pictures, Some areas to focus on for recruitment would be assisting elementary coaches, tournament day help at all levels (elementary, middle and high school), help with planning and organizing tournaments, event supervisors, and serving as board members. We ought to contact David Rosi and Adam Wolfer to see if they have specific needs for the regional tournament.
3. It was suggested that we contact Deanna Phillips, a new WSO board member, to see if she might have some insights into capturing more attention.

Other

1. Finances: Rick Grote presented an overview of our finances and a proposed budget for the upcoming year. It appears that we are doing okay, but since we have no real source of income outside of donations and the elementary program, that could change. We are also aware that charges for custodial and security services could quickly erode our funds. Many thought that due to our success with the elementary program perhaps the Clark College Foundation might have donors that would be specifically interested in supporting it.
2. Lower Columbia College committed to hosting the regional tournament for 5 years. 2012 will be year three. Looking long term, the question was brought up about what LCC's plans are after that.
3. Next board meeting: Monday, 3 October 2011, at 6:30 PM, at Clark College. The main purpose will be to finalize plans for the Coaches Clinic and Elementary Invitational.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Kryger
Secretary