

## TSB Regional Guidelines Virtual Competition

The Tennessee Science Bowl operates according to the rules published by the Department of Energy's National Science Bowl. In addition to the National Science Bowl rules, the TSB will operate under the following regional guidelines:

### 1. Competition Room Guidelines

- 1.1 No observers under the age of 18, including non-competing students, may be in the competition rooms. One adult per student will be permitted to observe the competition, but they must turn in a media consent form no less than one week prior to competition and have the 2 camera set-up similar to coaches during the competition.
- 1.2 If a player's/coach's/visitor's electronic device (including, but not limited to phones, tablets, and smart watches) is audible/visible during a match, that person will be ejected from the competition. It is advised that all data connected devices be turned off or put into airplane mode to reduce the likelihood of an outside call coming in during a competition.
- 1.3 Once a team member is absent from a round, they may not rejoin the team for a later part of the competition. Note: This rule does not apply to students who drop out of the call during a competition round. They are allowed to re-enter the round as soon as they are able.
- 1.4 Students should be in a sitting or standing position during the competition and should remain in the same position throughout the match.
- 1.5 All participants should check their surroundings to ensure they are not displaying any images (virtual, hanging on your wall behind you, etc.) that may be offensive to others. The use of virtual backgrounds are prohibited for students, coaches, and visitors. Likewise, participants should make every effort possible to minimize distractions in the background such as animals or family members walking through, televisions on in the background, or anything else that creates movement and/or sound.
- 1.6 Students will be interacting with STEM professionals and should be dressed accordingly. Business casual attire is recommended, but students should not be wearing revealing clothing, clothes with negative/offensive messages, sleepwear, or any other inappropriate clothing.
- 1.7 All parties present in the competition room must make all efforts to use the TSB naming conventions for all devices connected. The naming conventions are as follows:
  - Students: First Name Camera Type (ex: Karen Face, Karen Workspace)
  - Coach: Coach Name Camera Type (ex: Coach Dr. Nelson Face, Coach Dr. Nelson Workspace)
  - Visitor: Visitor Name Camera Type (ex: Visitor Jennifer Face, Visitor Jennifer Workspace)
  - Science Bowl Central: SBC
  - Volunteers: Role Name
    - Moderator: MOD John Begovich
    - Backup Moderator: BUMod Margaret Scheiner
    - Official Scorekeeper: OSK Chris Nelson
    - Chat Box Scorekeeper: CBSK Megan Wallace

1.8 Students might drop out of the Zoom competition room during the competition due to technical issues. As long as three students from the team remain in the call, the competition will continue. Students may rejoin the competition room once they have resolved the issue.

## **2 Team Selection**

2.1 Teams of homeschool students competing will be limited to 3 teams per county. Team 1s from different homeschool associations will be accepted before a team 2 or team 3 is accepted to compete.

2.2 Teams are required to attend a registration meeting with TSB staff the week before the competition to check camera set-up, naming conventions, and paperwork.

## **3 Competition Structure**

3.1 The competition will span two concurrent Saturdays. The first Saturday, up to 72 teams will compete in 3 preliminary rounds each. The 48 teams with the highest cumulative scores from the 3 preliminary rounds will move on to the elimination tournament the following Saturday.

3.2 NSB Competition Structure rule 2-1 states that only 32 teams may advance to the elimination tournament. TSB has been given permission by NSB to advance 48 teams to the elimination tournament.

3.3 Teams moving on to each round of elimination will be listed in alphabetical order. Team scores and rankings will not be shared with teams.

3.4 Each competition room will have 4 volunteers. The volunteers will fulfill the following roles; Moderator/Timer, Back-up Moderator, Official Scorekeeper/SBC Contact, Chat Box Scorekeeper/Recognizer.