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Hello Science Olympiad Coaches!

This document contains important information for all teams who participating, or considering participating in our Regional Science Olympiad competition. I urge you to read it in its entirety.

After consideration of the current pandemic situation in Missouri and local restrictions on our site locations, the Missouri Science Olympiad State Board of Directors made the unanimous decision that all regional tournaments will run as Satellite Science Olympiad tournaments. The Directors are working together to try to provide a fulfilling experience as possible in these unusual circumstance.

The Satellite SO model accounts for situations where students are physically attending school, but large public gatherings in a single location are prohibited. For almost all regions, the Satellite SO Regional Tournaments will take place on Saturday, February 27, with each team competing from their own school. This format requires that tournaments use technology tools that will be different from those typically used for in-person competitions. The Directors are working to identify the technology that will be employed. If a substantial number of schools in our region are still not meeting in person, a shift to the Mini SO format may be necessary, with all students participating from home.

The Satellite model does present challenges and shortfalls when compared to a traditional tournament, particularly as it pertains to hands-on activity, but will still offer the opportunity to teams highlight their preparation. Teams will need to accept these limitations willingly, understand the academic honor code will be in full force, and that they will need to abide by a safety agreement provided by Science Olympiad, Inc.

Science Olympiad categorizes events as Core Knowledge, Build, Laboratory/Hands-On or Hybrid formats. Some of these event types lend themselves well to a Satellite format, others do so only partially, and some do not lend themselves to a remote format. Below is a breakdown of the events by type and our current plans for handling these events.

The **Core Knowledge** events listed below will be run as exams. Students will be able to use the materials that would be allowed by the rules, but will not be able to use any other resources. Scores for these events will count toward team scores.

Div.	Event	Div.	Event
B/C	Anatomy and Physiology	C	GeoLogic Mapping
C	Astronomy	B	Heredity
C	Codebusters	B	Meteorology
C	Designer Genes	B/C	Ornithology
B/C	Disease Detectives	B	Reach for the Stars
B/C	Dynamic Planet	B	Road Scholar
B/C	Fossils		

The **Laboratory/Hands-On** events listed below will be converted to an exam format where students will need to interpret data to draw conclusions about a crime or crime scene. Students will be able to use the materials that would be allowed by the rules, but will not be able to use any other resources. The details of the event are still a work in progress, but these events will count toward team scores.

Div.	Event
B	Crime Busters
C	Forensics

**Hybrid** events usually consist of a combination of a hands-on portion and an exam portion. For the Satellite format, all of these events will consist only of the exam portion. There will be no hands-on components, although concepts pertinent to the hands-on component may be addressed in the exam. Students will be able to use the materials that would be allowed by the rules, but will not be able to use any other resources. Scores for these events will count toward team scores.

Div.	Event	Div.	Event
C	Chem Lab	B/C	Machines
B/C	Circuit Lab	C	Protein Modeling
B	Density Lab	C	Sounds of Music
C	Detector Building	B/C	Water Quality
B	Food Science		

Given the disparity of resources available at competing schools, combined with the challenge of judging and scoring these events remotely, all **Build** events will be run as trial events only. Teams will be able to submit videos of their devices and will be evaluated on their performance, but these events WILL NOT count toward team scores. Details of video submission requirements will be forthcoming.

Div.	Event	Div.	Event
B/C	Boomilever	B	Mousetrap Vehicle
B	Elastic Launched Gliders	B/C	Ping-Pong Parachute
C	Gravity Vehicle	C	Wright Stuff
B	Mission Possible		

The events below provide some logistical challenges that we are still working to overcome to determine if we can run the events equitably across all sites so that scores can be incorporated into team scores. Currently, for Region 2, we plan to convert Write It, Do It to Write It, CAD It as a **trial event**, using TinkerCAD from Autodesk (<https://www.tinkercad.com/>). TinkerCAD is a browser-based system that requires no software to be installed. The rules for Write It, CAD it are available at the Science Olympiad Website at [https://www.soinc.org/sites/default/files/uploaded\\_files/WriteltCadIt.pdf](https://www.soinc.org/sites/default/files/uploaded_files/WriteltCadIt.pdf).

Div.	Event
B/C	Experimental Design
B	Game On
B/C	Write It Do It

Given the logistics of the Satellite format, we will not be having an awards ceremony the day of the competition. Instead, we will schedule a Zoom-based awards ceremony in the week following the competition where individual event winners will be recognized and where state qualifiers will be identified. Medals, ribbons and trophies will be mailed following the awards ceremony.

I realize that this is large amount of information to process and I am certain you have questions. I would be happy to try to address them. Plans are still in development (I think we've grown out of infancy to toddlership), so I may not have concrete answers for every questions. It is 2020, so what else might we expect!

Thank you,  
Brian Lamp, Ph.D.