

FAQ / Elementary Science Olympiad

A = Grades 3-6th

10.1.21

Will the 2022 Competition be in person?

Yes, as of now we are planning for a full in person competition. Any COVID rules/regulations at the time of the event will be followed. SJCOE will communicate any changes with head coaches.

What is an Event Manager?

An Event Manager will be responsible for running the event on the competition day. He/She also prepares the test, gathers supplies, recruits volunteers and does the set up the morning before the competition. During the competition, the EM ensures all teams are given the same time and opportunity to test. After the competition, the EM brings all scores to the scoring room for input.

What does the head coach do?

The team head coach is responsible for getting information from SJCOE to all students, parents, teachers and helpers at your school. The team coach usually attends the meetings at SJCOE and is responsible for turning in all required paperwork. Some teams have extra “coaches” who help the students learn a specific event. These “event coaches” usually get their information from the team coach who is in contact with SJCOE.

What is Impound?

Impound means your students need to bring something to the Event Manager during the scheduled impound before the first block of time starts. Usually the students are leaving their device they will use; sometimes it is a “guess/estimation” that the students are leaving before the competition starts.

What if I miss impound because of traffic, illness, pulled over for a ticket, etc.

Unfortunately, we cannot make exceptions regardless of circumstance for missing impound. Most Event Managers will still let students participate if the impound is late, but their score will be placed in a lower tier.

What is a lower tier?

Event Managers rank teams 1st place through ---# of teams participating, according to their score. If a team is put in a lower tier because of: missing impound, device doesn't meet specification, etc., that team is placed after all scores that are in first tier – even if their score is higher than a team that is in the first tier. It is very important to read all rules!

Does my team need to compete in all 20 events?

No. Your team may compete in whatever interests your students and they have time for.

I can't find any handouts or extra information about one of the events.

Why isn't it posted?

The rules for each event are posted in the current year rule book posted online. Some Event Managers will provide additional information on their event and we will post online. It is not required that EMs give additional information. We hope that you will be able to prepare your team, give exposure to the topic AND have some fun during the process – using the rules provided.

What if we have less than 18 students on a team?

It is OK to have a smaller team of less than 18 students. However, remember it is a team competition. Having less than 5 students may prevent another school with a full team from participating. We can only register 50 teams. Once we've reached 50 teams, a wait list is started.

Does the County provide t-shirts?

No, your school may choose to create and purchase team shirts if desired.

What is a journal?

Some events require each student to impound a journal. The journal should show notes, pictures, brainstormed ideas, etc. about the process of preparing for that event.

Can the team turn in one journal?

No, each student is required to turn in their own journal with their own notes.

How do I know what section my team is in?

When your team registered by turning in "Registration Form" a section number (1-5) was assigned.

If there is a schedule conflict, can my teams go to another section time on schedule?

No, your team must go to their assigned section when scheduled. If your school has two teams, both teams are assigned to the same section.

What if we feel something was unfair and we want to appeal?

There will be no appeals for the 2021-2022 competition.

After the awards, where can my student pick up his/her ribbon?
Only the coaches are given the full awards report after the awards ceremony. The coach may pick up any ribbons from the ribbon table.