

To: Olympiad Coaches

From: Paul Cerpovicz, East Georgia State College, School of Mathematics and Science

Re: Regional Division "C" Science Olympiad - February 15, 2020

Greetings from East Georgia State College! We are extremely happy to be hosting another Division C Regional Science Olympiad and are looking forward to seeing each of you on our campus this coming February for a wonderful tournament! This letter will provide you with some general information about the Olympiad that will be held at East Georgia State College. The information below should be considered **tentative**, as it may be updated periodically. I will be contacting you VERY often between now and the day of the tournament. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me!

Please visit the East Georgia State College Science Olympiad (EGASO) webpage at <http://www.ega.edu/science-olympiad> for directions to our campus, maps of the campus and event locations, a tentative schedule of event times, sign-ups for each event, descriptions of the events, and links to other resources. If some of these links are not yet active, they will be soon!

Be sure to periodically check the Georgia Science Olympiad (GASO) website <https://statescioly.org/ga> for updated event rules, as well as the EGASO website for changes to event times and room locations.

Guidelines for the day:

1) Registration will be from 7:30 a.m. until 8:20 a.m. on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at the help/information desk in the Luck Flanders Gambrell lobby (see map). Upon arrival, coaches should:

- a) Be sure that a **Waiver Form** signed by parent(s) is turned in for each team member
- b) Be sure that each team member has turned in a signed **Emergency Medical Information Form**
- c) Turn in their **official team rosters** listing each team member
- d) Inquire about any schedule changes or room changes
- e) Receive a registration packet
- f) Get the location for the teams' base camp room

Please be sure to arrive early enough to check in since **the first events will begin promptly at 8:30 am**. You should allow time for parking, registration, finding your base camp room, familiarity with the campus, and any early impounds of event devices. Signs will be posted and campus personnel will be available to help with directions or escort teams to their base camps. **NOTE: Students can begin impounding devices for early events at 8:15 am (see the Event Schedule). This will give students participating in an event at 8:30 time to impound their devices themselves.**

2) There are a number of restaurants within a 5-10 minute drive from campus (Subway, Mexican, Chinese, McDonalds, Hardees, Wendy's, Taco Bell Burger King, Zaxby's, and more.). The Registration/Help desk in the Student Center can assist you with the directions to any of these if you wish. The college café and Common Grounds Coffee Shop will be open as well – I will get back to you with menus for these places soon.

3) Remember that each team must have its own coach so that any school arriving with more than one team should have a coach for each team. No team will be allowed to register without its coach being present. At the time of registration, each team must turn in a completed Team Roster Form. Please be sure that the **complete** name of your school and each student is given during registration. If your school is bringing more than one team, please be sure to indicate which student is on which team (i.e. Team 1 vs. Team 2). All students and their coach(es) must securely wear their assigned wristbands throughout the tournament. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

4) Please inform me well ahead of time if special accommodations are needed for any student.

5) School teams will be assigned home base camp locations upon registration. Please be sure that your students respect the property and keep the room(s) clean. Teams should bring garbage bags, paper towels, and cleaning supplies with them. Teams should also be reminded to clean up after themselves upon completion of an event. The awards ceremony may be delayed if any base camp rooms are not cleaned up.

6) Please remind any parents or friends that accompany the Olympiad competitors of the guidelines for the tournament. Team members must not have any contact with coaches, parents, or other spectators during a competition. **No one other than team participants will be allowed in any competition area at any time.** Spectator events in the gym (Boomilever, Wright Stuff, Gravity Vehicle, and Ping Pong Parachute) will be roped off, and viewing areas will be provided for coaches, parents, and other audience members.

Cell phone use during a competition by any student (including text messaging, and photography) is not allowed at any time and will result in immediate disqualification.

The only exception to this may be with the Sounds of Music event where competitors may use a cell phone app during set up to tune and adjust the pitches on their devices. For some activities, the event supervisors may collect cell phones before the start of the event.

7) Be sure that students come well prepared with items and materials that are allowed and/or required for each event. In particular, many events require either safety glasses or safety goggles of a specific classification, and/or proper dress code. Upon their discretion, event supervisors **may** provide safety equipment to teams that are unprepared, **but** those teams will be ranked below all other teams in that event that do come prepared.

8) For those schools with multiple teams, remember that the teams must stay together and compete in each event at the same time. For certain sign-up device events that include an exam component, teams from the same school need to sign up for consecutive times. If one team changes the time of its event, the other team must do so also. Non-compliance will result in the disqualification of all but the first team to compete in that event.

9) **Impounded devices** must be submitted to the **event supervisor for that event** at the specified impound area during the time frame indicated on the Event Schedule. Only the participating student(s) in that event or their coach may impound a device. Please see the Event Schedule for impound times for relevant events.

The event supervisor will require the signature of the person(s) dropping off a device for impound so DO NOT just drop off devices to a site, but rather to an official person manning the site. All impound sites will have a supervisor with a sign-in sheet. Those dropping off impounded items must be sure to sign in. Please make sure that impounded devices are clearly labeled with your school name, the team name, the name of the coach, the event name, and the time when you are scheduled to compete. Teams need to be sure that their devices are completely ready when they are dropped off for impound. **There are not to be any alterations of devices to make them compliant once they are impounded.** No team member, coach, or any other person may reclaim the device to re-inspect, modify or in any other way alter the impounded device. Please read the guidelines and be sure that your device and any required materials are complete and proper before it is dropped off. Once the students drop off their device and sign the drop off sheet, they are to **TOTALLY LEAVE** the impound area and not return until the scheduled time for their event. The event supervisors will inspect the devices and evaluate them accordingly.

10) The emergency phone number at East Georgia State College is 478-455-0125 (campus security cellular number).

11) The awards ceremony will be held in the campus auditorium in the Luck Flanders Gambrell Building. We are going to try to begin the Awards Ceremony at 4:30 and (hopefully) conclude it by 5:30. Any awards and invitations to state tournaments presented at the awards ceremony are subject to recall. Scores will not be official until Monday, February 17 at 5:00 pm.

12) We are hoping to plan other activities on campus throughout the day for those participants who may have “free” time between events. We hope to have the campus Game Room (pool table, table tennis, etc.) available, and hopefully some other activities as well. I will provide you with more up-to-date information on this a bit later.

13) With a few exceptions, all events will follow the event rules in the 2020 Coaches Manual and Rules for Division C (grades 9-12). Below are a few comments about some of the events:

Students are not to bring any computer or Wi-Fi enabled device to ANY event unless specified below. With a few exceptions, only standard, programmable or non-programmable calculators (depending on the guidelines of the event) are allowed.

Boomilever: We will have a sandhopper for this event with a metal loading block. Please take careful note of the construction and mounting guidelines described in the Coaches Manual. *There will **not** be an impound for this event.* Please have students bring their Tower with them when they arrive and be sure that their device is clearly labeled with the school name and the names of the team members for that event.

Gravity Vehicle: *This is an impound event.* This event will be held in the campus gymnasium. The track surface will be the typical hardwood surface used for a gym basketball court. *Students will be required to impound their vehicles, spare parts and logs.* Only basic programmable calculators (i.e. similar to TI-83) will be allowed – no laptops, iPads, tablets, cell phones or any type of computer device. The track length will be posted after the impound period is finished. Be sure that the device is clearly labeled with the school name and the names of the team members. Be sure to follow the impound instructions given above (9). Devices impounded after the designated impound time may compete but will be ranked below all other competitors.

Detector Building: A laptop MAY be used for this event to connect to the device – however no Internet access is allowed.

Wright Stuff: This event will be held in the campus gymnasium. The dimensions of the gym are roughly 33 m x 40 m x 7 m high. The height is to the lowest projections, which are the raised basketball hoops - the center of the gym is higher than 7 m. Be aware that there are numerous beams below the ceiling that cannot be removed, however there is a section where there are fewer beams and the competition will take place in that area. We will do our best to turn off the HVAC system during the time of this event. Flight log books will **not** be required. Be sure that the team’s device is clearly labeled with the school name and the names of the team members.

Ping Pong Parachute: At this point, this event will be held in the campus gymnasium. The dimensions of the gym are roughly 33 m x 40 m x 7 m high. The height is to the lowest projections, which are the raised basketball hoops, and the center of the gym is higher than 7 m. Be aware that there are numerous beams below the ceiling that cannot be removed, however there is a section where there are fewer beams and the competition will take place in that area. The event supervisor will provide a Model Z launcher from NERDS, Inc. (<https://www.nerdsinc.com/products/model-z>)

Protein Modeling: This event will be held in a PC computer lab with the Jmol/JSmol program available. Participants are NOT to bring their own laptop computers for this event. The prebuild model, along with its 4” x 6” notecard as described in the event guidelines will be impounded during the time period indicated on the event schedule. Please be aware of the rules clarification for this event at: <https://www.soinc.org/events/rules-clarifications>.

Chemistry and Forensics Labs: Please be aware that students need to bring any or all of the items listed on the Recommended Lab Equipment list posted on the National Science Olympiad website. Teams not bringing these items will be at a disadvantage as Event Supervisors will not provide Recommended Lab Equipment. A penalty of up to 10% may be given if a team brings prohibited lab equipment to the event. All teams should also bring any necessary safety equipment and wear proper clothing for the event(s) they participate in.

Sounds of Music: Teams will sign up for a specific time block for this event. Teams will be given the exam portion of event simultaneously then a team (or a team member) will be pulled out to another room to set up and test that team's device. All teams need to report to the designated room on the event schedule at their proper time with their instrument and prepared to take the exam.

14) Since many of the events will be held at multiple time slots, sign-up times will be available for all events. Teams can sign up for times starting on January 27th at 7:00 pm by going to the EGASO website: <http://www.ega.edu/science-olympiad>.

Thank you again for your participation in the Georgia Science Olympiad! The Olympiad is a fantastic opportunity for promoting science and mathematics and giving students the chance to express their scientific interest and talents. We are very excited about this event and are looking forward to seeing all of you in February!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me either by e-mail at cerpovicz@ega.edu or by phone at 478-289-2071. Also, be sure to periodically check our webpage and the Georgia Science Olympiad website for postings of any event changes or of new information. I am looking forward to meeting all of you on February 15th!

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