

## **Update 1 – 9/18/25**

Welcome to another year of Science Olympiad! I hope everyone had a great summer!

### **Tournament**

The regional tournament this year will be on March 21st at Haslett HS. We're at Haslett because East Lansing has a major building project this year, but we hope to be back next year. This year, Heather Peterson will be taking over as tournament director, but I'll still be around helping. You'll receive general science olympiad information from me, and when we get closer to the tournament, Heather will be sending you tournament information.

This will be the same weekend as the State Band and Orchestra Solo and Ensemble, but it will take place at Okemos HS. So we hope that's a doable conflict.

We will again be asking all teams to provide 2 volunteers for the tournament. Last year we had a lot of MSU student volunteers; I don't know if they'll have transportation to Haslett. Volunteers representing Div B teams may only help on Div C events and vice versa. Volunteers will get lunch and a light breakfast.

### **Fees**

We just received a grant from the R.E. Olds Foundation that will cover the cost of the tournament. So we are changing the regional fee to \$0. This is a grant for this year so we can't make any promises about future years. We would suggest to those teams who have grant money or other money set aside to pay the regional fee to donate it and to encourage your parents to donate to hopefully allow us to not charge again next year. <https://www.region11miso.org/donate/>

The early registration state fee will be \$275 for a primary team and \$135 for an alternate team. Early registration ends Dec 19, after that the fees go up. Please register before Dec. 19th. If sending a check, the check needs to be received by Dec. 19th.

Give the state a few days to get their website changed. A few of you have registered already. I just sent an email to the state, asking them how we should handle this. Give me a week or so and we'll get this straightened out.

### **Rules, Conflicts**

The rules were released the day after Labor Day. <https://www.soinc.org/rules-2026> Be sure to look at the conflicts. If you look at the national tournament schedule on the second to last page of the rules, you'll see, for example, that Circuit Lab, Dynamic Planet, and Water

Quality are held at the same time for the same teams. The conflicts you see on the national schedule are the same conflicts you'll see at all your tournaments this year.

### **Clinic, Workshops**

There will be a free online coaches clinic Saturday, Nov 1st. I encourage it. See the state website for more information. <https://misciolly.org/workshops>

There will be a student and coach in-person workshop at MSU on Saturday Dec 6th. If students have supplies or partially built devices, they should bring them for some personalized help. If students don't have a start, they should still attend to get some ideas. I think it's going to be \$10 per person. If the date is inconvenient, there are more workshops on the East and West sides of the state in January. <https://misciolly.org/workshops>

### **Battle of the States Invitational**

Michigan Science Olympiad hosts an online tournament for the great lakes states called Battle of the States. It's inexpensive and they do 3 sets of events each over a 2 week period to prevent students' conflicts. I highly encourage it. <https://scilympiad.com/battleofthestates>

### **Website**

I haven't updated our website yet for this year, but I will do it this weekend. Check it for updates. Also I'll collect the emails there as well. <https://www.region11miso.org/>