

## **Update 2 – 12/1/25**

### **Workshop**

There will be an in-person student/coaches' workshop at MSU this Saturday, Dec 6. It will cover the build events and the new events. If the students have supplies or devices in the build events, they should bring them. Students will get instructions and recommendations for new builds and critiquing already built ones. It's a very hands-on workshop. I highly recommend the workshop.

It's \$10 per person or \$100 if you have a whole team going. (If you have 15 students who want to go from your varsity and JV teams together, that still counts as one team.) If parents are helping with the event, they're asked to pay the registration fee. If they're only there as chauffeur, then they don't need to. If you/your students can't make it this weekend, there are other workshops on the east and west side of the state in January. Workshop schedule and registration info at <https://misciolly.org/workshops> Scroll down a little.

### **Register**

Some teams have not registered yet and some teams have not sent in their money yet. If you have not registered or sent in your money, you need to have registered, and Michigan Science Olympiad received your money by Dec 19 or you will not be eligible for the early registration discount. The regular registration fee is an additional \$100 per primary or alternate team. Team registration info at <https://misciolly.org/registration>

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

I encourage you to attend invitationals if you are able. They are great practice for the students. I would like to especially point out an online tournament the state is putting on. It's called the Battle of the States, and students compete as a team for the state of Michigan against other great lakes area states. The cost is \$30 per team and teams in their first 2 years of existence can participate for free. The events are spread out over Dec, Jan, and Feb. The testing platform is Scilympiad. More information is on their website. <https://scilympiad.com/battleofthestates>

### **College Mentor for your Team**

The state has a program that matches college student mentors with teams that would like their help. This is a free program. If you're interested, there is more information on the state website. <https://misciolly.org/mentor-outreach-program>

### **Volunteers**

We are again asking that each team provide 2 volunteers for the regional tournament. Please start asking your parents now. We are working hard to find event supervisors for all the events so that coaches don't have to run events. Volunteers representing Div B teams may only help on Div C events and vice versa. Volunteers will get lunch and a light breakfast.

### **Tournament info**

Not much new news. The tournament will be on March 21 at Haslett HS. We don't have a fixed schedule yet, because we're still working to find event supervisors, but it will follow the national schedule. If you missed the first update, it's on the website on the Tournament Info page. <https://www.region11miso.org/tournament-info/> Your next email will come from the tournament director, Heather Peterson, in January or February with specific tournament information.

### **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://misciol.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://misciol.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/>