



SPONTANEOUS

To: World Finals Coaches & Teams

Congratulations on qualifying for the 2024 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals. We are excited to see all of you at Pearson Hall on the campus of Iowa State University to compete in the spontaneous portion of the competition.

A few general reminders:

- Please be sure to arrive at Pearson Hall **30 minutes before** your scheduled competition time.
- Pre-Competition Process:
 - **ONE team member** should check-in at the Spontaneous Registration Tent. They will be asked their long-term problem and division and their membership name and number.
 - The team will then remain together in the lawn area outside of Pearson Hall until called to a staging area by one of the Outside Holding officials.
 - Approximately 20 minutes before the team will compete, the team and **ONE coach** (or adult representative) will be directed by the Outside Holding officials to enter the building. All other coaches and supporters must remain outside.
 - Spontaneous judges will enter the Inside Holding Area and call for teams based on long-term problem and division. Please listen carefully and promptly meet the judge when called. Judges will be carrying a sign indicating which problem and division they are looking for.
 - The team will again be asked to confirm their membership name and number. At this point the coach will be directed to exit the building to wait for their team. The coach may NOT enter the spontaneous room with the team.
 - NOTHING should be taken into the room with the team. Backpacks, cell phones, cameras, watches that beep, etc must be left with the coach or parents.
- Competition Process:
 - **ALL 7 team members** are highly encouraged to participate in the spontaneous competition.
 - Upon entering the competition room, the team will be told what type of problem they will be solving (verbal, verbal/hands-on, or hands-on).
 - The judges will then direct the team where to stand and will begin reading the problem.
 - Teams will be given 2 written copies of the problem to follow along.
 - Judges may point out or demonstrate important items while reading the problem to clarify the intent of the problem.
 - **LISTEN CAREFULLY** to ALL of the directions as every problem has a unique set of rules.
 - When the judge has finished reading the problem and time has started, team members may ask the judges questions, however time will continue.

- In a verbal or verbal/hands-on, remind team members to speak loudly and clearly. If a judge cannot hear or understand a response, they will ask to have it said again, however time will continue.
- Teams may always ask a judge how much time is remaining.
- **Post Competition Process:**
 - Teams will be reminded to keep their problem a secret as all teams from their same long-term problem and division will be solving the same spontaneous problem. Please do not ask the team to break their silence until **after the award ceremony** on Friday night.
 - Teams will exit the building via the same door they entered through. If possible, an official or volunteer will announce what team is about to exit so that supporters can be ready to take photographs and cheer for their team.
 - **NO SILLY STRING IS ALLOWED ON ISU CAMPUS!!!!!!!!!!**
- **Other Important Notes:**
 - In the event of inclement weather, the team and one coach will be escorted inside the building as quickly as possible. Other supporters will have to remain outside and should therefore consider meeting up with the team after the competition at another location.
 - We work hard to remain on schedule but if your team is scheduled near mealtime, you may want to bring a light snack just in case we are running a little behind. Also, remember to keep the team hydrated!
 - If the team has a scheduling conflict or an emergency arises once on campus, please visit the Spontaneous Registration tent and ask to speak to the Problem Captain. We will do our best to accommodate the team.
 - If the team has a concern after they have competed, visit the Spontaneous Registration tent and ask to speak to the IPC.
 - **MOST IMPORTANT: RELAX & HAVE FUN!!!!** You have made it to World Finals! Enjoy it!!!!

Best of luck to all,

Kayce Caugh

International Problem Captain (IPC) for Spontaneous