


# Odyssey of the Mind



Odyssey Program  
Coordinators Training  
Fall 2018



www.nwvoices.org

1

---

---

---


---

---


---

---

---



## OVERVIEW



- Welcome and Thank You!
- Intro to Odyssey of the Mind (what)
  - VA Catoclin Region 14 & Dulles Region 16 (who)
    - Revised Allocation of LCPS Schools to Regions
  - Benefits (why)
  - Calendar of Events (when)
- Coordinator's Handbook (how)
- Key Policies
  - Purchasing School Membership
    - Up to five (5) Primary teams per membership
  - Mandatory for each team to provide one Judge and one Volunteer to support the tournament
    - Else, Team will NOT be scored. Applies to Primary, Div I, II and III Teams
- Information on the online registration system

2

---

---

---


---

---


---

---

---




## PARTICIPANTS



ANY student in grades  
Kindergarten through College

Primary Division: K- 2  
Division I: K-5<sup>th</sup> grade } Elementary School  
Division II: 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade } Middle School  
Division III: 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade } High School  
Division IV: College students



3

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---



### BENEFITS

Participants learn:

- **Team-building skills** by working in groups
- How to **effectively brainstorm**
- How to **identify the real challenge**
- How to seek **out-of-the-box solutions**
- How to **think on their feet**
- How to **present** solutions and answers **in a large group setting**
- How to **“open up” and express themselves**
- How to **work independently and as a team**

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### COMPETITION

- Preparation begins in September for February / March regional competition
- Preparation for two types of competitive events:
  - Long Term problem
    - Primary Teams: Primary Problem
    - Division I, II, III teams: Select one from five types
  - Spontaneous problem - All Teams
    - Three (3) types: Hands on; Verbal; Hands on-Verbal
    - Selection of type kept **SECRET** until tournament date
    - Must expose team to wide variety of problems of each type

Attend Coaches Training and Master Spontaneous Workshop

8

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

### LONG TERM PROBLEMS – Generic Descriptions

- **Vehicle (Problem 1):** “Teams design, build and operate vehicles of various sizes and with various power sources”
- **Technical (Problem 2):** “Teams make innovative contraptions and incorporate artistic elements into their solutions”
- **Classics (Problem 3):** “Teams write and perform skit based upon the classical -- from literature to architecture to art”
- **Structure Problem 4):** “Teams design and build structures using only balsa wood and glue which are weight tested”
- **Performance (Problem 5):** “Teams present performances that revolve around a specific theme and incorporate required elements”
- **Primary (Primary):** “Teams present performances that revolve around a specific theme and incorporate required elements”

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

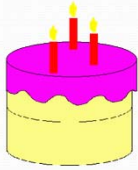
---

**The Three Components of OOTM**

**Long-Term**

**200 Points**

- Specific Rules
- Open-Ended
- Solution Presented in Skit Form (8-min)



**Spontaneous**

**100 Points**

- On the Spot
- Anything Goes
- 3 Types
  - Verbal
  - Hands On
  - Combo/Hybrid

**Style**

**50 Points**

- Elaboration of LT
- Pizzazz, Sparkle, Polish
- Team Chosen Elements

**Total 350 Points**

Long-Term + Style + Spontaneous = Total Score

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**LONG TERM PROBLEM GUIDANCE**

- Meet minimum requirements or constraints for each problem's solution which the team must consider as they develop their solution
- Example criteria for performance:
  - Must be done in 8 minutes or less
  - Must be capable of being presented within the area size specified; Actual performance site size may be larger
  - Judged in many categories – specified objective & subjective scores
  - Could garner penalty points for a variety of infractions
- After that, let the team's creativity take over!
  - Theme, set design and props, skits, characters, costumes, original song, rap, dance, acting, etc.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Training: Coaches, Master Spontaneous, Judges**

- FIRST TIME coaches must attend Coaches Training.
- Registration for Coach's Training & Master Spontaneous Workshop is done online on the website.
  - Previous Primary coaches moving up to Div I should attend Coaches Training
- Coaches Training & Master Spontaneous Workshop - \$31 /coach
  - We will advise of any Spontaneous Festivals for teams to practice
- Judges Training: NO charge. Mandatory for New & Experienced Judges!!
  - Check in opens @ 7:30 am; Training from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm
- Training Pre-Registration:
  - Emails will be sent out to all Coordinators and Coach's if you have registered online, when registration opens up
  - Training participants may pay by cash/check/credit card when registering or pay onsite
- See our website at [www.nwvoices.org](http://www.nwvoices.org) for neighboring Regions 9, 11, 12
  - Alternate Coaches Training Dates & Locations
  - Balsa Problem Workshops
  - Alternate Judges Training Dates & Locations

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**JD – SCHOOL COORDINATOR**

An Odyssey of the Mind School coordinator:

- Serves as the liaison between the Odyssey of the Mind regional organization and the participants at a specific school
- Coordinates with the school principal
- Coordinates with any external funding source, such as the PTA/PTO as applicable
- Provides timely information to coaches and teams
- Purchases the school membership(s) and manages the assignment of teams to memberships
- Makes sure that coaches and teams are registered and pay for training and the regional tournaments in a timely fashion
- Provide assistance and tips to new coaches by drawing on own experience, other experienced coaches, or regional sources.

The school coordinator may be:

- A member of the school's faculty or staff
- A coach at the school
- A Parent/Volunteer

The School Coordinators resources include:

- The regional program development coordinators
- The regional website ([www.nvvoices.org](http://www.nvvoices.org))
- The Odyssey of the Mind Program Guide
- The regions 14 and 16 private Facebook group

16

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Odyssey of the Mind Information Night**

- Schedule school library (preferred) as soon as possible
  - Objective: Identify coaches to attend **Coaches Training Oct 20, 2018;** or alternate training dates in neighboring regions
- Introduce the Odyssey of the Mind Program
  - Objective, Participants, Benefits, Costs, etc.
  - Calendar: Mandatory Training Dates and Tournament Dates
- Show an example of a Long Term Problem
- Gather contact info on Interested Students and Prospective Coaches
- Identify Experienced Odyssey Coaches
- Mandatory Requirement to Provide a Judge AND a Volunteer
- We will provide an info nite presentation file to you that you can modify as you want.

17

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**REQUIREMENTS & COSTS**

- COMMITMENT**
  - Students **TIME**
    - Teamwork Respect Creativity Open mind Positive attitude
    - Punctuality Responsibility Sense of humor Encouragement
  - Parents: Funds Time Punctuality Planning Priority Assist Coach
- School membership fee (\$135/first team, \$100/additional teams)
- Coaches and Places to meet
- Funds for long term problem (\$125-\$145/team)
- Competition registration fee (\$62/team) > **< \$50/student to participate**
- Availability on practice days and tournament dates
- One Judge and One volunteer to represent each team**
- CEUs for teachers, staff who volunteer as coaches or judges

18

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

## SEQUENCE

- Parents/students attend orientation (Sept/Oct)
- Form teams - Determine meeting dates/times
- Teams Meet (Oct - Mar): Select problem, develop solution options, develop & test solutions, finalize design (set, props, skit), build & rehearse solution; Practice wide variety of spontaneous problems
- Training for Coaches (Oct) & Master Spontaneous Workshop (Dec)
- Coordinator/Coach register teams for competition (Nov-Dec)
- Teams prepare/practice (Nov - Mar)
  
- Teams compete at Regional Tournament (Mar)
- Advancing Teams compete at State Tournament (Apr)
- Advancing Teams compete at World Finals Tournament (late May)

19

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

## TEAM FORMATION

- Teams consist of 5 to 7 members
- Teams form in many ways throughout US:
  - Gifted (as defined by the school district)
  - Try-out
  - Test
  - Lottery
  - Coaches choose
  - Coaches form
  - Coordinator forms
  - Students form
  - Teachers form

20

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

## SCHOOL MEMBERSHIPS

- Purchasing School Membership [www.odysseyofthemind.com](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com)
- One team each for Div I, II, III- Problem 1, Problem 2, Problem 3, Problem 4, Problem 5
- And, up to five (5) Primary teams per membership
- If there is more than one Division I, II, III team per problem, additional memberships must be purchased

21

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





**INFO FOR ONLINE REGISTRATIONS**

- <http://registrations.nwvoices.org/>
- If YOU are registered as a coordinator/coach/assistant coach/judge/volunteer then you DONT have to re-register again
- If YOU are NOT registered in the online system then you MUST register ASAP
- Please advise your coaches if they are NOT online they MUST register ASAP
- All registered users will receive emails with periodic updates and reminders so you don't miss out on any key dates or information
- If YOU are a registered user, then please login and update your profile in the Account Settings page.
- You can update yourself as a Coordinator / Coach / Assistant Coach / Judge / Volunteer as the case maybe.
- You can have more than 1 role at any given time.
- You will receive emails when registrations for Coach's Training, Spontaneous Workshop and Team Registrations open up.
- You can pay online by credit card or paypal or check

25

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**ONLINE REGISTRATION**

- For Coach's Training & Spontaneous Workshop – Coach's can also pay onsite by credit card, if they want.
- Judges/Volunteers must register online – the respective coach + assistant coach (if applicable) + coordinator(s) will get an email confirming their registrations.
- If a Judge or Volunteer is changed, the coach + coordinator + assistant coach will get an email with the changed info
- The reservations online portal is now a secured https connection securing your transactions and data.
- Logins –
  - On the portal when you login, you will see a home page with all of your activities/transactions
  - On the home page will be a list of registration options which will show up as soon as such registrations open up. (all registered users will get an email with this info)
  - Receipts for all transactions is available in your profile for you to download if you need them to get a reimbursement.

26

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**ONLINE REGISTRATION**

27

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**ONLINE REGISTRATION – Judges Profile**

**Judge**

School: [dropdown] Email: [dropdown]

State Experience: [dropdown] Regional Experience: [dropdown]

Positions Held (if you have judged in the past)

Sportsmanlike Behavior  Weight-In Judge  Score Keeper  Head Judge

Working Area Judge  Score Room  Problem Judge  Score Checker

Night Judge  Meeting Room  Kiosk Keeper  Sportsmanlike Handle Ctr

What problems have you judged?

Job Preference 1: [dropdown] Job Preference 2: [dropdown]

Are you representing a team?  Yes  No

Do you have any children/relatives competing?  Yes  No

Tournament Date: Mar 16th, 2019 17:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Tournament @ Briar Woods H.S.

28

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**CONCLUSIONS**

- OOTM is an excellent program given benefits realized.
- An OOTM program is only limited by the number of coaches available.
- Students who compete are all winners no matter where they place in competition.

29

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Questions?**

30

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---