



FALL 2012

WSO NEWS

Welcoming a new season of Science Olympiad

WELCOME, SOUTH CENTRAL!

HOT TOPICS

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DISCOUNT FOR NEW TEAMS: \$150

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WSO UNIFIED SCHEDULE



At the 2012 Annual Meeting, the Washington Science Olympiad Board of Directors officially sanctioned a new region in our state - South Central. Primarily based around the Yakima area, the region could draw from schools as far north as Ellensburg and Wenatchee and to the east, Tri-Cities and Walla Walla.

Diana Rhodes, Professor of Anatomy, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, instigated the effort after moving to Washington from Missouri, where her daughter had been part of Science Olympiad for four years (grades 6-9). She was disappointed to find the closest WSO tournament site was nearly 4 hours away. Correspondence with the State Director identified specific steps necessary to establish a new WSO-supported region. These included:

- Establishing a regional board that would oversee tournaments and other regional activities on an ongoing basis;
- Obtaining commitment from the tournament site, indicating an understanding of responsibilities involved in hosting a tournament; and
- Obtaining commitment from a minimum number of schools/teams.

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2012 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Key outcomes of the WSO Annual Meeting on June 30th in Ellensburg:

- **Susan Britain, Garry Lee, Michele Lumetta, Scott McComb, and Jack Stump** were elected to 2-year terms on the state board. See <http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/directors.html> for information on all state board members.
- Board of Directors will actively promote Science Olympiad team achievements (contacting school boards/advertising regional team winners).
- WSO Unified schedule was finalized: (http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/schedules/2013_wso_unified_schedule_final.xls). Trial events for 2013 are: B and C: Geologic Mapping and Green Generation.
- Registration fees for 2012-13 are: \$210 for returning teams, \$150 for new schools (those that have not competed within the last 5 years), and \$150 for schools registering 3 or more teams after January 1 (on a space-available basis).
- Yakima Valley Community College will host its first Science Olympiad tournament for the new South Central Region (see story on pages 1-2). ♦

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGNS

As most organizations' giving campaigns culminate in November, please consider Washington Science Olympiad. Contributions will be used to promote WSO and support new and returning teams.

THANK YOU!

CONTRIBUTE TO WSO VIA WCFD

Higher education and state employees can contribute online to WSO via the Washington Combined Fund Drive (Charity #1479519) at <http://www.cfd.wa.gov/donate/donateindex.html>

Your giving campaign isn't in WCFD? Just specify Washington Science Olympiad and provide address to send payment.

IMPORTANT DATES:**REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

FEBRUARY 9, 2013
YAKIMA VALLEY CC
SC REGION - B ONLY
YAKIMA, WA

MARCH 2, 2013
SEATTLE CENTRAL CC
NW REGION
SEATTLE, WA

MARCH 9, 2013
EASTERN REGION
SPOKANE, WA

MARCH 9, 2013
SW REGION
LONGVIEW, WA

MARCH 16, 2013
HIGHLINE CC
NW REGION

STATE TOURNAMENT

APRIL 13, 2013
VANCOUVER, WA

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

MAY 19-20, 2013
DAYTON, OH

WSO INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS ARE PRACTICE COMPETITIONS THAT HELP PREPARE YOUR TEAM FOR REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS. CLICK ON LINK ABOVE FOR MORE INFO – DATES/ LOCATIONS/ DIVISIONS.

**FUNDING (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)**

To accomplish the first step, Diana enlisted help from Heritage College (HC), Yakima Valley Community College (YVCC), and Educational Service District 105. While most of the people she contacted were not familiar with Science Olympiad, all were very excited about the program and the prospect of bringing it to Yakima Valley. A regional board was formed, with Matthew Loeser from YVCC selected as Chair in July.

While each of the partner institutions was willing to host a tournament, logistically YVCC was the best choice. The organizing group provided the State Director with documentation of agreement that YVCC would host the 2013 tournament for the new South Central region.

For the final requirement to establish a new region, Diana contacted schools that would be in the South Central region with a mission to convince them to commit to participate in the 2012-13 Science Olympiad season. Interest from middle and junior high schools appeared higher than from high schools, so the organizing group decided to focus on a B-division tournament only the first year.

Diana and Nina Barcenas (HC) presented a progress report at the WSO Annual Meeting. The Board was awed by what they'd accomplished in such a short time and unanimously approved the request to form the new South Central region.

If there is a down side, it's that Diana hoped her now 12th-grade daughter would be able to participate in SO this year. She WILL ... as tournament staff. ♦

SURVEY ... PLEASE RESPOND!

Last spring, coaches were asked to complete a survey asking about coaching practices ... in order to provide assistance to other coaches. Thank you to everyone who responded. If you didn't complete a survey, please go to: www.surveymonkey.com/s/VVJ3HMH and submit as soon as possible so we can pass on a summary of tips to coaches ASAP.

FORESTRY TREE LIST

Rules for Forestry (B and C) indicate that a list that includes trees students are expected to master should be sent to competing teams ASAP. A preliminary list is at: http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/tournaments/ForestryTreeList-Washington_2012_draft.doc. Event supervisors will be advised that any additional trees must be posted on the WSO web site by 2/1/13.

WSO COACHING CLINICS & INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Get a jump-start on the Science Olympiad season by attending a coaching clinic or invitational tournament. Sponsored by WSO regional boards or participating schools, learn about new events, rules changes to returning events, and coaching tips. For clinic details: <http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/meetings.html>. See

<http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/tournaments.html> for invitational tournament information.

Answers to coaches' questions (by national event supervisors): http://soinc.org/official_rules_clarif ...

NOTE: If it is in the rules manual, national supervisors will respond, "Read the rules!"

GET IN ON THE WSO 2012-13 SEASON

Registration for the 2012-13 Science Olympiad season ends **January 31, 2013**. Slots in each regional tournament are limited ... early registration ensures a spot in your first choice location. [Register now!](#)

Coaches will want to review the [unified schedule](#), which is followed at each Washington regional and state tournament. As most students compete in multiple events, the schedule helps determine the different events students are able to work toward. ♦