

Why I want to join the WSO board:

I became a Science Olympiad coach in 2008: the junior high my daughter was attending didn't have a Sci Oly team because there wasn't a teacher who was willing to coach. The school invited me to coach it as a volunteer parent, and I said yes. I had been a science docent for years and felt that Sci Oly was a natural extension. That first year, we struggled to get a dozen students on the team.

Three years later, after earning my master's in education, I joined the school as a math teacher, and continued growing the Sci Oly presence. All 3 of my own children joined Sci Oly as they entered 7th grade; we frequently had building sessions at the kitchen table. As word got out, more students joined, and we eventually had five Sci Oly teams.

When Canyon Park decided not to hold their annual invitational tournament, I chose to step up and host one at Northshore. Running an invite helped me appreciate how much work goes in behind the scenes, taught me valuable lessons about streamlining grading, and the importance of paying attention to details. We hosted five invitationals at what is now Northshore Middle School until the pandemic prevented in-person gatherings in 2021-22.

During the 2023-24 season, Northshore hosted two tournaments: an invitational in January with 30 teams and the Northwest Regionals in March with 27 teams. I helped coordinate the test writers, scorers, and supervisors for both tournaments, and worked to keep the day running smoothly. To prepare for the state competition in April, my husband and I traveled to CWU and met with their outreach coordinator. We toured the campus and selected rooms for the various building and study events. I provided logistics for the B-division teams and ran the building sign-ups for States. During the tournament, I helped with set up and co-presented during the awards ceremony.

During this past year on the WSO board of directors, I've learned a lot about the system, and I'd like to continue to serve. I believe I can be an asset to the board with my communication and organization skills.

Thanks for your consideration,
Edie Lie