



FALL 2010

WSO NEWS

Welcoming a new season of Science Olympiad

WSO IS A WASHINGTON CHARITY

HOT TOPICS

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DISCOUNT FOR NEW TEAMS: \$150

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SCIENCE OLYMPIAD REGISTRATION INFO

WSO UNIFIED SCHEDULE



After 24 years as a non-profit corporation, Washington Science Olympiad (WSO) registered as a Washington charity. It was a move designed to ultimately increase membership and introduce more schools and students in our state to the valuable lessons and skills learned from Science Olympiad.

Registration fees paid by member schools go primarily toward conducting regional and state tournaments, with \$60 of each registration going to national Science Olympiad. After expenses, little to nothing is available for recruiting new teams. And with minimal external contributions, the Board of Directors approved a plan to use donations for a scholarship fund. Registering as a Washington charity was the first step. Each charity is included in the Washington Combined Fund Drive (WCFD), making it possible for all state and higher education employees to easily contribute to Washington Science Olympiad via WCFD.

While not directly registered with other charity campaigns such as United Way, contributions in other giving campaigns may be earmarked for WSO.

Please consider Washington Science Olympiad when making your annual contributions. ♦

ADALIS CORP AWARDS \$5,000

WSO received a \$5,000 grant from Adalis Corporation to support scholarship efforts that will involve more schools and students in Science Olympiad. Headquartered in Vancouver, Adalis is a technical and industry leader in packaging, supply chain, and plywood composing fields.

THANK YOU, ADALIS

CONTRIBUTE VIA WCFD

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

2010 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Key outcomes of the WSO Annual Meeting on June 19th in Vancouver:

- **Susan Britain, Shawna Cosner, Garry Lee, Eric Nordquist, and David Rosi** were elected to 2-year terms. See <http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/directors.html> for information on all state board members.
- Board of Directors voted to maintain the current policy that completed tournament tests will not be returned to students/coaches, but that event supervisors may provide a blank test that would be posted on the state web site ~ available to all participating Washington schools.
- Minor revisions were made to the Policy Notebook (policies outlining team registration, tournament procedures, and WSO practices). See http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/bylaws&policies/11_wso_policies.pdf.
- Registration fees for 2010-11 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).
- Spirit awards will not be presented in 2011 tournaments, but awarding of 4th/5th place ribbons will resume. ♦

IMPORTANT DATES:**REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

MARCH 12, 2011
NW REGION
SEATTLE, WA

MARCH 12, 2011
EASTERN REGION
SPOKANE, WA

MARCH 12, 2011
SW REGION
LONGVIEW, WA

STATE TOURNAMENT

APRIL 16, 2011
VANCOUVER, WA

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

MAY 20-21, 2011
MADISON, WI

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.

**LETTERING IN SCIENCE OLYMPIAD**

by Sue Murphy

As State Director of Washington Science Olympiad, I enjoy fielding questions – some are easily answered ... others require some digging. With state and national resources, I can generally locate and provide the requested information.

Recently, a coach from a member school asked whether other schools have lettering programs for Science Olympiad. My request to national Science Olympiad resulted in a message indicating that it sounded like a great idea, but wasn't aware of any specific states or schools that implemented such programs.

But, a message sent to all Washington coaches brought this response from Ron Wright, coach of Camas High School: "Our school gives an athletic letter (block boldface "C") and it gives an activities letter (italic script "C"). A student can only be given one of each, then they earn the pin to go with their sport or activity (I had a company back east make up one for Science Olympiad). Then a second letter in the same sport or activity

WSO COACHING CLINICS

Get a jump-start on the Science Olympiad season by attending a coaching clinic. Sponsored by WSO regional boards, learn about new events, rules changes to returning events, and coaching tips. Coaches can ask questions and gain insight into preparing students for events. Clock hours are generally available – check with each clinic for specific

earns a repeating bar."

Involvement in Science Olympiad may be reward enough ... especially for students

and teams earning medals, ribbons, or trophies (or trips to state or national tournaments). However, only about half of all participating students receive material recognition for their dedication and hard work. If your school has a lettering program and Science Olympiad is not included, find out how students can earn letters/pins/bars.

If your school does not currently have a lettering process (or one for academics/activities), consider proposing such a program ... or create your own for Science Olympiad. In addition to Camas High School's guidelines, other criteria may include (based on one school's lettering program):

- 80 hours involvement in activity for letter
- Pin/bar/star for each additional 40 hours
- At least 20 hours per year recommended to demonstrate commitment
- Any combination of school clubs/activities may qualify for letter/pin/bar/star ♦

number. For Washington clinics, see <http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/meetings.html> for details.

Another resource for coaches to get answers to their questions is to ask national event supervisors at 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 2010-11 SEASON

Registration for the 2010-11 Science Olympiad season ends **January 31, 2011**. 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. ♦

