



FALL 2011

# WSO NEWS

Welcoming a new season of Science Olympiad

## FUNDING IS PRIORITY ISSUE

### HOT TOPICS

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DISCOUNT FOR  
NEW TEAMS: \$150

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SCHEDULE



As everyone is aware, statewide funding for education – and particularly higher education – has been cut drastically. How does this impact WSO?

- K-12 budget cuts limit schools' ability to participate in extracurricular activities, which may reduce the number of teams participating in Science Olympiad.
- The 2011-12 WSO budget is based on at least 115 registered teams, which allows coverage for fixed expenses plus a few extra team-related expenses. Reduced team registration severely limits additional funding and may require using reserves to cover fixed expenses.
- Funding at tournament sites has been cut dramatically. Except for ribbons/medals/trophies and a small supplies reimbursement, WSO registration fees do not go to regional or state tournaments. Each site is responsible for funding its own tournament. This includes facilities rental, custodial and security fees, printing, equipment and supply expense, food for volunteers who give of their time for Science Olympiad, and – if the budget allows – shirts for participants and volunteers.

How are WSO registration fees used?

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### SPEEA MAKES AWARD OF \$600

The Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace awarded WSO \$600 for recruiting new teams.

THANK YOU, SPEEA

### 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 charity campaign doesn't participate in WCFD? Consider specifying Washington Science Olympiad for your annual giving contribution.

## 2011 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Key outcomes of the WSO Annual Meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup> in Ellensburg:

- **Rick Grote, Sheila Guard, Deanna Phillips,** and **Clarene Ricarte** were elected to 2-year terms. In addition, newly-created Student Advisor positions resulted in **Jihoon Lee** (west), **Claudia Mena** (east), and **Minerva Zhou** (southwest) taking their seats on the 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).
- Unified schedule was finalized: ([http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/schedules/2012\\_wso\\_unified\\_schedule\\_final.xls](http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/schedules/2012_wso_unified_schedule_final.xls)). Trial events for 2012 are: B: Helicopter Egg Drop and MagLev Vehicle; and C: MagLev Vehicle and Materials Science.
- Registration fees for 2011-12 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).
- Highline Community College agreed to host a second northwest tournament (since NW registration has overwhelmed Seattle Central Community College). ♦

**IMPORTANT DATES:****REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

**MARCH 10, 2012**  
SEATTLE CENTRAL CC  
NW REGION  
SEATTLE, WA

**MARCH 10, 2012**  
EASTERN REGION  
SPOKANE, WA

**MARCH 10, 2012**  
SW REGION  
LONGVIEW, WA

**MARCH 17, 2012**  
HIGHLINE CC  
NW REGION

**STATE TOURNAMENT**

**APRIL 14, 2012**  
CHENEY, WA

**NATIONAL TOURNAMENT**

**MAY 18-19, 2012**  
ORLANDO, FL

**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)**

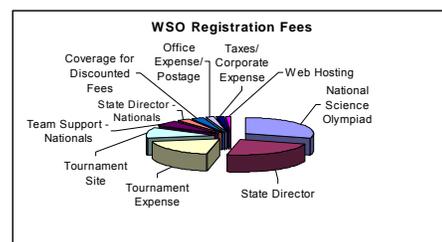
WSO team registration fees are used for:

30%	\$60 of every team registration goes to national Science Olympiad.*
23%	State Director salary for team registration and coordination of WSO activities.
19%	Tournament expense.**
11%	Tournament site support.***
6%	Team support for national tournament advancement.
3%	State Director support for national tournament.
3%	Coverage for discounted teams (new and returning new team awards)
2%	Office expense/postage.
2%	Taxes/corporate expense.
1%	Web hosting.

\*Includes 1-3 place medals/trophies for state tournament. [40% of new team registration fee]

\*\*Ribbons/medals/trophies for regional tournaments plus additional awards for state tournament.

\*\*\*Base support from registration fees. For 2011-12, WSO Board of Directors approved additional tournament site support, using reserves to cover extra cost. ♦

**SURVEY ... PLEASE RESPOND!**

To determine how WSO can assist participating teams, we need to get a sense of team longevity, what keeps teams involved, and how we might best recruit new teams. In September, a survey was sent to all previously-participating teams. Thank you to everyone who responded. If you didn't complete a survey, please go to: <http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/forms/survey11-12.xls> and submit as soon as possible.

**FORESTRY TREE LIST**

Rules for the Forestry event (B and C) indicate that a list that includes trees students are expected to master should be sent to competing teams ASAP. Since most tournament sites do not secure event supervisors until January, see preliminary list at: [http://www.washingtonscienceolympiad.com/tournaments/ForestryTreeList-Washington\\_2012\\_draft.doc](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 2/1/12.

**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](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 2011-12 SEASON**

Registration for the 2011-12 Science Olympiad season ends **January 31, 2012**. 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. ♦