

# Annual Meeting: Coaches' Forum & Open Board Meeting

## Meeting Details

- **2023-06-24, 09:00 – 13:00 PDT / 12:00 – 16:00 EDT**
- 09:00 – 10:00 PDT / 12:00 – 13:00 EDT: Coaches' Forum
- 10:00 – 11:00 PDT / 13:00 – 14:00 EDT: Open Meeting
- 011:00 – 13:00 PDT / 14:00 – 16:00 EDT: Closed Meeting
- <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5092995394> (Meeting ID: 509 299 5394)

## Part I: Coaches' Forum

### I. Attendance

- Board:** Sue Murphy (state director), Jay Louthback (Frontier MS), Scott McComb (Raisbeck Aviation HS, coach, vice chair), Sheila Guard (Bothell HS), Lei Jiang (SW regional), David Rosi (SW regional director), Senthil Natesan (WSU, coach for Liberty MS / Lewis & Clark HS), George Sun (chair), Anabel Jiang
- Guests:** Edie Lie (Northshore Middle School, coach), Prachi (coach, Redmond MS), Sambartika (Kuhu) Pande (Pullman High School, student), Saisha Lakkoju (Bothell High School, student), Liying Cai (Evergreen MS, coach), Rishabh Vakil (Interlake HS, student), Janaki Venkatesh (Eastlake HS, student), Lakshmi Agarwal (Interlake HS, student), Marla Haugen (Lincoln MS & Pullman HS, coach)

### II. Congratulations

- Timberline – 17th overall with 2nd in Agricultural Science and Solar Power; 5th in Fast Facts and Flight; 7th in Experimental Design; 8th in Roller Coaster,
- Tesla STEM – 28th overall with 8th in Fermi Questions; 12th in Chemistry Lab, Green Generation, and Trajectory

### III. Alumni Survey

- <https://forms.gle/1KHfxBEqasnoLX8D6>

### IV. 2024 Events

- 2024 event chart (posted by Science Olympiad on 2023-06-20):  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_JcFgy1NDw27AfWSXstLlpeeEX8WghO/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_JcFgy1NDw27AfWSXstLlpeeEX8WghO/view?usp=share_link)
- Debuting:**

1. Robot Tour (C) – based on trial event rules:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iRzm98RNXIPOYdlrtemZoQkdCY6Fn7Xu/view>,  
[https://www.soinc.org/sites/default/files/uploaded\\_files/RobotTourTrialDivC2023.20221002.pdf](https://www.soinc.org/sites/default/files/uploaded_files/RobotTourTrialDivC2023.20221002.pdf)

**C. Rotating in:**

1. Ecology (B/C), Microbe Mission (B/C)
2. Fossils (B/C), Reach for the Stars (B), Geologic Mapping (C)
3. Air Trajectory (B/C), Optics (B/C), Wind Power (B/C)
4. Tower (B/C)

**D. Returning with a new focus:**

1. Anatomy & Physiology (B/C) - Cardiovascular/Lymphatic/Excretory
2. Dynamic Planet (B/C) - Earthquakes/Volcanoes/Plate Tectonics
3. Meteorology (B) - Severe Storms
4. Chemistry Lab (C) - Periodicity/Equilibrium
5. Detector Building (C) - now a chemistry event

**E. Rotating out:**

1. Bio-Process Lab (B), Green Generation (B/C)
2. Rocks & Minerals (B/C), Solar System (B), Remote Sensing (C)
3. Crave the Wave (B), Sounds of Music (B), Storm the Castle (B), It's About Time (C), Trajectory (C), WiFi Lab (C)
4. Bridge (B/C)

**F. Possible Washington event substitutions/additions:**

1. Quantum Quandaries (C)  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j35lKgGk3xPre7qu7fVL5awbUm2UNxzh/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j35lKgGk3xPre7qu7fVL5awbUm2UNxzh/view?usp=share_link)
2. Solar Power (B / C)
  - a) Clean Energy Institute enthusiastic about continuing collaboration
    - (1) Willing to write tests for invitational, regional, state
    - (2) Willing to recruit volunteers for NW regional
    - (3) Willing to create resource pages on their website
  - b) Different build device?
    - (1) E.g., using a standard light, power a motor to lift a certain weight in a certain amount of time
  - c) Proposed replacement for Wind Power, general support
  - d) ACTION: Lei and Scott to work on rules
3. ~~Code Analysis (C / B?)~~
4. Possible events that may be replaced: Wind Power (B/C) replace with Solar Power (B/C)
  - a) Change name to Sustainable Energy

(1) Focus for 2023 - 24: Solar

(2)

**V. 2024 Draft Schedule**

- A. [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LmOz1C8kVnpc2nl0avdBYaMap7prOdxLWq4rf9ZSXWg/edit?usp=drive\\_link](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LmOz1C8kVnpc2nl0avdBYaMap7prOdxLWq4rf9ZSXWg/edit?usp=drive_link)

**VI. 2024 Tournaments**

A. **Washington:**

1. Invitational: expect B/C tournaments, sites including Raisbeck Aviation, Tesla STEM (possible), Camas
2. Regional/State: still working on securing/finalizing sites, SFCC for B/C in Eastern region, possible CWU site

- B. **National:** Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI), May 24–25, 2024

## Part II: Open Board Meeting

**I. Call to Order and Introductions**

- A. George Sun, chair
- B. Scott McComb, vice chair
- C. Sue Murphy, state director
- D. Lei Jiang, member
- E. Jay Louthback, member
- F. Senthil Natesan, member
- G. David Rosi, Treasurer
- H. Anabel Jiang, member

**II. Proof of notice of Annual Meeting**

- A. Sent May 20

**III. Year-end Report**

A. Registration

1. Final registration: 106 teams
2. Advanced to state: 20 B + 20 C = 40 total
3. Eastern: 11 B + 7 C = 18 total
4. Northwest: 27 B + 2 B (SW) + 24 C + 6 C (E) + 10 C (SW) = 69 total
5. Southwest: 7 B, 12 C = 19 total

B. Performance

1. State
  - a) Division B: Timberline, Redmond, Evergreen
  - b) Division C: Tesla STEM, Camas, Interlake
2. National

- a) Timberline – 17th overall with 2nd in Agricultural Science and Solar Power; 5th in Fast Facts and Flight; 7th in Experimental Design; 8th in Roller Coaster
  - b) Tesla STEM – 28th overall with 8th in Fermi Questions; 12th in Chemistry Lab, Green Generation, and Trajectory
- C. Finances (as of April 2023)
  - 1. Checking
    - a) Balance: \$9,480.98
    - b) Revenue: \$24,419.42
    - c) Expenses: \$22,331.78
  - 2. Savings
    - a) Balance: \$12,805.22
      - (1) \$7,818.50 available for WSO use
    - b) Deposits (Contributions & Interest): \$4.13
- D. Partnerships
  - 1. Tournament host sites
    - a) Eastern
      - (1) Regional: SCC (B/C)
      - (2) State: EWU (B/C)
    - b) Northwest
      - (1) Invitationals
        - (a) MS @ Raisbeck: 28 Jan 2023
        - (b) HS @ Raisbeck: 21 Jan 2023
      - (2) Regionals
        - (a) Middle School
          - (i) Redmond HS – unable to return
        - (b) High School
          - (i) Raisbeck Aviation – willing to return
    - c) Southwest
      - (1) Regional: LCC (B/C)
  - 2. Event partners
    - a) Clean Energy Institute for ~~Solar Power~~ Sustainable Energy
- E. Chair report
  - 1. Strengths:
    - a) Practices developed during virtual tournaments/unified efforts between regions
    - b) Commitment across state from board and coaches to ensure in-person tournament opportunities
    - c) Alumni volunteering is at a high
  - 2. Challenges:

- a) Decreased participation after COVID  
([https://scioly.org/wiki/index.php/Number\\_of\\_Teams\\_per\\_State#Number\\_of\\_Teams\\_per\\_State](https://scioly.org/wiki/index.php/Number_of_Teams_per_State#Number_of_Teams_per_State))
  - b) Volunteering nationwide at a 40-year low post-COVID
  - c) Challenges for coaches with broad event slates and logistics return to in-person
  - d) Securing regular tournament sites especially earlier in season and for NW region
  - e) Securing C tournament supervisors & test writers esp. NW
3. Opportunities:
- a) Supporting coaches
    - (1) Especially new coaches
  - b) Recruiting new teams
    - (1) Support and mentoring
  - c) Bringing back teams lost during/after COVID
    - (1) Rekindle
  - d) Developing relationships with institutions for host sites, tournament support, etc.
    - (1) Using larger public schools as tournament sites
  - e) Recruiting and engaging alumni volunteers
    - (1) Esp with more alumni involved over multiple years
  - f) Strong high school teams to help write middle school event tests and supervise

#### **IV. Board of Directors Election Results**

- A. Elected to board:
  - 1. Logistics
    - a) Jun 9 deadline for emailed ballots
  - 2. Elected
    - a) Marla Haugen
    - b) Jay Loutherbak
    - c) David Rosi
    - d) Edie Lie (1 year term)
- B. Elected as student advisors:
  - 1. Saisha Lakkoju
  - 2. Cindy Liu
  - 3. Kuhu Pande

#### **V. Recognition of Outgoing Members**

- A. Thanks and appreciation to Judy Mannard (board), Tanya LaPier (board), Iris Ta (student advisor), Anabel Jiang (student advisor)

# Annual Meeting: Closed Board Meeting

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## Attendance

Invited	Region	Present?
Sue Murphy (State Director)	E	Yes
George Sun (Chair)	NW	Yes
Scott McComb (Vice Chair)	NW	Yes
Marla Haugen (Secretary)	E	Yes
David Rosi (Treasurer)	SW	Yes
Sheila Guard	NW	Yes
Lei Jiang	SW	Yes
Jay Loutherback	E	No
Edie Lie	NW	Yes
Senthil Natesan	E	Yes
Kuhu Pande (Student Advisor)	E	Yes
Cindy Liu (Student Advisor)	NW	No
Saisha Lakkoju (Student Advisor)	NW	Yes

## Part III: Closed Meeting

- I. **Call to Order**
  - A. Called to order 11:04
- II. **Roll Call**
  - A. See above
- III. **Update Contact Information**
  - A. **ACTION**: fill out
- IV. **Election of Officers**
  - A. Nominations
    1. Chair: George Sun
    2. Vice Chair: Scott McComb
    3. Secretary: Marla Haugen
    4. Treasurer: David Rosi
  - B. Moved to accept slate of officers by Sue Murphy, seconded by Senthil Natesan
  - C. Motion approved unanimously
- V. **Approval of Prior Minutes**
  - A. 2023-05-06
  - B. Moved by Scott McComb, seconded by David Rosi
  - C. Motion passes unanimously @ 1116
- VI. **Reports** [see open meeting notes]
  - A. Treasurer
    1. Checking (as of April 2023)
      - a) Balance: \$9,480.98
      - b) Revenue: \$24,419.42
      - c) Expenses: \$22,331.78
        - (1) With May expenses
          - (a) Director [George] report: travel to Nationals: \$939.32
          - (b) Support for teams going to Nationals: \$2,000.00 x 2 teams
          - (c) Other tournament expenses put on credit card not made available to State Director, so multiple other unexpected charges.
    2. Savings (as of April 2023)
      - a) Balance: \$12,805.22
        - (1) \$7,818.50 available for WSO use
      - b) Deposits (Contributions & Interest): \$4.13
  - B. State Director
    1. **ACTION**: Sue to pursue grants

- a) SPEEA grant: August
  - b) National Science Olympiad State Incentive Grant: June 30, 2023
- C. Regional Boards:

- 1. Eastern
  - a) SFCC hosting regional 3/9/24.
  - b) Possible CWU for state - aiming to get decision by mid-August.
- 2. Northwest
  - a) See open meeting notes
- 3. Southwest
  - a) "You have expressed an interest in **Elementary Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament** in the past. After hosting an in-person tournament last year, it went well enough to offer our 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Tournament for the fall of 2023 (see attached Save the Date flyer). Our tentative date is **Saturday, November 18, 2023**. Of course there will be a **Coaches Workshop** included in the registration, and that is tentatively planned for **Saturday, September 30**. We anticipate holding both at Battle Ground High School. We will have four of our favorite events and room for 16 teams. We will keep you updated as soon as we know more."

**VII. Continuing Business**

- A. Tournament sites
  - 1. Eastern
    - a) SFCC: per Sue confirmed for March 9, 2024, for B/C
      - (1) Encouraged to build visibility and improve enrollment
    - b) WSO to reimburse up to \$2K - \$2.5K
    - c) Gonzaga or Lewis & Clark (Senthil)
    - d) Big Bend hosted B in Mar 2020 - will NOT host 2024 (regional nor state-if CWU doesn't)
  - 2. Northwest
    - a) Invitational
      - (1) B: Tesla
        - (a) **ACTION**: Scott to follow up with dates
      - (2) C: somewhere [Raisbeck or ...?]: January
        - (a) **ACTION** George to follow up with Interlake
    - b) Regional
      - (1) Avoid UW exam week: 9 - 15 Mar 2024 (and week before if possible)
      - (2) B:
        - (a) Northshore [24 (?) teams]: 9 Mar 2024
        - (b) Raisbeck [24 teams]: 24 Feb or 2 Mar



- (3) C: Bothell: 24 Feb or 2 Mar
      - (a) Pending availability (basketball)
  - 3. Southwest
    - a) Elementary tournament: see above regional board report
    - b) Invitational
      - (1) Camas to host B and C in late November [18 Nov?], early December [2 Dec?]
    - c) Regional
      - (1) LCC: prefers a different host but if needed can do
      - (2) WSU Vancouver - Kuhu indicated father is dept chair & may be able to persuade
      - (3) Camas: willing to host if needed
  - 4. State:
    - a) **ACTION:** Sue & Jay to continue conversation with Central Washington University
      - (1) Asked to notify by mid-August 2023, otherwise they'd identified would provide decision in September
    - b) **ACTION:** Jay contacted Big Bend re: state
      - (1) Hard pass
    - c) **ACTION:** Edie to connect with folks at UW Bothell
      - UW Bothell cannot host; pursuing Cascadia, Edmonds, LWIT
    - d) **ACTION:** David to pursue WSU - Vancouver and Clark
    - e) Camas: willing to host State
      - (1) Board will need to help with supervisors
- B. Redesigned tournament model [from [May meeting](#)]
1. Follow up on logistics
    - a) Tiered (competitive, less competitive) OR if you win 1st place in a regional event, able to compete at State as well?
    - b) Have we clearly defined the problem?
    - c) What causes young teams' attrition?
    - d) Only for new teams?
    - e) What about teams that are already qualifying for state and can reshuffle?
    - f) Can you bring a partner who did not compete?
  2. Follow up on timeline for planning and implementation
    - a) Previously mentioned August 2023
  3. Notes from today
    - a) Consider: Pilot for 2023 - 24
    - b) Qualifications
      - (1) you place 1st in one or more events

- (2) your team does not qualify for state
  - (3) Your school  $\leq 1$  team advancing
  - c) THEN your partnership is invited
  - d) **ACTION:** Sue to publish for 2023 - 24 coaches
- C. Proposal re: event coverage [from [May meeting](#)]
  - 1. NW change in process
    - a) Earlier registration deadline
    - b) Expectation for participation
      - (1) Provide 4 - 5 volunteers for tournament
      - (2) Experienced teams
        - (a) Responsibility to recruit test writers for invitational, regional
    - c) Advantage
      - (1) Sensible distribution of work
    - d) Disadvantage
      - (1) Coaches as test writers = potential conflict of interest
        - (a) Idea: 2 test writers from different schools
- D. Upload tests from regional/state to Google Drive
  - 1. Folders are made and George will send out links after meeting
- E. Event substitutions/additions – see notes from open meeting
  - 1. Quantum Quandaries
  - 2. Solar Power
- F. Revisiting ideas from last Annual Meeting
  - 1. Supervisor training website
  - 2. Coaches' clinics
  - 3. Social media

## VIII. New Business

- A. Draft schedule
  - 1. [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LmOz1C8kVnpc2nl0avdBYaMap7pr0dxLWq4rf9ZSXWg/edit?usp=drive\\_link](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LmOz1C8kVnpc2nl0avdBYaMap7pr0dxLWq4rf9ZSXWg/edit?usp=drive_link)
- B. Updates from national tournament
  - 1. State Incentive Grant from the Science Olympiad USA Foundation, two \$10k and one \$5k grant available, application due June 30, 2023 and awards will be announced late July
  - 2. National membership fee increasing from \$60 to \$75 to address increases in costs of medals, insurance
  - 3. Monthly newsletter from nationals for event supervisor, topics including test writing, running events, grading, best practices
- C. Effect of national membership fee increase on WSO finances
  - 1. Currently

- a) WSO: \$250 / team (\$150 / team for new schools/returning teams after 5-year absence ... with full waivers provided for ALL new/returning schools since receiving SPEEA grants)
  - b) National: \$60 / team
  - c) *"New schools (or returning schools that have not competed within the last 5 years) receive a discounted fee of \$150 ~ although new team registrations waivers available. Contact State Director to check on availability. Returning teams' registration fee is \$250. Fees include \$60 that is sent to National Science Olympiad (NSO) to cover the cost of rules manuals, tournament medals, and other NSO-supplied items."*
2. NEW: \$15 increase in national membership per team → 106 teams → \$1,590 increase in expenses
  3. Whether to increase WSO for continuing schools?
    - a) Recommendation: \$275 / team
    - b) **ACTION:** Sue to publish
  4. Whether to continue waiving fee for new & returning (5+ yrs) schools?
    - a) Recommendation: \$150 / team for first team
      - (1) If we receive SPEEA grant, provide registration waiver for new & returning schools
        - (a) Cost to WSO (\$75 per new/returning school)
    - b) **ACTION:** Sue to publish

#### D. Registration

1. From Brett Thomsen

I have an issue for the next Board meeting and the registration procedure for Science Olympiad. I signed up late October early November. And was not admitted to the NW region. This I am certain is off putting especially to new teams or in my case returning teams. It caused me incredible stress in an already stressful world of teaching and coaching. Below are some suggestions to put forward to the board or at least discuss. I hope this finds you and your family healthy and happy. Looks like we will see each other in Longview. If you have any recommendations for my team and prep I would appreciate it.

Yours always!

Brett Thomsen

Science Chair Chimacum Schools

# ***WSO Olympiad Board of Directors***

**SCIENCE OLYMPIAD VISION** - *a vision is an organization's biggest wish or goal*

***Our vision is to increase K-12 student and teacher participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)***

The current registration system is seriously flawed and not following Science Olympiad's Vision by excluding particularly small schools and less funded schools. By allowing schools to register up to 6 teams in a region this excludes 5-4 other schools from participating in their region of choice. 8 NW Schools and ten teams have been affected by the current policy.

Large schools can much better afford travel and registration compared to rural and small schools

**Recommendations for registration in future years (maybe this year):**

- Team Assignments do not occur before January 7, of the Competition year ( this allows 2 months for preparation for contests) Bus funding etc...
- One team from a school to that region is guaranteed their first pick.
  - In NW theoretically you could accommodate C Division 25 teams B division would be 25 schools.

After January 7, 2023 a second team will be granted for all POs to said region of registered teams in order of registration.

- This will alleviate a lot of stress and confusion allowing new teams and small schools to travel to more appropriate regional contests.
- No school should be allowed to register more than 2 teams in a region until all schools that have two teams are accommodated with a second team.

- Currently there are 9 schools traveling exorbitant distances from NW region to East or SW; this is a huge burden to these schools.
- On January 7, 2023 the director could communicate with remaining team coaches to be placed and suggest an alternative for the remaining teams to fill the other tournaments.
- Our current system should be able to accommodate 130 teams if NW is 50, SW is 40, East is 40
- This will also spread the burden around and fall on more well funded programs.
- This also will help with scoring the regional tournaments more equitably.
- This will hopefully stimulate larger schools to host invitational tournaments. My small school hosted 10 B/C Division invitationals from 1995-2008 in Missouri and Washington. It increased participation in my region hugely. In 2008 Chimacum Schools was the only school in Oregon/Washington/Idaho to host a B/C invitational tournament. We drew schools from all three states about 15 of each. (Yes Scott I know you hosted a C Division Invitational)
- Also schools should only be allowed to field one team to the state tournament this meets with SO vision too by allowing more than one team you are limiting school participation.
- Consider adding a fourth Region for south Central Sound

#### E. Evergreen probation status



##### 1. Summary:

- a) Placed on Annual Warning after multiple EDQs at Camas Invitational in January 2022 (notified March 3, 2022)
- b) On probation after 2022 state tournament after DQ and EDQ in Storm the Castle and Write It CAD It, respectively, on different teams; team with EDQ unranked
- c) Probation lasts 2022–2023 and 2023–2024
- d) Coach is requesting probation to be overturned (email from Sue on May 29, 2023)

##### 2. WSO Team Probation Policy:

[https://washingtontscienceolympiad.com/bylaws&policies/WSO\\_Team\\_Probation\\_Policy.pdf](https://washingtontscienceolympiad.com/bylaws&policies/WSO_Team_Probation_Policy.pdf)

**IX. Next Meeting**

- A. Annual Meeting Continued –  Board Meeting Availability
- B. Fall Meeting –  Board Meeting Availability

**X. Adjourn**

- A. Meeting adjourned 1:00 PM.