

Washington Science Olympiad Board of Directors:

Fall Meeting

Meeting Details

- **2025-10-14, 19:00 – 21:00 PDT / 22:00 – 0:00 EDT**
- <https://yale.zoom.us/my/george.sun>

Attendance

Invited	Region	Present?
Lei Jiang (Interim State Director)	SW	Yes
George Sun (Chair)	NW	Yes
Scott McComb (Vice Chair)	NW	Yes
Marla Haugen (Secretary)	E	Yes
David Rosi (Treasurer)	SW	No
Andy Christensen	NW	No
Edie Lie	NW	Yes
Gang Liu	SW	Yes
Jay Loutherback	E	Yes
Banny Wong	SW	Yes
Florence Liang (Student Advisor)	SW	No
Amanuel Nega (Student Advisor)	NW	Yes
Emily Liu (Student Advisor)	SW	Yes

Agenda

IX. Call to Order

- A. Called to order 7:02 pm.

X. Roll Call

- A. See above

XI. Approval of Prior Minutes (5 min)

- A. [2025 - 26 - Board Meetings](#)

- B. Scott McComb moved to approve above minutes, Jay Loutherback seconded, passed by hand vote

XII. Agenda

- A. Tournaments

1. Invitationals

- a) UW Invitational (C) - Nov 22nd
 - (1) [Draft Competitor Logistics Doc](#)
 - (2) Trying to set up non-profit status and fundraise
 - (a) Add a line motion for \$7,000 to our budget as a fiduciary agent for UW Sci Oly (Scott moved, Edie seconded, passed by hand vote)
 - (3) Test writing is in process
- b) Camas Invitational - Dec 6th (B) Dec 13th (C)
- c) RAHS (Div C) - Jan 17th
 - (1) [Draft logistics guide](#)
 - (2) At capacity = 25 teams
- d) Evergreen (Div B) - Jan 31st
- e) Satellite Invitational - Eastern (Late Jan?)
 - (1) Marla has more parent helpers and CWU connections now
 - (a) Embargo Raisbeck tests?
 - (2) One idea is to leave out the build events to make it easier
 - (3) Can use Scilympiad to run online tests
 - (4) Reserve tests from other invites to use at Eastern Invite
 - (5) @Emily: check with Camas HS students to help write/grade tests

2. Regionals

- a) Lower Columbia B/C ~ March 7th
 - (1) Conflict with ISEF on the same day
- b) NW regional B 1 - [Willow Preparatory, North Seattle College](#)

Update: Edie & Simon Lie met with Alissa Agnello, Dean of Math and Science, and Sai Guo, Facilities Manager, at North Seattle College on 10/14. They are excited to host a Regional tournament and showed us several labs, classrooms, their gym, and cafeteria space that could work to host either a B regional or a B/C regional. Their 2 largest spaces only hold 500 people each, so that may limit the number of teams that can attend and/or the number of parents that can attend award ceremonies. We don't yet have the inventory of rooms, but I think there's enough space for a combined B/C regional.

Highlights include Anatomy and Geology labs with hands-on displays

Conflicts include:

Mar 7 is Central Puget Sound Regional Science Fair, so that date is not ideal for C 2, but could work for a B regional

Mar 14 is beginning of finals week for UW students

Mar 21 is National History Day Regionals, so not good for B

- c) NW regional B 2 - Backup option RAHS March 21st?
- d) NW regional C 1 - RAHS Feb 28th
- e) NW regional C 2 - Mar 14 [North Seattle College, University of Washington?](#)
- f) Eastern B/C - Lewis and Clark High School - March 7th confirmed, [Senthil needs to lock down building reservation](#)
- g) Potential Individual qualifying tournament - Satellite? Perhaps available for students who are remote and find it difficult to attend regionals, at a discounted cost of \$75 - \$100 (tabled due to low # of remote teams and possible Eastern Satellite invitational)

3. State

- a) CWU - April 18

B. Events & Schedules

1.  WSO Unified Schedule - 2026

- a) Move Code Craze B/C to last 2 blocks so students can do both Game Agent and Code Craze
- b) Game Agent rules are updated and removed early morning task
- c) Sustainable Energy - durability bonus score formula consistency
- d) SE help from Nathan Chiu (Bothell HS)

2. Event modifications

- a) Feedback from coaches about Sustainable Energy

- (1) "We agree it's a learning opportunity for Middle School students to explore yet another topic., but, here are our concerns:"
- (2) "Teams are stressed with 5 students to master 4 topics."
- (3) "SE build takes significant time & cost – as students would have to iterate various materials & design."
- (4) "No practice tests on SE theory from other invitationals besides Camas. Camas is keeping it as a non-scored event (probably because they have teams from other states)."

b) Other events

- (1) Quantum Quandary (Bungee Drop replacement)
- (2) Machines (scoring emphasis change for both B/C)

3. Kit clarification

- a) "For some events, national rules now explicitly state that devices must be designed and built by the team. Please emphasize to students. While kits may be available and may be used by students, they must design, build, and program their devices themselves. It will be emphasized at Regional and State level competitions by the event supervisors." (<https://washingtonscienceolympiad.com/archives/1353>)
- b)  Guidelines on Kit Use in Device Construction
- c) Address who is prohibited from distributing/selling kits
- d) Event-specific guidance on where kits are allowed

C. SPEEA Grant (due August 15, 2025)

- 1. [\\$1,269 check received Oct 13th, 2025](#)

D. Working groups

- 1.  WSO Student Outreach Working Group
- 2. SW/Eastern outreach
 - a) Student reps are recruiting schools (Cheney, Skyview, iTech Prep)
 - b) Coach workshop (Oct 11th) attended by 14 coaches (4 coaches from Seattle area, 2 OR, 8 local); Led by **Thieu Dang**, focused on build events and hands-on (help by Camas HS club);
 - c) I/P to reaching Yakima Valley (Heritage U), no definitive feedback yet

3. Social media

- a) Washington Science Olympiad is LIVE on social media! Don't miss out – we'll be dropping event + tournament updates, must-have resources, epic tournament recaps, and shoutouts to teams and coaches across the state. Share with your students, parents, and coaches so they can join the excitement!
- b) <https://www.instagram.com/washingtonscioly/>

- c) <https://x.com/wascioly>
- d) <https://www.tiktok.com/@washingtonscioly>
- e) <https://www.facebook.com/washingtonscienceolympiad>

4. SPS outreach

- a) [PDF](#) SO_WA_Brochure.pdf
- b) High schools:
 - (1) Roosevelt (with Nathan Chiu), Lincoln HS (with UW);
 - (2) Scott getting in touch with Jeff Ursino, chem teacher at West Seattle High School
- c) Middle school: Robert Eagle Staff (Edie Lie), Hamilton (Education for Washington Youth, another UW RSO)
- d) Next: UW DubSO Invitational (RSO name: HuskySO) → Outreach afterward

5. Division A

6. Test review committee

- a) A draft is done
- b) Lei will start recruiting State supervisor/writer and UW volunteers;

E. Policies

- 1. Policies update for EDQ - <https://washingtonscienceolympiad.com/policies>
 - a) ~~Add: "The following policies regarding Ethical Disqualification (EDQ) and its consequences (e.g., Annual Warning, probation) apply regardless of whether the penalty is issued for a scored or trial event. If an EDQ is assessed for a trial event that is not normally included in a team's total score, then in addition to the [N + 5] placing assigned for that event, a 5 point penalty may also be applied to the team's overall score per instance of EDQ."~~
- 2. AI use guidelines - [Artificial Intelligence Use Guidelines](#)
- 3. Kits clarification - [Guidelines on Kit Use in Device Construction](#)

F. Volunteer/student recognition

- 1. President's Volunteer Service Award is currently on hold, but since we have so many students who will be helping longitudinally throughout the year, some things we could consider are:
- 2. Washington State Volunteer Service Awards
(<https://servewashington.wa.gov/volunteer/washington-state-volunteer-service-awards>) - we can submit nominations
- 3. Congressional Award (<https://www.congressionalaward.org/the-program/>) - non-competitive, student submits their volunteer goal and we can validate it for them to get the award

4. We could also consider year-end awards like they do at the national tournament meetings, could be decided by the board and recognized with a plaque (cost around \$20-40 per) either at state tournament or annual meeting (and the focus can be non-board, non-student advisor members since they get recognition through their title already)
5. Volunteer award(s) - focusing more on younger volunteers
6. Distinguished service award(s) - recognizing volunteers who have been with WSO for a long time
7. Spirit awards - recognizing one team in each B/C each season (could factor in social media engagement, ES nomination form at regional and state tournament)

G. Website

1. Update Tournaments page when tournament dates finalized

XIII. Next Meeting

- A. Winter Meeting –  Board Meeting Availability

XIV. Adjourn

- A. Meeting adjourned 9:08 pm.