

Washington Science Olympiad Board of Directors
Spring Meeting
28 March 2020
9:00 - 11:00

Call +1 253 215 8782 US
Zoom Meeting ID 842677164 Password 683100

invited	present?
Sheila Guard (Treasurer)	yes
Jay Louthback	present
Judy Mannard	present
Scott McComb (Vice Chair)	present
Sue Murphy (State Director)	yes
Diana Rhodes	present
Nick Stephens (Chair)	present
Tim Weber	present
David Rosi	present
Trevor Day (Secretary)	present
Ansel LaPier	present
Tyler Stanley	present

- I. Review agenda
- II. Approval of minutes from last board meeting ([10/05/19](#))
 - A. October minutes approved unanimously
- III. Reports
 - A. Treasurer - Not a lot to report yet due to challenges accessing materials at closed school locations. Sue and Sheila will work offline to make a report.
 - Checking \$30927.25 (fees not paid to Nationals yet) \$21727
 - Nationals is not planning to refund this year's fees but will charge full fee next year (Arizona)
 - Saving through December \$33340
 - B. State Director - Unused trophies can be reused. Nationals will send new plates for trophies
 1. Total registration 145 teams. 14 were new teams from 9 different schools. 105/145 did not compete in regional. Only SW and Big Bend ran tournaments.
 2. Last year was 152, but we expected a lower number of teams because of two teams on probation.
 3. State medals and trophies were not sent from Nationals. Sue will contact Nationals to get a refund.
 - C. Regional Boards
 1. Eastern: - Big Bend was able to compete. Tournament went well. Venue was good. Tournament was well run. They are excited to host again. Spokane Community Colleges have some challenges this year, so not sure what the future holds here.
 2. Northwest: NW was not able to run any tournaments. Sheila had NW B trophies and medals. Judy has NW C trophies and medals.
 3. South Central: No tournaments planned for the future, so not really an active board at this time.
 4. Southwest: New team Jefferson did not compete. Seven teams did not compete (two of which were from Oregon). No issues. Everything ran really well. Awards were cancelled to reduce gatherings. Trophies and medals were mailed or hand delivered. Teams did a good job of following health protocols.
- IV. Old Business
 - A. Action Items Follow-Up:

1. Systematic public recognition of volunteers: Sue to generate and send thank-you letters with certificates at the end of each tournament. Template(s) to be developed by **David**
 - a) 3/20 Update: Since we ran two tournaments, David will create the template and send it to Sue.
2. Supervisor preparation: Sue to solicit and share best practices
 - a) Provide exemplars (e.g., [Bungee Drop](#)) to supervisors (spread the field of diversity of preparation). Scott one-page overview for each event
 - (1) **Scott, Ansel** to coordinate students setting up shared Google Drive for WSO participants to develop supervisor information
 - (a) 3/20 Update: Scott had his team put together this information for more complex events. Per David, Rick Gote has a Google Doc with some of this information, which is linked to the state website. Need to find a way for event supervisors to be aware of and have access to.
 - (2) Survey "things to watch for" re: build events at invitationals. **Scott, Trevor, and Judy** to work on a sensible architecture. to create and collate
 - (a) 3/20 Update: These come out at invitationals. For example watching the thermometer/water baths for detector devices and ping pong parachutes.. Maybe site host could compile these and put into the living document. Consider having a volunteer walk around and talk to event supervisors during events. Still need a vehicle to share the information to future tournaments.
3. Closer connection with alumni: **Nick** establish structure
 - a) [Google Form](#) for coaches to send to alumni
 - b) **Nick** to update form with question about interest in helping; send to Sue to post on WSO site, send to coaches.
 - (1) 3/20 Update: Individual coaches reach out to their alumni connections. This seems to work better than asking them to fill out a survey. Sometimes alumni will contact Sue and she forwards the name to the appropriate regional. Consider having coaches talk to seniors and reach out to alums, reaching out to SciOly.org, and Facebook. **ACTION:** Generate a letter for coaches to send to former students. This could also go out to the Facebook and other social media groups.
4. WSO Team Scholarships/Grants Possibility
 - a) make a proposal to provide funding for schools and/or teams (travel expenses, etc)
 - b) **ACTION:** add line item in 20-21 budget, discuss logistics of timeline, selection process
 - c) 3/20 Update: This would be money for supplies and registration fees. Do schools reach out for funding? According to Sue, not so much. The SPEEA grant covers registration fees for one team from each of the new schools. Consider a travel grant?
 - (1) Decision: This line item will be added to the 20-21 budget. In the fall we can work out the details of how much this will be and how it will be used.

V. New Business

- A. Refunding based on cancelations this season. According to Sue, \$24,250 (97 teams paid \$250) would be the cost to waive registration fees for teams that did not compete. For the NW, we spent minimal for the regionals and state. Most of what was spent can be rolled over. The cancelled Eastern regional tournament actually spent money (because the event was cancelled so late). Sue will see if the unspent money can be used at next year's Eastern regional.

Motion to approve 1 to 4 as written was approved unanimously

1. Teams which registered for 2019/2020 but did not compete in a regional tournament will not have to pay registration fees when they register for the 2020/2021 season.
 2. Teams which registered for 2019/2020 but did compete in a regional tournament will pay a reduced 2020/2021 registration fee of \$150.
 3. New teams, additional teams, or returning teams which did not register for 2019/2020 will pay appropriate registration fees.
 4. NOTE: no team is automatically registered; all teams planning to compete in 2020/2021 season must follow Washington State Science Olympiad registration procedures.
- ACTION:** Sue will send this information to coaches
- B. Consider prizes for winners of events (example field trip to CDC for winners of Disease Detectives) Due to time constraints, postpone this for future conversation.
 1. In 2018 (2019?) state winners went to Institute of Disease Modeling conference (Bellevue, WA) w/ fees waived
 - C. Ping Pong Parachute -- Run or Replace?
 1. B Division - Hit ceiling at most venues, causing some damage at SW.
 - a) Possibility of running outside at all WA tournaments. Or tether? Consider using same launcher?
 2. Roll C replacement over? We will keep Code Analysis in place of Ping Pong Parachute
 - D. Event Schedule - we plan to use the same event schedule as much as possible. Machines will be updated to require teams to test devices in the same hour

E. Founder's scholarship - Table this till later due to time constraints.

1. Proposal by Diana to contribute to Gerard Putz's memorial scholarship fund. From his obituary:

In lieu of flowers, memorials will be appreciated for a scholarship fund in Gerard's name and may be sent to: Science Olympiad, Two Trans Am Plaza Drive, Suite 310, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181.

2. Sue proposed \$3200 contribution to fund (~10% of savings, \$1000/year of Sci Oly)
3. Discussion lowered WA contribution to national fund to \$1,000
 - a) Motion proposed by Diana
 - (1) Seconded: Trevor
4. Scott requested more information, but not a lot from Nationals at the minute
5. Discussion about WA scholarship continues, but contributions to both are possible

F. Western WA Teams competing in Eastern Regionals - Table until annual meeting

1. Here is a question about western teams competing in the eastern regionals. Judy: I thought we had addressed this and put guidelines in the WSO Policies, but cannot find the update. Is the version on the website, dated 7/15/17, the current version?

G. Probationary Teams - The schools on probation competed at invitationals with only two teams, but not at any regionals. At the RAHS invitational, the schools showed marked improvement. Motion made to confirm that Redmond Middle School and Odle Middle School have met their obligation for probation at the invitational tournaments they attended this year. Motion approved.

H. Board of Director Terms

1. Three board positions end this year -- Jay, Judy, and David. Sue will reach out to coaches to see if there are applications. Jay, Judy and David will consider applying for a new term.

I. WSO Website. 3/20 Update: David will work with students to consider a new platform. This would not include any expenses. North Carolina is an example of a good site. It is important that this is coordinated with the state director, so that the migration is seamless.

1. Update existing site?
 - a) The site is so old an entirely new site is really the only option - TKMD
2. Entirely new platform?

J. Event sign-ups platform:

- a) Thoughts on using Scilympiad.com from 2020-2021 season"? Worked well for NW and Eastern users. **ACTION:** Sue will recommend that this be used statewide for tournaments.

VI. Adjournment & Next Meeting

A. Annual meeting - Nick will send out a DoodlePoll later.

1. Location?
2. Date?
3. **ACTION:** confirm via DoodlePoll sent by **Nick in May**

B. Mtg adjourned 11:10AM.