



TENNESSEE SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER

REGISTRATION FORMS are available on the Tennessee Science Olympiad web site at <http://tnscioly.utk.edu>. We encourage you to bookmark the site and check it periodically for updates, official information, and resources such as a Coach's Information Manual and TSO Policies. Registration fees for the 2016 tournaments remain at \$200 for returning teams and \$100 for new teams or teams that have not competed in the last 3 years. Registration closes December 18. Teams that register after this time will be taken on a space available basis and will pay an additional \$100 late fee.

STATE TOURNAMENT: will be held at UTK on April 9, 2015. Twenty teams from each division will advance to the state tournament. One team will advance from each regional tournament. Additional teams will be distributed proportional to the number of schools competing in a region. If there is a tie the region with the larger number of teams competing will win.

DATES AND TEAM LIMITS:

| Site | Tournament Date | Max. No. of Teams per Div. |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Chattanooga State | 2/20/2016 | 12 |
| Christian Brothers | 2/27/2016 | 10 |
| ETSU | 2/27/2016 | 8 |
| Lee | 2/20/2016 | 8 |
| MTSU | 2/27/2016 | 14 |
| PSCC | 2/20/2016 | 10 |
| TSU | 3/5/2016 | 12 |
| Volunteer State | 2/27/2016 | 8 |

COMPETITION SITE POLICY:

A minimum of 3 schools will be allowed to compete at a regional tournament. Sites which have fewer than 3 schools competing at a particular level will be given the option to not host a tournament at that level and the teams will be reassigned to the nearest available region. Tournament sites post a maximum number of teams that can compete at their site. The following guidelines will be used in accepting teams at a site: 1) geographical proximity; 2) returning teams (1st teams will be assured a place but 2nd and 3rd teams will be placed on a waiting list; 3) new teams. Please note that the school's involvement in other competitions is not an acceptable reason for competing at a different site.

COACHES' WORKSHOPS:

The University of Tennessee at Knoxville will host a Coaches' Workshop this coming Saturday September 26, 2015. The cost is \$25 per person. Detailed information and registration forms are available on the Tennessee Science Olympiad website, <http://tnscioly.utk.edu>. This is an excellent opportunity for new coaches to learn about Science Olympiad and for returning coaches to get some valuable information about preparing for this year's events.

In addition, Christian Brothers University in Memphis will also host a Coaches' Workshop. The date is set for October 10 with plans to have presentations on starting and sustaining a team, the building events, working with balsa wood and several event presentations. The cost is \$25 per person. Detailed information and registration forms are available on the Tennessee Science Olympiad website, <http://tnscioly.utk.edu>. We hope to be better able to accommodate the western part of the state by including a workshop in Memphis. For additional information contact Dr. Andrew Diener atadiener@cbu.edu.

INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS:

Friendship Christian will host a middle school invitational tournament on January 9, 2016. John Paul II will host a high school invitational tournament on January 30. Look for more information, including registration forms, as they become available on the state web site, <http://tnscioly.utk.edu>.

ELEMENTARY SCIENCE OLYMPIAD:

Chattanooga State will host its 10th Annual Elementary tournament this spring. The date has not yet been determined. Middle Tennessee State University will host its 9th Annual Elementary tournament on May 2, 2016 at John Pittard Elementary. Look for additional information soon.

LOOK FOR US AT NSTA!

The Tennessee Science Teachers Association will not host a conference this fall. In its place the National Science Teachers Association conference will be held in Nashville from March 31 – April 3, 2016. More information about the conference can be found at <http://tsta.wildapricot.org/>. We will plan to be there and hope to see you there too.