



TENNESSEE SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

REGISTRATION FORMS:

Are available on the Tennessee Science Olympiad web site at <http://tnscioly.utk.edu>. We encourage you to bookmark the web 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 2021 tournaments are \$150 for the first team from returning schools and \$75 for each additional team and \$75 per team for new schools or schools that have not competed in the last 3 years. Schools will be allowed to register teams until December 18. Teams that register after December 18 will be charged an additional \$50 late fee.

PRELIMINARY TOURNAMENT DATES

Tennessee will be using the Mini SO format for all preliminary (formerly regional) tournaments. We will offer 18 events over the last 3 Saturdays in February. Each Saturday, six events will be offered, three in an early time slot and three in a later time slot. All teams across the state will compete at the same time. All events, including the trial events (which will be counted as a regular event in determining advancement) are found in the Coach's Manual for this year. The manual can be downloaded for free from the Store on the national website, www.soinc.org. The schedule for each Saturday is shown below.

Division B

February 13, 2021	
10:00 – 11:00 ¹	11:30 – 12:30 ¹
Anatomy and Physiology	Crime Busters
Circuit Lab	Code Busters ²
Road Scholar	Ornithology

February 20, 2021	
10:00 – 11:00 ¹	11:30 – 12:30 ¹
Disease Detective	Dynamic Planet
Meteorology	Heredity
Botany ²	Machines

February 27, 2021	
10:00 – 11:00 ¹	11:30 – 12:30 ¹
Food Science	Density Lab
Game On	Fossils
Reach for the Stars	Water Quality

¹All times are Eastern Standard Times

²Trial Event in the Coach's Manual

STATE TOURNAMENT:

The State Tournament may be virtual (April 10 or 17) or on-site (April 24) depending on COVID-19 conditions in the spring. If on site, it will be held at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus.

Division C

February 13, 2021	
10:00 – 11:00 ¹	11:30 – 12:30 ¹
Forensics	Anatomy and Physiology
Fossils	Circuit Lab
Sounds of Music	Astronomy

February 20, 2021	
10:00 – 11:00 ¹	11:30 – 12:30 ¹
Chemistry Lab	Code Busters
Designer Genes	Disease Detective
Dynamic Planet	Botany ²

February 27, 2021	
10:00 – 11:00 ¹	11:30 – 12:30 ¹
Machines	Environmental Chemistry ²
Protein Modeling	Geologic Mapping
Water Quality	Ornithology

COACHES' WORKSHOPS:

It is our plan that all event coordinator groups will prepare a virtual presentation for their event which will highlight details of their event, resources that students will find helpful in preparing for the event, a list of any differences in the events at the preliminary and state levels and/or suggestions of specific topics that will be covered on preliminary or state exams. All registered teams will have these presentations available to them as they become available.

ELEMENTARY SCIENCE OLYMPIAD:

Elementary tournaments are an excellent way to begin preparing students early on for Science Olympiad. The Board has just begun discussing the possibility of offering some type of elementary competition this year. Check the state website for updates on elementary Science Olympiad.

INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS:

The national website lists invitational tournaments that you might want to consider. At this time, we are unsure whether we will host a virtual invitational tournament in Tennessee. Again, watch the state website for additional information as it becomes available.

TSTA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:

We presented our plans for this year at the first session of the TSTA Virtual Conference. If you registered for the conference you should have access to a recording of the presentation even if you did not attend. There was also a presentation on Elementary SO at the conference. You can access the PowerPoint presentation that we used using this link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jWb38JV-vR-6abxvhhyC1-DGMoNn-NH3/view?usp=sharing>

PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH US:

The Tennessee Science Olympiad Board is working diligently to provide a meaningful competition for you and your students this year. However, this is very different from anything we have done in the past and requires thinking through what we can and cannot do successfully. Your best bet is to refer regularly to the State website (<https://tnscioly.utk.edu>) as we will post changes and information there as it becomes available.