

Round 1

Coaches may administer a written test in each school to all students who wish to participate. This will determine the members of your teams. The twelve (12) students with the highest scores are chosen to practice for the "Battle."

Round 2*

An in-school competition may be offered following the rules of the competition as described below. There will be four teams of 3 students, to form 2 brackets, but this may be modified to reflect the number of participants. The coach may choose the school team from performance during the in-school rounds.

One or two alternates may also be chosen at this time. Alternates will sub for players who cannot participate in either the semi-final or the final competitions. Coaches will need to assign alternates as first or second alternate.

*Note: This round is optional. The way each school selects its team will depend on the number of participants and varying circumstances. The coach's decision is final.

Round 3 Semi-Final

The team from each participating school will advance to the semi-final rounds. There will be brackets composed of teams from 2 to 5 schools depending upon the number of schools participating. These teams will compete at pre-arranged sites hosted by coaches following the rules of competition below.

Round 4 Final

The winning teams from each bracket will compete together in the final round.

Competition Rules

There will be one moderator who reads the questions, two judges (parents or coaches from different schools,) two scorekeepers (parents or coaches from different schools,) one person to operate the buzzer system, and one spotter/timekeeper.

To begin the competition, five questions will be available for a warm-up.

Questions will be read only once. The moderator will read the question and if stopped by the buzzer, the team will be given ten (10) seconds to answer. Team members may talk to each other while deciding, however, only the captain may give the team's answer. If the team answers incorrectly and the question has not been completed, the moderator may repeat the question. The next team to attempt the answer will have five (5) seconds to do so. There will be only two buzzes per question. If the question is not answered correctly after two teams have tried, then the question is thrown out.

Should a question of procedure arise during the competition, judges must resolve the inquiry at the time of occurrence. Once the competition is over, the results become final.

If a wrong answer is given, that team is assessed a penalty and will NOT be allowed to answer the next question. If a team member other than the captain answers, the answer is considered incorrect. No points will be given and the team will be penalized in the usual way.

Example: If three teams are competing and two teams buzz in answering incorrectly, the next question will be given only to the remaining team(s.)

Complete titles must be given as answers, but omitting *a*, *an*, or *the* will be permitted. If a title is to be shortened in any other way, all coaches must agree to this before the semi-final rounds begin. One point will be awarded for a correct title.

A team can earn an extra point by giving the last name of the author if they have answered the title correctly. If a book has more than one author or a double last name, coaches must agree on the acceptable correct author name before the semi-final rounds begin.

The team with the most points at the end of the questions will be declared the winner. If necessary, five (5) to ten (10) questions from the bonus list will be used as tiebreakers.

The number of questions for semi-final and final competitions may vary according to the number of books included on the list for that year. A break will be given between the first group of questions and the second group of questions.

If a coach and team would like, they may substitute alternates for the semi-final brackets to provide more students the opportunity to participate. Substitutions may only be made at a break between questions sets. Only the coaches may substitute alternates, at their discretion. **There will be no substituting of students at the final competition unless a competitor is absent or becomes ill during the competition.**