



ILLINOIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

2024-2025 INSTRUCTIONS TO HOST SCHOOLS SCHOLASTIC BOWL REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Schools serving as a host must have signage in accordance with the Concealed Carry Act 430 ILCS 66. This includes an IESA event that is held on your school property and IESA events held off-premise (i.e. a park).

1. Financial - Regional

- A. **ADMISSION PRICES:** Hosts are not permitted to charge admission to the scholastic bowl regional
- B. **HOST STIPEND:** A check for \$50 per match will be included in your host envelope. Please make sure that you locate this piece. You are required to pay the moderator \$30 per match; the remaining \$20 per match may be used to pay tournament personnel. Please be prepared to pay these individuals the day of your tournament.

2. Tournament Planning

- A. **TOURNAMENT DATES:** Playing dates should be communicated to all participating teams.
 - a. Do not change the schedule (dates or times) after brackets have been set and posted- unless weather alters the playing schedule.
 - b. Hold the regional tournament Wednesday, **April 30, 2025**
- B. **TOURNAMENT TIME SCHEDULE:** Regional matches may start **no later than 4:30 p.m.** It is typical to schedule matches at a minimum of 1 hour apart.
 - a. A five-minute break between matches should be scheduled.
 - b. Each round should begin at the same time.
- C. **TOURNAMENT WORKERS:** Please make sure that you plan for an adequate number of workers for your tournament.
- D. **PARKING:** Plan for team, fan, and moderator parking. Make sure that parking instructions are communicated to participating teams and moderators.
 - a. Most of the visiting teams will travel by bus or van. Parking space near the school should be provided for the team buses.
 - b. Please provide parking for moderators near the entrance/exit that they will use to access the facility.
- E. **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPETING TEAMS:** Be sure that all schools in your tournament are given adequate notice of the playing schedule, when doors will open, location of competition rooms, availability of concessions, coaches meeting, etc.
 - a. In your tournament instructions/information, make sure that you disclaim any losses suffered by players and others.
 - b. Encourage each team to adopt some method for caring for the team's money, electronics, and other valuables.
 - c. It is recommended that host schools provide the lock-out systems needed to run the tournament. If you will be unable to provide working lock-out systems, please notify the participating teams.
 - d. Remind the participating schools that the regional winner must send a team picture to the IESA office prior to the sectional play date of **May 5, 2025**. Instructions for the winners are located on the website.
- F. **TOURNAMENT EQUIPMENT:** You will need the following equipment for your tournament:
 - a. **LOCK-OUT SYSTEM:** A fully-functioning ten-position electronic lock-out system is required for each competition room. Test your equipment to make sure that it is in good working order. If necessary, ask participating schools to bring a system with them to fulfill

this requirement. This will also give you a "back-up" system in case something goes wrong with one of the systems in use.

- b. **NAME PLATES/CARDS:** Remind all schools to bring their name cards.
 - c. **IESA SCHOLASTIC BOWL TERMS & CONDITIONS AND MANUAL:** Please have a copy of this information available at the moderators table in each competition room.
 - d. **STOP WATCH OR TIMING DEVICE:** Please have a stop watch or timing device available in each competition room.
 - e. **PENCILS AND PAPER:** Please have extra sharpened pencils and clean paper available.
 - f. **SCOREBOARDS:** Please have some method of displaying the match score. This may be done through use of a system scoreboard, chalkboard, flip chart or dry erase board.
 - g. **WATER:** Please provide water for your moderators. This should be placed in every competition room.
- G. **COMPETITION ROOMS:** Check competition rooms for posters (e.g. periodic tables, etc.). If it is possible, cover these posters with paper during the tournament. The rooms must be arranged as shown in the diagram included under Tournament Format. **This is a requirement.**
- H. **FAN SEATING:** Plan for fan seating in each competition room as detailed in the room set-up diagram. Additionally, plan for fan seating in your cafeteria or general meeting space.
- I. **CONCESSIONS:** Communicate to your participating teams the availability of concessions at your facility. If you will be providing concessions, it would be helpful to provide the teams with the menu you will be offering.
- J. **EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN:** Please make sure that you have an emergency action/venue plan in place for your tournament venue. Be sure to have access to weather forecasts in the event of threatening weather.
- a. **Please make sure the contest manager is visible and present.** It is essential that the officials and teams know who is in charge of the tournament. The IESA recommends that this person not be your school's coach. If problems arise and your coach is in a competition room, they will not be able to address the issue.

3. Tournament Volunteers/Personnel

- A. **TOURNAMENT WORKERS:** Plan on an adequate number of workers. The IESA recommends that you try to use volunteers whenever possible.
- B. **RUNNERS:** Host school students used to move results to the tournament office, to post results and any other task needed by the moderator. Runners can be posted outside each competition room to warn spectators not to enter, except at halftime.
- C. **ASSISTANT SCORER:** An assistant scorer is needed for each match to write the score on a chalk board for the audience to see. This may be a student from the host school or competing schools.

4. Regional Entry Form and Regular Season Information

- A. To be eligible to participate in the seeding/ranking process, teams must complete the following:
 - a. **REGIONAL ENTRY FORM:** Each team is to complete its Regional Entry Form online prior to the Online Roster and Record Deadline.
 - b. **REGULAR SEASON INFORMATION:** Each team must also complete their Regular Season Information. Teams should enter all of their scheduled dates, results of those completed contests, and any notes regarding their contests or team.
- B. Only those contestants listed on the Regional Entry Form are eligible to participate.
 - a. A maximum of 15 uniformed players may be listed on the roster.
- C. No changes will be permitted on the Regional Entry Form **after the Roster Closed Deadline at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29, 2025.**

5. On-line Seeding

- A. **ONLINE SEEDING:** Following the closing of the record submission step, the record information for all schools will be automatically tabulated. The IESA will review all results, break ties and confirm seeds. Results will be posted online in each regional bracket on the assignment page.

6. On-Line Bracket Information

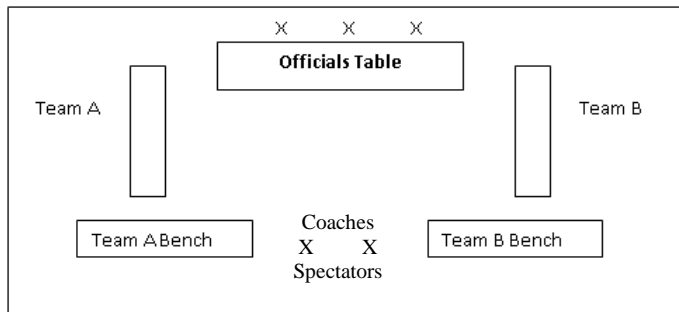
- A. Host schools will be able to post their regional tournament location and schedule information on-line via the IESA website.
- B. Host schools may enter this information through the IESA member center log-in page. You will need your scholastic bowl password to complete this process.
- C. Once you have accessed your school page, click on the link for the regional you are hosting. You will find this information next to the heading of "Host Administration".
- D. After clicking the appropriate link, you will be able to access the following information:
 - a. You will be able to view the regional entry form for your school.
 - b. **Download Entry Data-** You will be able to download the entry data (rosters) for all schools within your regional. This information is very helpful if you are creating a program for your regional tournament. The data may be downloaded by either a Mac or a PC. Choose the format that works best with your computer. The information will be opened in Excel.
 - c. **View Regional Rosters-** Once all schools have entered their regional entry forms, you may view that information from this link.
 - d. **Set Regional Dates/Locations** - Host schools will enter tournament information for display on-line. Tournament information consists of the times and location of tournament matches.
 1. **Location information:** It is important that the complete address be added for the location of the tournament. By entering the complete address (street address, city, zip), a map and directions will be linked to your bracket. All of this information will be available for competing teams and fans to view from the Regional Assignments page on the IESA website.
 2. **Schedule:** Enter the start time for each round of play. If you are going to conduct a dinner break, please make sure you schedule your rounds accordingly.
 - e. **Set Regional Results-** You will be able to enter regional results after each round of play. The results feed directly into the bracket for your tournament. Please complete this information immediately following your tournament on Wednesday night. Timely completion of the bracket information is very helpful to the IESA in moving on to Sectional play.
 - f. **Email Regional Coaches and Email Regional Administrators-** This will provide you with an email form that will allow you to communicate with all coaches and/or administrators in your regional.
- E. Take a moment to review the information online to make sure that the map generated is actually giving directions to your site. If you have any problems with this process, please contact the IESA Office.
- F. Additionally, please make sure that you are posting your tournament information online in a timely manner. Teams, fans, and officials readily use this information.

7. Regional Host Packet

- A. A regional host packet will be sent to your school via UPS prior to your tournament. Packets are sent to the IESA mailing contact listed for your school. Please make sure that your school office staff forwards the host packet to you.
- B. The following items will be included in your Regional packet:
 - a. A check for **\$50.00 per match**. This amount will cover the cost of the moderator and tournament personnel per match.
 - b. Plaque presentation sheet
 - c. Sealed envelopes containing questions and moderator instructions. **THIS INFORMATION IS FOR THE MODERATORS ONLY. DO NOT OPEN OR REVIEW THE QUESTIONS.** Please give this information directly to your moderators as soon as possible.

8. Tournament Format

- A. Please make sure that all schools assigned to your regional know where to access the schedule and location information for your tournament. Remember- Regional tournaments may start no later than 4:30 p.m.
- B. **TOURNAMENT QUESTIONS:** Keep the questions sealed and give the sealed packets to your moderators as soon as possible.
- C. **REGIONAL ENTRY FORMS:** You can print a copy of the Regional Entry forms in your Host Center on the IESA website.
- D. Each round of play should begin at the same time.
- E. Room set-up reminder: Please set-up your competition rooms as closely as possible to the diagram.



- F. Close the door at the beginning of each match and keep it closed until the 2-minute half-time. After the half-time, the doors will close again and fans will not be permitted to re-enter. The purpose of this requirement is to keep distractions to a minimum for participating teams and officials.
- G. Teams may switch sides at the half at the request of one coach. It does not have to be agreed upon by both of the coaches.
- H. **BRACKET SET-UP:** Regional tournaments must be set-up as follows:

3: Three-team regional for round-robin competition are as follows:

<u>Round 1</u>	<u>Round 2</u>	<u>Round 3</u>	Teams that finish 2-0 automatically advance to the Sectional. If there is a tie for first following round-robin play, please refer to Rule 1, Section 6 in the Scholastic Bowl Rule Book.
2 vs. 3	1 vs. 3	1 vs. 2	
1 -BYE	2- BYE	3- BYE	

Site Specifics - 1 Room, 1 Moderator, 3 Matches

4: Four-team regional for round-robin competition are as follows

<u>Round 1</u>	<u>Round 2</u>	<u>Round 3</u>	Teams that finish 3-0 automatically advance to the Sectional. If there is a tie for first following round-robin play, please refer to Rule 1, Section 6 in the Scholastic Bowl Rule Book.
1 vs. 4	1 vs. 3	1 vs. 2	
2 vs. 3	2 vs. 4	3 vs. 4	

Site Specifics - 2 Rooms, 2 Moderators, 6 Matches

5: Five-team regional for round-robin competition are as follows:

	<u>Round 1</u>	<u>Round 2</u>	<u>Round 3</u>	<u>Round 4</u>
Pool A	1 vs. 5 4- BYE	4 vs. 5 1- BYE	1 vs. 4 5- BYE	Pool A Winner Vs.
Pool B	2 vs. 3	2 vs. 3	2 vs. 3 (if necessary)	Pool B Winner

Site Specifics - 2 Rooms, 2 Moderators, 5-7 Matches

6: Six-team regional for round-robin competition are as follows:

<u>Round 1</u>	<u>Round 2</u>	<u>Round 3</u>	<u>Round 4</u>
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Pool A	1 vs. 5 4- BYE	4 vs. 5 1- BYE	1 vs. 4 5- BYE	Pool A Winner Vs.
Pool B	3 vs. 6 2- BYE	2 vs. 6 3-BYE	2 vs. 3 6- BYE	Pool B Winner
Site Specifics - 2 Rooms, 2 Moderators, 5-7 Matches				

7: Seven-team regional for round-robin competition are as follows:

	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
Pool A	1 vs. 5 4- BYE	4 vs. 5 1- BYE	1 vs. 4 5- BYE	Pool A Winner Vs.
Pool B	2 vs. 7 3 vs. 6	2 vs. 6 3 vs. 7	2 vs. 3 6 vs. 7	B Winner
Site Specifics - 3 Rooms, 3 Moderators, 9-10 Matches				

- I. Following the Scholastic Bowl regional online seeding procedure (Monday of Week 42), any scholastic bowl team that withdraws from the state series will result in the regional bracket being updated to reflect any potential changes to the seeds of the remaining schools. Following a withdrawal within a three-team regional, the two remaining teams will take part in a best of three competition to determine the regional champion.
- J. **Calling off a match in reference to five team, six team and Pool A of seven team regionals (If necessary matches):** If two teams are scheduled to play in round three with neither team able to advance to Round 4, the match may be called off pending approval of both coaches. Both coaches will then inform the host school that the match has been called off. **In this instance, the host school should enter both scores online as "0".**

9. Tournament Policies

- A. **CLARIFICATION TIME-OUTS:** Clarification timeouts may only be used to clarify match procedures. A clarification time-out must be requested by the coach before the reading of the bonus question or the next toss-up category is given. Only one clarification time-out by each team per match is allowed.
- B. **PROTESTS:**
- a. Answers may not be protested.
 - b. Once a match has begun, it cannot be protested.
- C. **CROWD CONTROL:** While the host school for any activity must assume primary responsibility for the physical management of the activity, including providing for crowd control, this is a mutual responsibility. Visiting schools must also take such measures as necessary to ensure proper behavior on the part of their own students and spectators.
- a. The ideals of good sportsmanship must be maintained at all times. Persons who refuse to cooperate should be reported to tournament management. If necessary, they should be removed from the premises.
- D. **EJECTION:** If a player, coach, or fan is ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct during your contest, please notify the IESA Office of the ejection. Players ejected from a contest will be ineligible for all remaining interscholastic contests the day of the ejection and the next interscholastic contest. Coaches ejected from a contest will be ineligible for all remaining interscholastic contests the day of the ejection and the next two interscholastic contests.
- E. **TOURNAMENT QUESTIONS:** Coaches from the host school are not permitted to review any of the questions prior to tournament play.
- a. No reproduction of questions- written, videotape, or tape recorded- is permitted at any level of IESA state series tournament play by competing schools or visitors. The questions used for state series play are copyrighted.
- F. All fans that attend IESA state series contests must wear shirts at all times.
- G. Prayer at an IESA state series contest that takes place over a public address system is prohibited.

10. Format for State Series Question Sets

- A. A match will consist of 24 toss-up questions and 20 bonus questions.

- a. All bonus questions will be 4-part questions.
- b. Half-time of a match will take place after the 12th toss-up question and accompanying bonus question are read.
- B. The regional question sets will consist of 5 rounds. The extra round of questions is to be used in case a set of questions has been mistakenly read in a match.
- C. Tiebreakers
 - a. Match tie-breaker toss-up questions (green set) should be used to break a tie at the end of a match.
 - b. **NEW: Art. 4 If more than two teams have equal records in any pool or tournament, other than that which is described in Art. 2, then the team with the highest total number of points in all matches combined throughout the competition shall finish as the pool winner. If two teams have the same number of points combined, the winner of the match between the two teams will break the tie.**
 - c. Please see the **2024-2025** Scholastic Bowl Rules for tie-break specifics.
- D. Question Set Colors
 - a. White- Toss-up questions
 - b. Blue- Bonus questions
 - c. Green- Match Tiebreaker Toss-ups
 - d. Yellow- Replacement Toss-up and Bonus questions

11. Awards

- A. **REGIONAL PLAQUE:** The regional plaque will be sent to you from our supplier in Princeton (A&M Products).
 - 1. If you have any problems receiving your plaque, contact the IESA Office as soon as possible.
- B. **AWARDS PRESENTATION:** Present the regional winner with the plaque at the conclusion of the tournament. Please let the regional winners know that they will receive information concerning the state tournament from the IESA Office via email.

12. Moderators/Tournament Personnel

- A. The officials for each match in the state series will include a moderator and tournament personnel. The moderator has the final authority and all decisions are final.
- B. **HIRING MODERATORS:** It is the regional host's responsibility to contract the necessary moderators for the regional.
 - a. Moderators must be at least 18 years of age or older.
 - b. Please hire experienced moderators for each round of play and make sure they have reviewed the questions prior to the matches so that pronunciations and other questions may be resolved.
 - c. Please enter the email address for all moderators at your site online in the Host Entry Center on the IESA website. We may need to email your moderators question corrections that are made prior to the tournament.
- C. **COMMUNICATION WITH MODERATORS:**
 - a. To Moderators: Be sure to contact the moderators with specific information about parking, etc.
 - b. A moderator must contact the IESA Office prior to the beginning of any state series tournament regarding the replacement of any selected tournament questions or the changing of answers to any selected questions.
- D. **Tournament Personnel:**
 - a. They will enter the team rosters, note every attempted answer, note every correct answer, record the running score.
 - b. Notify the moderator if anyone is communicating illegally. Serve as an assistant judge.
 - c. Mark both team and clarification timeouts on the score sheets.
 - d. Have the moderator sign the score sheet at the conclusion of the match.
 - e. Scorekeepers should be familiar with responsibilities during the match.

g. Serves as an assistant judge and should notify the moderator if anyone is communicating illegally.

- F. If you are having trouble securing scorekeepers, ask participating schools to assist by bringing an individual with them to help fill this position.**
- G. Please note that the IESA removed the requirement that tournament personnel at the regional and sectional tournament should be 18 years or older so that host schools could use high school team members who have knowledge of the game and its rules. However, junior high students may not be used in this position.
- H. PAYMENT:** Regional moderators should be paid **\$30.00 per match** with no mileage. Scorekeepers should be paid **\$20.00** per match. Moderators and tournament personnel should be paid the day of the tournament.
- I. Please provide the moderators with the instructions included with this mailing.** Additionally, there is a moderator training video available on the IESA website.

13. Emergency Planning

- A. **Please make sure that your tournament manager is visible and present for every contest. It is essential that the officials and teams know who this person is and can quickly locate them.**
- B. Review your school's emergency plan with those who will be working your tournament.

14. Weather Instructions

- A. Contact information**
- Make sure that you get an emergency phone number for each team that will be participating in your regional tournament. This should be a number for a phone that will be travelling on the team bus.
 - Make sure that each team participating in your regional has a phone number for your tournament manager. This number should be for a number that will be answered after school hours.
- B. **By-law 5.074:** Teams that cannot attend a scholastic bowl regional or sectional due to weather may forfeit without penalty. However, only when a majority of the schools scheduled to compete in the contest are not able to participate due to weather will the contest be rescheduled.

15. Coaches Meeting

It is recommended that a coaches' meeting be held prior to the start of the first match, in order to clarify procedures, introduce the tournament manager, and provide an opportunity to answer any coach's questions.

This should be scheduled 15 minutes prior to the start of the first round of tournament play.