

# ***IESA Scholastic Bowl Activity Update***

***2024-2025***



## **Communication Rule Reminder**

This information may be found in the IESA Scholastic Bowl Rulebook and should be reviewed with team personnel.

**7-1-1:** Communication is defined as any form of written, verbal, or physical exchange between players and between players and non-players to gain an advantage

**7-1-2:** Communication includes but is not limited to: Talking, whispering, or mouthing; Pointing, gesturing, signaling; Passing of papers; Deliberate physical contact with the intent to gain another player's attention □ Looking at another player's written materials for answers. Using your communication device □ (Example: Cell Phone)

## **Illegal Communication**

### **ILLEGAL COMMUNICATION (7-1-4)**

- If a player(s) on either team communicates with the other immediately forfeits its right to answer that question. □
- If a player on either team talks to question a match procedure or a particular answer, that team will forfeit its opportunity to answer the next toss-up question.
- If a coach on either team talks to question match procedure or a particular answer without following protocol, then that team will forfeit its opportunity to answer the next toss-up question. □
- Communication between spectators and players is always illegal. □ Any disruption caused by a team member's communication device will cause that team to forfeit the right to answer the question at the time of disruption and the next question.

## **Legal Communication**

### **Legal Communication (7- 1-3)**

- Players introducing themselves or their coach. □
- Answering toss-up or bonus questions (individual only). □
- While consulting on a bonus question, any member of the team awarded the bonus question may ask for it to be repeated within the 30-second time limit. □
- While asking for the lock-out system to be reset, and on the systems where a visible clock is in use, that the timer be engaged.

## **Important Dates**

Entry Deadline	10/7
Final Entry Deadline	11/1
Matches May Begin	1/27
Initial Season Schedule Deadline	2/26
Online Roster/Record Deadline	4/21
Rosters Closed	4/29
Regional Tournament	4/30
Sectional Tournament	5/5
State Tournament	5/9

- In order to count a match on your season record, it must be played using IESA rules. Example: I play in a tournament where they use 20 tossups and 20 bonuses. These matches cannot be counted. IESA rules state that the match must consist of 24 tossups and 20 bonuses.
- Initial season schedule due online Feb 26.
- You must compete in a minimum of three contests using IESA Rules scheduled to be eligible for the State Series
- No changes will be permitted to your online roster after 4:00 p.m. on April 29
- Timeouts cannot be called between tossups and bonuses.

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### **Scholastic Bowl Changes and Reminders**

#### **CALENDAR REMINDER**

As you look forward to scheduling contests and officials for future years, please keep in mind that the calendar will “roll” in the 2024-2025 school year.

The IESA uses a standardized calendar to schedule dates and seasons. The standardized calendar starts with Week 1 being assigned to the first full week in July. In 2024, the first full week of July begins on Sunday, July 7th.

This shift in dates will alter the dates of seasons and tournaments more than the usual 1 or 2 days. Please make sure that you keep this in mind and check the season starting dates for all activities before beginning practice. In addition, please check the regional/sectional dates before setting your schedule for the 24-25 season.

A ten-year standardized season [calendar](#) is available on the IESA website.

**New:** Beginning this year, The IESA Scholastic Bowl Advisory Committee will recognize two coaches, one from Class A and one from Class AA, as well as an individual who actively promotes the activity of scholastic bowl outside of coaching, i.e., moderator or mentor. There will be more information shared with administrators and coaches later this fall.

**New: By-Law 2.126-**Coaches will be allowed to moderate regular season matches. It is recommended that schools contact their opponent ahead of their match, informing them that they will moderate their match. Coaches do have the option at halftime to switch rolls and moderate the second half of the match.

**New: Rule Book- 1.1.A2-** : The Home team will provide the questions for all regular season matches. If more than two matches are going to be played, the home team will communicate with their opponent to bring a question set.

**New: Rule Book -5.3.4a-** During the regular season, before a match begins, coaches can agree to use one sudden death toss-up question or use the current three questions provided in the question packet.

**New: Rule Book- 5.2.1e-** If the wrong team buzzes in during the opposing team’s conferring time, they will be given a warning by the moderator. If they buzz in again during the conferring time, they will lose the opportunity to rebound any remaining parts of the bonus.



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**New: Rule Book 1.6.4-** 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. Rationale: At the State Tournament, if there is a tie to determine the pool runner-up (consolation), this is the format used to determine the pool runner-up. Changing the Pool Tiebreaker to this format will save 30-45 minutes at a Regional, Sectional, and Sate competition.

**New: Rule Book 3.2.2d2 & 5.1.f-** Recognize the player by name (or in some fashion) whose lockout light is lit. d2. If a player on either team answers before being recognized by the moderator, that team that blurted the answer is given five (5) points for a correct answer and the bonus question. If the answer is incorrect the toss-up question would then be rebounded to the opponent. Rule 5.1.f - If a player, after triggering the lockout system and gaining possession but before being recognized by the moderator by name (or in some fashion), blurts out the answer, the only penalty is that a correct answer will be worth five (5) points instead of ten (10) points. The accompanying bonus will then be awarded to the team who blurted the answer. An incorrect answer will be ruled as incorrect with no penalty and the toss-up rebounded to the opponent

**New: Change to Rule 3.2.2.g1-** While answers should be assumed to be correct, It doesn't make sense to go with a written answer that is clearly wrong. If both teams' coaches agree that the answer is wrong, that answer may be overturned. If both coaches don't agree the answer is wrong, then the written answer must be the required answer.

**New: Change to Rule 5.4.7-** Leading articles are not required, but if they are given, then the article must be correct.

### 2024-2025 Points of Emphasis

- Sportsmanship
- Bonus Procedures
- Change to pool play tiebreaker
- Communication Rule



SCHOLASTIC BOWL ADMINISTRATOR: CHRIS FRASCO  
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### Hosts Needed

- If you are interested in hosting a regional or sectional tournament, please submit your interest online in your member center.

#### General Reminders

#### Team Requirements:

- Five players are required to start a match. Less than five team members may containue in the match if there are extenuating circumstances. □
- Each team must provide a name placard with each member's first name and a team name placard for each match in which it participates. Please remember that this is a requirement for both the regular and post-season. □
- To be considered a legal match under IESA rules, the match must not be shortened in any way. The match must consist of 24 tossups and 20 bonus questions.

#### Moderators Needed

The Illinois Elementary School Association is always looking for new moderators to not only incorporate during the state series but recommend to member schools during the regular season. Teams may recommend moderators by including their name and contact information on the Regional Roster. If there are qualified individuals in your area, please add their information in the provided space on your roster form. Moderator training materials are available on the IESA website for those who are new to moderating.



The Academic Competition Scoreboard System