

Scholar Bowl Official Rules & Tournament Bracket

1. Tournament Structure

- a. Eight teams will compete in a single-elimination style tournament.
- b. Each match will consist of two, 8-minute periods.

2. Participants

- a. Teams will consist of up to five contestants.
- b. Only three contestants will actively compete at a time – the remaining contestants shall be considered alternates.
- c. Only active contestants may signal to answer, answer a question, or ask for a time-out.
- d. Only active contestants may deliberate before providing an answer.
- e. Contestant substitution may be made during match play:
 - i. During a time-out;
 - ii. During intermission;
 - iii. At the conclusion of the match but prior to sudden death tie-breaker or overtime period.
- f. No contestant may compete for two or more different teams in the course of the tournament.
- g. A team that fails to appear at their scheduled competition start time will forfeit their match.

3. Questions

- a. An official question set will be compiled prior to the tournament and only questions from this set will be used during official game play.
- b. During the Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals, questions will be of general knowledge. During the Finals, questions about Phi Theta Kappa history/trivia will also be included.
- c. Once a question is read it will be retired and removed from the official question set for the duration of the tournament.
- d. All questions will be asked as tossups.
- e. A team must signal their desire to answer a question.
- f. The team that signals first will be verbally recognized by the host and allowed to answer the question.
- g. A team may signal before the host finishes reading the question but must wait to be verbally recognized by the host before answering.
- h. An answer begun before the host verbally recognizes the team will be considered incorrect.
- i. If an incorrect answer is given, the opposing team will be recognized and given a chance to answer.
- j. If the buzzer sounds (indicating end of period) while a question is being read, the host will continue reading the question and teams will have a chance to signal as normal.
- k. Tournament judge will signal:
 - i. Correct answers with an electric bell;
 - ii. Incorrect answers with an electric buzzer.

4. Scoring

- a. Tossup questions will be worth:
 - i. 1 point each in the 1st period;
 - ii. 2 points each in the 2nd period;
 - iii. 2 points each in overtime period of championship match (if applicable).
- b. The team with the higher total score at the end of the match is considered the winner.
- c. If the score is tied at the conclusion of a Quarter-Final Round or Semi-Final Round match, the winner will be determined by sudden death.
- d. If the score is tied at the conclusion of the championship match, a 2-minute overtime period will be played. If the score is still tied at the conclusion of the overtime period, the winner will be determined by sudden death.

5. Time-Keeping

- a. The clock will start when the host begins reading the first question.
- b. The clock will not stop except:
 - i. At the end of the period;
 - ii. At the end of the match;
 - iii. When a timeout is granted;
 - iv. When a game official calls for temporary suspension of play.
- c. A buzzer will sound signaling the end of the period.
- d. Each match will consist of two, 8-minute periods separated by a two-minute intermission;
 - i. Teams may ask for a 30 second timeout: One timeout may be granted per team during Quarter-Final, Semi-Final Round and the Final Match.
- e. Teams will have three seconds to signal once a question is read.
 - i. If neither team signals within five seconds, the question is considered dead and neither team may answer.
 - ii. A buzzer will sound signaling the end of the five seconds.
- f. A team has three seconds to begin their answer once verbally recognized by the host:
 - i. A buzzer will sound signaling the end of the three seconds;
 - ii. An answer must begin prior to the three seconds but may continue past the three-second mark.
- g. Standard timing rules apply for overtime periods and sudden death tie-breakers.

	Quarter-Final Round Matches	Semi-Final Round Matches	Final Match
Question Type	Tossup Time Keeping	Tossup/Math	Tossup/Math
Periods	2	2	2
Period Length	8 minutes	8 minutes	8 minutes
Tie-Breaker	Sudden Death	Sudden Death	2-minute overtime
Time-Outs (30 seconds ea.)	1 per team	1 per team	1 per team

Intermission	2 minutes	2 minutes	2 minutes
Scoring			
Tossup (1st Period)	1 point	1 point	1 point
Tossup (2nd Period)	2 points	2 points	2 points
Math	2 Points	2 points	2 points
Tossup (Overtime)	None	None	2 points

Figure 1: Marketplace Competitions Scholar Bowl Time-Keeping and Scoring Summary

Protests

- a. Contestants may request clarification and possible correction of an error in the following:
 - i. Proper evaluation of a team's answer (Correct vs. Incorrect)
 - ii. Correctness of a question including how it is worded, how it is read, and choices given if multiple choice.
 - iii. Proper application of game rules including time-keeping, scoring or other game-play rules.
- b. Protests may only be lodged by an active contestant or contestant who was active at the time of the incident.
- c. Protests regarding proper evaluation of a team's answer or correctness of a question must be lodged during a timeout, at the end of a period or at the end of the match.
- d. Protests regarding game play rules or procedures may be lodged at any time during a match.
- e. If a tournament official hears a protest his/her decision or correction will be considered final.
- f. A tournament official may choose to temporarily suspend game play in order to consider or correct an issue brought to his/her attention by protest.

*Figure 2. Marketplace Competitions Quiz Bowl
Tournament Bracket (**graphic to come**)*

MATCH 1:

DIVISION I
QUARTERFINAL
FRIDAY
8:30 AM

MATCH 5:

EAST
SEMIFINAL
FRIDAY
4:30 PM

MATCH 2:

DIVISION II
QUARTERFINAL
FRIDAY
9:00 AM

MATCH 6:

WEST
SEMIFINAL
FRIDAY
5:00 PM

MATCH 3:

DIVISION III
QUARTERFINAL
FRIDAY
12:00 PM

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH:

SATURDAY
10:30 AM

MATCH 4:

DIVISION IV
QUARTERFINAL
FRIDAY
12:30 PM