

OSS 2016 Battle of the Books Event Explanation & Details

Hello 4th & 5th Grade Team Parents:

Here is a brief explanation about the format for the Battle night:

All teams (11 for 4th grade night; 9 for 5th grade night) and their Parent Team Manager will have assigned seating in the center section of the OSS auditorium. Your team will sit together in rows labeled with your team names. The emcee will call 3 or 4 teams for preliminary round #1 and they will be asked to sit up on the stage in chairs, by team. *Note: the emcees and/or BOTB co-chairs will randomly determine which teams will be in each of the preliminary rounds. This will not be announced until Battle night.*

The emcee will begin the Battle by asking the team on the left of the stage the first question. That team will give an answer and they will be told by the emcee if the answer is correct or not correct. If the answer was incorrect, the emcee will give the team the correct answer and move onto the next team. The next team will be asked a different question and the same process will be followed. All teams will be asked a total of 10 questions during this preliminary round. The questions used on Battle nights are different than the practice questions issued in advance of the event.

There will be two parents keeping score during the event, and one timekeeper. The scorekeepers and timekeepers, on each respective night, cannot have 4th or 5th graders participating in the Battle. Teams will get 5 points for answering the correct book title and 3 points for answering with the correct author, for a total of 8 points maximum per question given. If the team only gets the title correct they will get 5 points. However, 3 points are not given if only the author is provided. To recap, both title and author correct gets 8 points; title correct and author incorrect is 5 points; title incorrect and author correct is 0 points; and title and author incorrect is 0 points awarded to the team.

At the end of the preliminary round#1, the scorekeepers will tally the scores and the emcee will announce each team's total points for the round. Following preliminary round #1 all teams return to their assigned seats in the auditorium and a new group of 3 or 4 teams take the stage for preliminary round #2, and subsequently preliminary round #3.

After all preliminary rounds are completed, scorekeepers will compare scores and the teams with the highest totals will move into the championship round. The championship round will be run using the same format as the preliminary rounds. If five or fewer teams qualify for the championship round, a 10 question round will be held. If six or more teams qualify, they will be divided equally, and there will be two

rounds with 5 questions in each. Ties will be broken by elimination rounds, if necessary. The winner of the championship round is the Battle Team Champion.

All teams will have 30 seconds to answer their questions. The timer starts the moment the emcee finishes reading the question. The team spokesperson must take the microphone and begin stating the answer BEFORE the 30 seconds ends. The parent timekeeper will announce a 10 second warning so that the team knows that time is running out. If the spokesperson begins the answer AFTER the 30 seconds, no points are given even if the answer is correct. The spokesperson can answer as soon as the team has their answer even if that is only a few seconds after the question is read. The spokesperson must discuss the answer with their team before answering. It is a good idea to have the spokesperson restate their answer to the team before delivering the answer to the emcee.

If the emcee happens to make a mistake when reading a question, then the question will be restated for the group. Teams are not allowed to ask for a question to be repeated. You should coach your team to listen very carefully and to always make a good guess even if they are not completely sure of the answer.

We hope this helps give you a little more insight into the Battle night specifics. Please don't hesitate to ask us any questions. You may also forward this onto the parents on your team.

Good Luck!

Kim Elber & Dawn Wiehe