

US Academic Bee Rules Sheet

Thank you for participating in today's US Academic Bee Regional Tournament! This document is intended as an outline of the rules of the competition. If you have specific questions regarding more detailed aspects of the rules, please ask a tournament official.

The Bee is played in two sections – Preliminaries and Finals. During the Preliminary Section, students will play against up to 9 other students in an individual, buzzer-based competition in a race to answer 35 questions. There are 2 preliminary rounds, so 70 total questions. Each correct tossup answer will earn students one point. Once students reach 7 points, they are finished for the round and they will earn bonus points based on how quickly they finish.

| If you reach 7 correct on Tossup #... | ...you receive # bonus points. |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 7 | 7 |
| 8, 9, 10 | 6 |
| 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 | 5 |
| 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 | 4 |
| 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 | 3 |
| 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 | 2 |
| 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 | 1 |

To prevent matches from going on too long, three incorrect answers will end the opportunity to answer a particular tossup question for all students. **If the reader is still reading the question, and students give the third incorrect answer, they will be deducted one point.** If the reader has finished reading the question, there is no penalty. There is no penalty for giving either the first or the second incorrect answer.

The reader will wait three seconds after he or she has finished reading the question before calling it dead and moving on to the next. If someone rings in during this time, and is incorrect, then the three second count begins again. The reader will also allow students three seconds after they have buzzed in to give their answer. They need not be recognized before they give their answer, although it is advisable to wait. Timing decisions are not protestable. If students wish to protest, they must bring it to the reader's attention before immediately (i.e. before the next question begins), then fill out a protest form at the end of the round. Only students may protest – coaches and parents may not. Students may also only protest answers they themselves gave that were ruled incorrect – not answers that other students gave that were ruled correct.

If the reader botches a question, then there are makeup questions included with each round that can be used. If students speak out of turn, they do not lose a point, but they are disqualified for the question. The question is still alive for everyone else.

After the Preliminary rounds are over, the top individuals will move into the Finals Section. **Ask your director how many students will make the finals in each division today! and what the finals structure will look like. Good luck!**