



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Emily Owens, State Director



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Welcome new and returning coaches!

Agenda:

- Overview of the Program for New Coaches and Schools
- Sharing Our Season Priorities
- 2024 Events
- Regional Format and Tournaments
- State Tournament
- Registration and Pricing
- Opportunities outside VASO



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Science Olympiad: An Overview

Science Olympiad is:

- One of the premier science tournament organizations in the United States
- An international non-profit organization
- Devoted to improving the quality of science education
- An exposure to many fields of science
- Focused on coordinating with schools and meeting national curriculum standards



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Science Olympiad: An Overview

Science Olympiad is **not**:

- Science Fair – students do not create their own projects
- An emphasis on any one particular field of science
- A competition for individuals; SO is team-based



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Science Olympiad: A Team Event

- 15 students per team covering up to 23 events
 - Schools can field up to three teams for regionals (and more than three for invitational-only teams)
 - Teams don't have to have 15 members
- Events cover a wide range of science topics, so students often have expert topic areas
- Students compete in all events with a partner or two
- Students receive medals by event
- Team scores determined by student scores in individual events
- Top teams progress to the next level of competition



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

For New Coaches

New Coach Q&A

Saturday, September 23

10 AM on Zoom

Come with *any* questions you have!

For New and Returning Coaches

Coach's Clinic

Saturday, October 14

Morning on Zoom



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Season Priorities

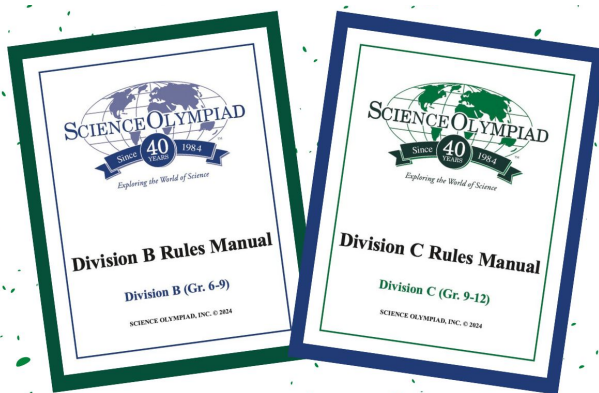
- **Continuing our commitment to great tournaments**
 - Expanding our in-person regional offerings
 - Listening to your feedback from last season
- **Expanding our work with hosts, alumni and sponsors**
 - Continuing partnerships with UVA, VT and UMW
- **Supporting teams and coaches, especially new ones**
 - Encouraging expansion of new teams outside NOVA with our VASO Outreach Initiative



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Events

Nationals rules are out! Download them if you haven't already.





2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Division C Events

Group A

Disease Detectives C
Fermi Questions C
Forensics C

Group B

Detector Building C
Fossils C
Write It, Do It C

Group C

Experimental Design C
Geologic Mapping C
Microbe Mission C

Self-Scheduled

Air Trajectory C
Flight C
Robot Tour C
Scrambler C
Tower C

Group D

Chem Lab C
Codebusters C
Ecology C

Group E

Dynamic Planet C
Forestry C
Wind Power C

Group F

Anatomy & Physiology C
Astronomy C
Optics C

- **Flight** may run at select VASO Regional Tournaments, and will also run at States.
- **Red events** are States only and will not show up on the Regionals schedules.



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Division B Events

Group A

Disease Detectives B
Fast Facts B
Meteorology B

Group B

Can't Judge a Powder B
Ecology B
Write It, Do It B

Group C

Crime Busters B
Optics B
Road Scholar B

Self-Scheduled

Air Trajectory B
Flight B
Roller Coaster B
Tower B
Wheeled Vehicle B

Group D

Codebusters B
Forestry B
Reach for the Stars B

Group E

Experimental Design B
Fossils B
Microbe Mission B

Group F

Anatomy & Physiology B
Dynamic Planet B
Wind Power B

- **Flight** may run at select VASO Regional Tournaments, and will also run at States.
- **Red events** are States only and will not show up on the Regionals schedules.



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

What if you have a smaller team?

You don't have to do every event!

Group A	Group B	Group C	Self-Scheduled
Disease Detectives B	Can't Judge a Powder B	Crime Busters B	Air Trajectory B
Fast Facts B	Ecology B	Optics B	Flight B
Meteorology B	Write It, Do It B	Road Scholar B	Roller Coaster B
			Tower B
			Wheeled Vehicle B
Group D	Group E	Group F	
Codebusters B	Experimental Design B	Anatomy & Physiology B	
Forestry B	Fossils B	Dynamic Planet B	
Reach for the Stars B	Microbe Mission B	Wind Power B	

This is just one example of how you could make it work, but you could pick *any* events. This works for 8-12 students, covering 2-3 events each.

Note: Most teams that qualify for the State tournament participate in every event with a full roster. But stay tuned to hear an exciting update!



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

What if you have a smaller team?

You don't have to do every event!

Group A	Group B	Group C	Self-Scheduled
Disease Detectives C	Detector Building C	Experimental Design C	Air Trajectory C
Fermi Questions C	Fossils C	Geologic Mapping C	Flight C
Forensics C	Write It, Do It C	Microbe Mission C	Robot Tour C
			Scrambler C
			Tower C
Group D	Group E	Group F	
Chem Lab C	Dynamic Planet C	Anatomy & Physiology C	
Codebusters C	Forestry C	Astronomy C	
Ecology C	Wind Power C	Optics C	

This is just one example of how you could make it work, but you could pick *any* events. This works for 8-12 students, covering 2-3 events each.

Note: Most teams that qualify for the State tournament participate in every event with a full roster. But stay tuned to hear an exciting update!



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Event Support

- **For Coaches - Coach's Clinic - Sat. October 14**
 - We go through how coaches can familiarize themselves with the rules, and how they can guide their students through reading them.
- **For Competitors - New Student-Focused Webinars from Nationals (starting in October)**
 - **Tech Tuesdays** - Build Event Focused, How-To
 - **Thinking Thursdays** - Core Knowledge Focused, Understanding Content



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Build Event Support

- **For Competitors - New VASO YouTube series!**
 - Short videos (≤ 15 min) that focus on basic information, how to test at home/school, tips, common errors, etc.
Examples:
 - How to Build a Simple Wind Power Test Stand
 - Common Measurement Errors for Blade Assembly
 - How to Work with Balsa
 - How to Test Your Tower at Home or School
 - Not live and no set schedule, so subscribe to our YouTube channel and other social media to know when a new video drops



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Regional Tournaments

- **No More Scilympiad for VASO** - We're back to full-day in-person regional tournaments.
- Teams will give their preferences for their regional tournament when they complete registration.
- **Three** Division B regionals, **Four** Division C regionals
 - Still finalizing all dates and locations, but focused on February Saturdays



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Tournaments

Saturday, January 27 - Virginia Tech Division C Invitational



**SCIENCE OLYMPIAD
AT VIRGINIA TECH**

Saturday, February 17 - Virginia Tech Division C Regional

2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Tournaments

Saturday, February 17 - UMW Division B&C Regional

University of
Mary Washington

Two More Regionals to Announce

2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Regional Tournaments

This is just an example. It won't match all regionals.

But you can see that it is a *full day*.

Doors Open/Head Coaches Check In Students Report to Home Bases*		7:30	Impound Devices 8:00-8:50	Events	Session 1 (9:00-9:55)	Session 2 (10:05-11:00)	Session 3 (11:10-12:05)	Lunch Break (12:10-12:40)	Session 4 (12:40-1:35)	Session 5 (1:45-2:40)	Session 6 (2:50-3:45)	Session 7 (3:55-4:45)	Clean-Up (4:45-5:30)
		Event		1-10	11-20	21-30							
		Event		1-10	11-20	21-30							
		Event		1-10	11-20	21-30							
		Event		21-30	1-10	11-20							
		Event		21-30	1-10	11-20							
		Event		21-30	1-10	11-20							
		Event		11-20	21-30	1-10							
		Event		11-20	21-30	1-10							
		Event		11-20	21-30	1-10							
		Event											
		Event											
		Event											
		Event											
		Event											
		Event											
		Event											
		Air Trajectory		sched	sched	sched							
		Flight		sched	sched	sched							
		Roller Coaster / Robot Tour		sched	sched	sched							
		Tower		sched	sched	sched							
		Wheeled Vehicle / Scrambler		sched	sched	sched							



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Regional Model Realities

- **In-person tournaments require more support.**
- Teams will have to provide shift volunteers like they did last year for our Hands-On Days *and*
- Teams will have to provide event supervisors who are in charge of an event on tournament day, from setup to administration to grading - *but not writing the test.*
 - More info on this will be shared with coaches to help them in choosing their proposed supervisors and relaying expectations to them.



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Regional Model Realities

- **Some regionals require more of teams than others.**
- Our regionals in Charlottesville and Blacksburg in the past have been heavily staffed by UVA and VT students, asking less of teams. Something to keep in mind as you decide on your regional preferences...
- **For any tournament, head coaches are expected to be on site for the duration of their team's competition.**
- In the event that a head coach is unable to attend a tournament, it is the responsibility of the coach to designate a replacement authorized by the principal to represent the school, and to inform the tournament director of this change.

From the Team
Expectations Policy
that is now a
required
registration form



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 State Tournament

**engineering
student council**
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA



Science Olympiad
at University of Virginia

- We expect to have the State tournament fully in-person at UVA in early-mid April. A date will be shared once confirmed.
- The National tournament will take place in-person at Michigan State University May 24-25, 2023.



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

New! Gold Bids to State

Schools qualify as a team for the State tournament and are free to reconfigure and take any 15-student team of students they want to that State tournament.

VASO is excited to announce an exception to this bid process, called a **Gold Bid**.

If a school does not qualify for the State tournament, but does have a team that takes gold (first place) in a regional event, the specific students of that event team are invited to the State tournament to compete in that specific event.



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

New! Gold Bids to State

Example from the 2023 Michigan season:

- Haslett HS did not qualify for the State tournament, but they took first place in Experimental Design at their regional.
- The three students who earned that regional gold (no subs!) were invited to State to compete in Experimental Design.
- They earned second place at State in that event as an exhibition team:

1st - Athens HS

2nd - Haslett HS (Gold Bid)

2nd - East Lansing HS

3rd - Eisenhower HS



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Registration

- Registration Opens Tuesday, September 26
 - Registration instructions and forms are available in the “Middle and High School” portion of the VASO website
 - Will require principal’s signature
- Using the VASO Portal for everything this year - Registration, Payment, Permissions, Self-Schedule Event Signups, etc.



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

2024 Registration Fees

REGISTRATION DISCOUNTS

VASO Outreach Initiative

If your school is outside of northern Virginia and your team is in its first or second year of competition, please read about the VASO Outreach Initiative on the second page. Your team may be eligible for free or reduced registration costs.



Northrop Grumman Grant

Northrop Grumman is once again partnering with VASO to offer a considerable registration discount to schools with higher proportions of economically disadvantaged students. Please review the pricing table below to determine your school's eligibility for this discount.

2023-2024 DIVISION B/C REGISTRATION

		<u>1 Team</u>	<u>2 Teams</u>	<u>3 Teams</u>	<u>3 Teams</u> + 1 Additional Invitational-Only Team	<u>3 Teams</u> + 2 Additional Invitational-Only Teams
	ED% < 36.0%	\$260.00	\$430.00	\$600.00	\$675.00	\$750.00
FUNDED BY NORTHROP GRUMMAN GRANT	36.0% ≤ ED% ≤ 45%	\$130.00	\$215.00	\$300.00	\$375.00	\$450.00
	ED% > 45%	\$26.00	\$43.00	\$60.00	\$135.00	\$210.00



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

VASO Outreach Initiative

Funded by an anonymous individual who grew up in rural Virginia and found excitement for an engineering career through high school STEM competitions, the VASO Outreach Initiative will pay registration costs for selected schools new to Science Olympiad.

To be eligible for the grant, schools must:

- Be a middle or high school
- Be in their first or second year of participation in Science Olympiad
- **Not** be located in Alexandria City, Arlington County, Falls Church City, Fairfax City, Fairfax County, or Loudoun County

Available for the first team fielded by the school. The school may select to field additional teams, but those teams are not covered by the grant.

For the first year, the **entire** registration cost for **one** team will be covered.

For the second year, **half** of the registration cost for **one** team will be covered.

Our donor says “Let’s make sure we have the ‘VA’ in “VASO!”

If you have any questions, please reach out to the treasurer at: treasurer@virginiaso.org



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

For Division C: Student Leadership

- VASO allows high school club officers to access registration/signup tools
- We ask that your team create a generic officer's email (like bluevalleywestscioly@gmail.com) and **not** use personal student email addresses
 - Student leaders can all check the account or have it forward to them
 - This email can be passed on to officer groups from year to year
- This email can be used in the VASO Portal, with a name indicating it is a student leadership account



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Invitationals

- Invitationals are independently-run tournaments that may have a different format, a different schedule with different events, and almost certainly an additional cost for the team (depending on format, anywhere from \$50-\$200 per team)
- In Virginia, there will be at least three:
 - Lake Braddock (Div B) - Dec 9
 - Fairfax (Div C) - Jan 6
 - Virginia Tech (Div C) - Jan 27



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

For New Coaches

New Coach Q&A

Saturday, September 23

10 AM on Zoom

Come with *any* questions you have!

For New and Returning Coaches

Coach's Clinic

Saturday, October 14

Morning on Zoom



2024 Div B/C Season Kickoff

Thanks for joining us!

Be sure to check out our social media and follow us:



@VASciOlympiad



@vasciolympiad



@VASciOlympiad



@vasciolympiad



@VirginiaScienceOlympiad