



State Finals Tournament **Wingate University, Wingate, NC**

State Tournament Co-Directors:

Katherine Graham.....828 297-3964
Susan Lawson.....336 945-2692

Association Director:

Richard Raley.....704 544-1363

Association Vice-Director:

Doris Barahona-Burton.....704 341-3052

March 19, 2010

Dear Coaches:

We are looking forward to having your team compete in the State Odyssey of the Mind Tournament to be held at Wingate University on April 10, 2010.

You will find a **MUST READ** packet of information attached to this letter that will help you prepare your team for the Tournament. This will be our only formal communication to you prior to the tournament. Please be certain your team members and other coaches are aware of the information that pertains to them.

Go to <http://www.ncom.org/StateTournament/2010StateTournamen.htm> to download detailed maps of the campus and floor plans of competition areas. If you still feel you must inspect your competition area, do not ask Wingate staff or students for assistance. Forward your questions to us.

The **NC Odyssey of the Mind Northern Region** is pleased to have an opportunity to host this unique educational experience. With your cooperation, we will have a great tournament. This will be a very special day for each of you. Remember, just by competing in the tournament you and your team will have demonstrated that you have the special something that it takes to be a life-long winner.

If you have a question, please contact any of us. Good luck to you and your teams.

Sincerely,

Katherine Graham and Susan Lawson
Northern Region Co-Directors
State Finals Tournament Co-Directors

**NC Odyssey of the Mind
CENTRAL REGION COMPETITION
Wingate University
Saturday, April 10, 2010**

**Registration
7:00- 9:30 a.m.
Dickson- Palmer Student Center Lobby**

**Competitions
7:40 a.m. - 3:40 p.m.**

Problem 1 – Nature Trail'R : **Sanders-Sykes - Div. 1, 2 & 3**

**Problem 2 – Return to the
Gift of Flight:** **Cuddy Arena - Div. 1, 2 & 3**

Problem 3 – Discovered Treasures: **Hayes Building**
First Floor - Div. 1
Second Floor - Div. 2 & 3

Problem 4 – Column Structure: **Dickson- Palmer Center**
Ames Turnout – Div 2 & 3
Aerobatics Room – Div 1

Problem 5 – Food Court: **Church Fellowship Hall - Div 1**
Austin Auditorium – Div 2 & 3

**Closing Ceremony - Cuddy Arena
Pre-Awards Activities - 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Awards Ceremony - 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM**

Coaches: Pick up Team Registration packets between 7:00 and 9:30 AM on Saturday, April 10th at the Registration Desk in the Dickson- Palmer Center at Wingate University. There is no early pickup!

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES AND REGISTRATION

When you arrive at Wingate University, park your vehicle in the parking lots indicated on the map. Do not park in fire lanes, handicap spaces or parking spaces reserved for individuals; the campus police will give tickets. Some of the access roads to the competition buildings are very restricted so only vehicles that are loading or unloading props should stop for a short time in these areas. Leave your props and costumes locked in your vehicle. The coach must go to the registration desk in the Dickson-Palmer Center lobby to pick up the team's registration packet. Coaches will be asked to sign for the packet. This is our way of knowing that you have arrived and who has picked up the packet. The packet will include a "Coach" sticker, programs for each member of the team, participation certificates and any pertinent last minute information. **If you ordered meal vouchers, you will pick them up at the Registration table.**

SAFETY AND SPORTSMANSHIP

~~~~~COACHES OR PARENTS MUST BE WITH THEIR TEAMS AT ALL TIMES~~~~~

Please help us keep the campus clean. Make sure all of your props are removed from the campus when you leave. All team members are responsible for being aware of the behavior guidelines as indicated in the Program Guide. Please remind all team members they are representatives of your school or organization as well as your team.

Team members should cheer for friends and remember good sportsmanship and manners at all times. Learning and practicing good sportsmanship is an important part of any Odyssey of the Mind experience. Please discuss this thoroughly with your team(s) and parents. Remind them that they are representing their school or organization and positive and/or negative behavior by one member will reflect on all team members. We recognize that coaches cannot be with their teams at all times throughout the day, so each team should bring extra adult supervision. We hope that competition day will be a beautiful day. If it is, you and your team may want to sit outside and enjoy the beautiful surroundings. Your team is likely to have some "down time." Therefore, encourage your team members to bring games, books, cards, etc. for their entertainment. In addition, part of the Odyssey of the Mind experience is to take advantage of the opportunity to see other teams perform – in your problem or in others. Just as your team's solution is unique so are the many solutions presented by other teams. This is a wonderful opportunity for your team to witness the creativity of others and to continue the learning process provided by their participation in this program.

Security is difficult when we are dealing with this many people. Please encourage your team members to leave valuables, props, and problem solutions **locked** in your vehicle. We are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged articles. Because staging area spaces are small, plan to bring in your props and equipment shortly before your competition time and remove them immediately thereafter.

**NO inline skates, skateboards, bikes, sneaker-skates, or scooters are allowed. Stay off statues, art displays, trees, plants, rocks, and the lake in the center campus.**

## ~~~~~ EMERGENCY PROCEDURES ~~~~~

Minor emergencies should be taken to the Registration / Information table in the Dickson - Palmer Student Center throughout the tournament.  
Report major emergencies to Wingate Campus Police, or call the Wingate's Dickson Palmer Center Office at 704 233-8000 or the Wingate Police at 911.  
Look for red light phones around campus.

## FOOD SERVICE

---

**Harris Dining Hall (Meal Vouchers or Cash) 11:00 am – 2:00pm**  
**(No picnic lunches or non-paying guests allowed in Harris Dining Hall)**  
**Klondike Café and Grab n' Go (A La Carte Items in the Jefferson Clubhouse) 10:00 am – 3:00pm**  
**Cuddy Arena Snack bar 3:00 pm – 5:00pm**

## LONG-TERM PROBLEM

---

Teams need to be prepared to carry their props up and down stairs as they go to their problem sites. Coaches and parents may help move props to the pre-staging area, the staging area and again to your vehicle after the long-term performance. Do not put anything on walls or do things that will damage the facilities. Lift props into position; do not slide. **Judges will stop any activity they believe will cause damage to any floor or wall whether it is during a performance or at any other time.**

**Necessary materials:** The team must have the following items ready to present to the pre-staging judge. (It is recommended you have an EXTRA copy of all forms and keep them in a safe place.). No blank forms will be available on campus.

1. **Four** copies of the completed **Style Form**.
2. A completed **Material Values Form**.
3. A completed **Outside Assistance Form**
4. Team specific Problem clarifications (if received)
5. All props, costumes, etc. necessary to complete the problem solution except those listed in the problem under "Tournament Director Will Provide"
6. Any items listed in the problem under "Team Must Provide"

**Judges:** Please remind everyone that our judges have been through a training session and are certified to judge the problem to which they have been assigned. Many have judged at previous regional, state and world competitions. The decisions of the judges are final.  
The teams and coaches are encouraged to go to the different problem sites to watch the competitions. Be sure to notice which doors are for spectators and which ones are for competing teams only.

**Clarifications:** We will use clarifications published by Odyssey of the Mind national on or before February 20, 2010. Bring copies of any team specific clarifications your team received.

**Recording a Performance:** Video and audio recording of a performance is **prohibited** without prior permission of the team. This includes both film and digital photographs.

**Permission status will be announced at the beginning of each performance.**

---

~~~~~ **IMPORTANT INFORMATION for Problem 4 “Column Structure” teams:** ~~~~~

At least one member of the team should present the team structure at the Weigh-in station at your site **ONE HOUR** before your competition time as indicated in the program schedule. After Weigh-In you will be allowed to correct any problems with the structure as long as you are ready to perform at your team’s scheduled time.

Long-Term Problem Procedure: Be certain you arrive at the correct problem site. Remember all problems have teams in all three divisions and all divisions are not necessarily in the same building. There will be signs around campus, which will indicate the sites for each problem and division. At least 20 minutes before your performance time, go to the Check-In area at your site; you will be in costumes and you will have all your problem solution materials. The pre-staging Judge will greet the team and is given the required paperwork by the team; he/she will ask a few questions and will check your props. After he/she finishes with the team, the team will proceed to the staging area and follow directions given by the Timekeeper. The coach and any nonperforming team member(s) will be seated in a designated area during the performance. When the performance has ended, the non-performing team members may go onto the stage and the judges will talk with the team members and will dismiss them when they are finished.

Once your competition is complete and the judges have finished talking to the Team:

1. Anyone may help in the cleanup and removal of props.
2. The coach should remain near the competition area to receive the long-term raw score. *(Unless the team is one of the first three to compete that day in which case the head judge will give the scores to the coach right after the first judges’ break. Coaches should ask the staging judges where they should go after the team’s performance in order to meet the head judge.)*
3. If the scoring is delayed, the coach should return to this area at the time designated by the head judge.
4. The head judge will give the coach a copy of the team’s long-term score sheet and discuss any questions he/she may have.
5. The head judge will record on the score sheet the time the coach received the score sheet.
6. The coach should go to a quiet area and review the score sheet with the team.
7. If the team members have any questions that the coach cannot explain, the coach must go back to the head judge **within 30 minutes of the recorded time** and ask for clarification.
8. Remember that all subjective decisions by the judges are final. However, if you have a procedural question please go back to the head judge and ask why it was done the in a particular way.

Tribunal Procedures:

After the team completes the long-term performance, the coach will receive the long-term raw score from the Head Judge. After reviewing the scores with the Head Judge, the time will be recorded on the score sheet. The coach then has 30 minutes to review the score with the team; if a question about a procedure or a rule interpretation arises, the coach should return to the Head Judge for further discussion. **Remember procedures and rule interpretations can be questioned and clarified, while subjective judgments by the judges cannot.** If the coach, together with the judges and Problem Captain cannot resolve the question, the coach may be asked to complete a "Request for Problem Intervention" form, which is used to describe the question/problem. The Problem Captain will determine if it is an issue a tribunal can resolve; if he/she determines it is, the form is sent for review by the Tribunal committee. A tribunal will be convened if the committee agrees that the dispute qualifies for consideration. The Tribunal's final decision will be presented to the team and coach immediately after a closed session following the tribunal proceedings.

Please Note: A "Request for Problem Intervention" will be accepted ONLY within 30 minutes after the time recorded on the long-term score sheet.

Tribunal Change:

In past years, the team coach represented the team in any tribunal proceedings. This year the whole team will defend their position before the tribunal. The team coach and problem captain will be present to observe and can be asked for input by the tribunal and/or the team.

Getting Your Scores Back: The raw and weighted scores for all teams competing in your problem and division will be given to the coach of each team after the Awards Ceremony. The procedure for picking up these sheets will be found in the registration packet you pick up the morning of the competition. If you wish to receive the style judges' averages for style elements for your team, please do the following: Create a self-addressed envelope with one 44-cent stamp. On the back of the envelope put the membership name and number along with the problem and division and turn it in at the Registration Desk when you pick up your team packet. You will receive your team's worksheets within two weeks.

SPONTANEOUS PROBLEM PROCEDURES

Be at your spontaneous problem site twenty minutes before you are to compete. Only the team members and coaches are to go into the spontaneous building. The team should check in and will be escorted to a designated "holding room;" One coach may stay with the team while they are in the holding room. When it is the team's time to compete, they will be escorted to the competition room. At this time, the coach should leave the building with all of the teams belongings and wait for the team outside. If all 7 team members go to the competition room, then they are *strongly encouraged* to stay in the competition room while 5 members compete and 2 sit quietly in designated seats to observe as it is difficult for the Judging team to escort them back through the building moments before the competition begins. After the spontaneous competition, the team will leave the building. Teams will not receive copies of judges raw scoring sheets. Overall scores will be included in the scores given to the coaches after the Awards Ceremony. There is no tribunal process for Spontaneous as all judging decisions are subjective and final. Any procedural questions should be brought to the attention of the Problem Captain by the competing team.

~~~~~ IMPORTANT: KEEP YOUR SPONTANEOUS PROBLEM A SECRET~~~~~

*Every team in your problem/division will have the same spontaneous problem.* In addition, other problems and/or divisions may also have the *same* spontaneous problem. If another team hears what the spontaneous problem is before they compete, they will have an advantage because they will have extra time to think of solutions. It will hurt your team as well as the integrity of the Odyssey of the Mind program to share the problem with others. Therefore, we ask that teams not discuss the spontaneous problem on the Wingate campus. Please tell all students NOT to discuss the problems on online bulletin boards, blogs, or other Internet sites. **The same spontaneous problems will be presented at all regional tournaments in North Carolina and around the world so please do not discuss your problem with anyone.**

## THE AWARDS CEREMONY

---

The Awards Ceremony will be held in the Cuddy Arena at 5:00 pm.

### **Hat Parade**

Our yearly Hat Parade that will be judged during the pre-awards activities between 4 and 5 pm. Prizes for the best hats in several categories will be awarded. More information can be found here: <http://www.ncom.org/StateTournament/2010StateTournamen.htm> we encourage your teams to participate in this activity.

We expect teams to stay for the entire ceremony. Final scores for your problem will be distributed after the Awards Ceremony. **Your team registration packet will include a coupon to exchange for the results from your problem and division.**

**Lost and Found:** Take found items to the Registration table in Dickson-Palmer Center. Items not claimed will be taken to the Awards Ceremony. The Tournament Director will take home any items remaining after the ceremony.

~~~~~THE TOURNAMENT WILL GO ON REGARDLESS OF THE WEATHER!~~~~~

Have a great day and good luck to your teams.