



## Science Judge Instructions

The questions in each subject area have been reviewed by at least two individuals with subject expertise to eliminate erroneous or ambiguous questions. In addition, we have selected a multiple-choice format for many of our questions. This eliminates more than one correct answer (it's either one of our answers or the response is wrong). The student's answer to a multiple-choice question must have the same meaning as the correct one on the page (Rule #17) without violating Rule #18. It is up to you to decide if the answer given is acceptable or not.

1. Your primary duty as an NOSB SCIENCE JUDGE is to resolve question challenges.

Should a question be challenged, there are a number of steps that should be followed:

- First, see that the competition clock is stopped.
  - Then, if the challenged question is in your field or that of the Moderator or other Science Bowl official in the room, you should resolve the challenge without outside assistance, if at all possible.
  - If a challenge arises which is outside the fields of the officials in your room **OR** a student continues the challenge, please go to the Judges' Appeals Room to discuss the challenge. The Appeals Room should have someone in each of the sciences who can resolve the issue. Once you report a decision back in the game room, that decision is final.
  - Should you feel that time was lost as a result of a challenge that interrupted the round (5, 10, or 15 seconds, for example), check with the Moderator and Rules Judge and ask that time be added back onto the clock before resuming the competition. Be certain to announce that you are "correcting" the time because time was lost due to the challenge so that all participants understand what is happening.
2. Ensure that the Moderator has read each question correctly. You will be given a packet of questions identical to those of the Moderator. As the Moderator reads a question, please follow along to make sure the question is read correctly and that all words are pronounced correctly. Correct the pronunciation immediately if a word is mispronounced.
  3. Grading Team Challenge Questions. If only one runner is present, you will be given at least 2 minutes to take the team's answers to the Judges' Appeals Room for grading. Doing this ensures all Team Challenge Questions are graded similarly. Partial credit may be given. You will announce the results at the beginning of the second half before beginning with the next toss-up question.