

Competition Annual Update

September 2016

The AACS Competition Manual (2015 edition) will govern National Competition 2016–2020. Be sure to purchase the manual for your school and carefully review it. State competitions often operate under different rules. Competitors must follow current Nationals rules and use the current AACS judging forms at Nationals.

Bible

Old Testament Testing—1 & 2 Samuel

New Testament Testing—2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians

Bible Quizzing—Romans, James

All Bible quiz **teams must arrive by 9:00 p.m. on Monday, April 3.** Registration for Bible quiz teams will be conducted from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday, April 3. The Bible quiz team coaches will have a meeting at 9:30 p.m. on Monday, April 3.

Bible Memory—The Triune God (See AACS National Competition Manual, 2015 Edition, pp. 73–74.)

Music

- One change has been made to the number of required originals of the music: Contestants in individual or solo competition categories (vocal or instrumental) will need one original of each selection of music performed for judges to reference. If the contestant or accompanist will be using music for any performance, those will also need to be originals. **Photocopies are not permitted.**
- As stated in the manual, contestants in group competition categories will need three originals of each selection of music performed for judges to reference. If the contestant or accompanist will be using music for any performance, those will also need to be originals. **Photocopies are not permitted.**

Debate

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic and/or diplomatic engagement with the People’s Republic of China.

Spelling

Clarification of Spelling Procedure Rule 2m: “When the students are reduced to two, the elimination procedure changes, but not before the completion of the current round.”

- The intent of the rule change is to ensure that the remaining competitors have correctly spelled the same number of words as eliminated competitors before changing the procedure, so the current round must be completed before the procedure changes. If, at the completion of a round, only one competitor remains who has not misspelled a word, that competitor is the first place winner and the two-person elimination procedure outlined in rule m does not occur. The second- and third-place winners are awarded in the order that they were eliminated from the contest. If, at the completion of a round, only two competitors remain, the elimination procedure outlined in rule m is employed to finish the contest and third place is awarded to the last competitor eliminated in the previous round. If, at the conclusion of a round, all competitors have been eliminated, the contest must resume as things were at the beginning of that round—all competitors who were still in the contest at the beginning of that round are restored and a new round begins with those competitors spelling in the original order.
- The AACS office will randomly assign the order in which spellers are to compete and give that order to the spelling master.

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Expository Writing: Essay

Essay must be the student's original work. This is an essay, not a research paper. Students may review the topic, but no statistics or other quotations requiring source citations are allowed.

Science Fair

The AACS Competition Manual (2015 edition) includes the new Science Fair Manual. The Science Fair Manual was significantly changed with this edition. Previous editions no longer apply.

You Need to Know

Refer to the AACS Website and the National Competition Manual (2015 edition) for information regarding purchasing competition Bible, instruments available at the host site, Extemporaneous Speaking references, Spelling study lists, online academic testing, and other important information.