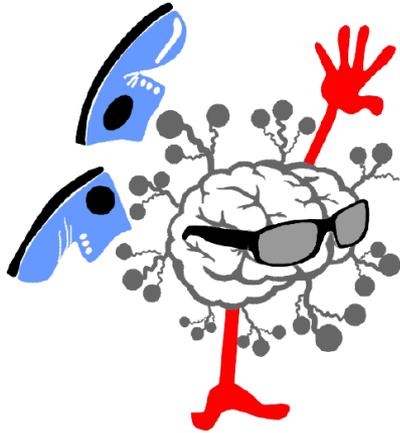


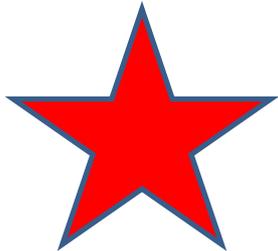
# OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL 2026



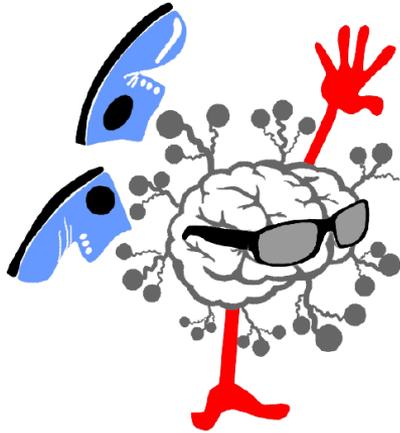
## READER TRAINING

Please sign in / check pre-filled info on sign-in sheet:

- Your name
- If you are a rookie reader
- Your email & cell phone #
- Which tournament(s) you plan to read in
- If you can serve in morning and afternoon rounds



# OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL 2026



## READER TRAINING

Gunar Neumann, DTC OC  
Brain Bowl Volunteer Training Director/Scheduler

# **OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL 2026 Reader Training**

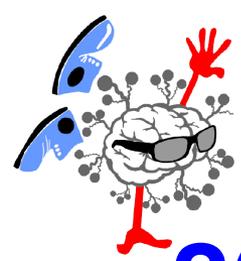
## **Agenda:**

- **Hand-outs for all Readers – Laura Mitchell (Brain Bowl Chair/Director)**
  - **Many Thanks to Retired Chair Connie Ackerman!**
- **Reader Training Approach – Laura Mitchell**
- **Live Demonstration – Evan Voorn (Reader Trainer)**
- **Veteran Readers – Evan Voorn:**
  - **Refresher Training**
  - **Hands-on Training**
- **Rookie Readers – Gunar Neumann:**
  - **Detailed Reader Training**
  - **Hands-on Training**

# OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

## 2026 Reader Training

- Readers with <3 years' Brain Bowl reading experience & Readers who did NOT read at any tournament in 2025
  - Gunar Neumann – Presentation Room:
    - Detailed Reader Training
    - Hands-on Training
- Readers with 3 or more years' Brain Bowl reading experience & who read at any tournament in 2025
  - Evan Voorn – Lounge Area:
    - Refresher Reader Training
    - Hands-on Training
- or
  - Gunar Neumann – Presentation Room:
    - Detailed Reader Training
    - Hands-on Training



# **OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL**

## **2026 “Rookie” Reader Training**

- **Detailed Reader Training**
  
- **Hands-on Training**

# **OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL**

## **HISTORICAL INFORMATION**

- Started by Buckingham Square Optimist Club (now Gateway Optimist Club) in 1982
- Winner of Optimist International's Community Project Award for Best Multi-Club Project in the Area of Culture and Education in 2006

# 2026 OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

- Academic team competition for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in CO & WY
- Volunteers Needed
  - Readers → Reader Training Required in advance
  - Timekeepers → Trained on Contest Days
    - Duties may be performed by Readers
  - Scorekeepers → Trained on Contest Days
    - Duties may be performed by Readers
  - Proctors (for written rounds) → Trained on Contest Days
  - Score Room volunteers (Runners, Written Round Score Checkers, Scorers/Data Entry Personnel) → Trained on Contest Days

# 2026 OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

- Volunteer registration process same as 2023-2025
  - Access Optimist Brain Bowl Volunteer Portal at:  
<https://optimistbrainbowl.org/brain-bowl-volunteer-registration/>



Optimist Brain Bowl



**Please update your registration if/when your plans change**

HOME ABOUT ▾ REGISTRATION OPTIMISTS & VOLUNTEERS ▾ START A TEAM CONTACT

## Optimist Brain Bowl Volunteer Portal

Our online registration process allows you to see your current and previous registrations, schedule, and tournament results by accessing your Volunteer account. **Volunteers who registered online since 2023 can use the same account to register for this year.**

Enter your email address and password to login if you have already created your account, or click the second button below to create your account. **Brain Bowl Coaches can login with your Coach account.**

Email Address

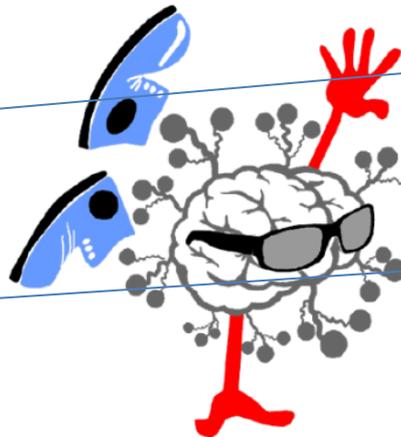
Password (forgot?)

Remember me

Sign Into Brain Bowl Volunteer Account

Need an account?

Click Here to Create Your Brain Bowl Volunteer Account



- If you did register in previous years but forgot your password: Enter Email address and Select “forgot?”
- If you did register in previous years: Use same volunteer account as in 2023/2024/2025
- If you did not register in previous years: Create volunteer account

# 2025 TOURNAMENTS

- **CENTRAL/SOUTH REGION**

- 25 JAN 2025, Heritage HS, Littleton
- 76 Teams registered → 74 Teams competed (~370 students)
- Needed 31 Reader/Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Teams

- **NORTH REGION**

- 01 FEB 2025, Thomas Jefferson HS, Denver
- 43 Teams registered → 42 Teams competed (~210 students)
- Needed 18 Reader/Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Teams

- **CHAMPIONSHIP**

- 22 FEB 2025, Hamilton MS, Denver
- 54 Teams registered → 53 Teams competed (~265 students)
- Needed 22 Reader/Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Teams

# 2026 TOURNAMENTS\*

## • SOUTH REGION

- 24 JAN 2026, Heritage HS, Littleton
- 59 Teams registered
- Need 24 Reader/Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Teams

## • NORTH REGION

- 07 FEB 2026, Hinkley HS, Aurora
- 60 Teams registered
- Need 24 Reader/Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Teams

## • CHAMPIONSHIP

- 21 FEB 2026, Thomas Jefferson HS, Denver
- 54 Teams expected
- Need 22 Reader/Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Teams

\*6:45 AM Reader, Timekeeper, Scorekeeper Check-in

Runners and Proctors may check in at 8:00 AM

Other Score Room volunteers may check in at 8:30 AM

# SETTING UP

- **ALL OFFICIALS**

- **Before** you move any furniture, make sure that “map” of room has been drawn (Reader usually does this) -- CELL PHONE PHOTOS ARE **NOT** SUFFICIENT:
  - Sketch map on backside of room # sheet  
(part of package issued to readers on tournament day)
- Tape room # sheet (with room map on backside) outside your room’s door
- Arrange furniture for competition
- **Don’t move furniture between rooms**

# Sample Room Setup

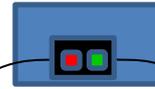
(Usually Setup by Reader)

Timekeeper (if available)

Scorekeeper



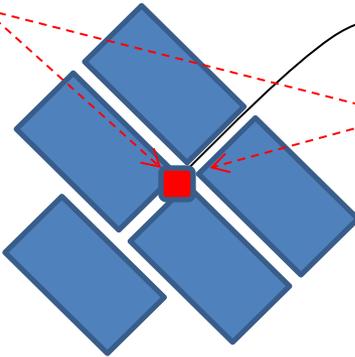
Reader



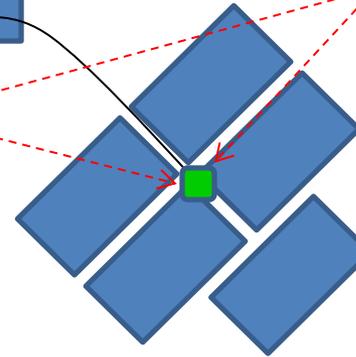
Don't place buzzers until **after** teams are seated

Move buzzers **before** teams get up after each round

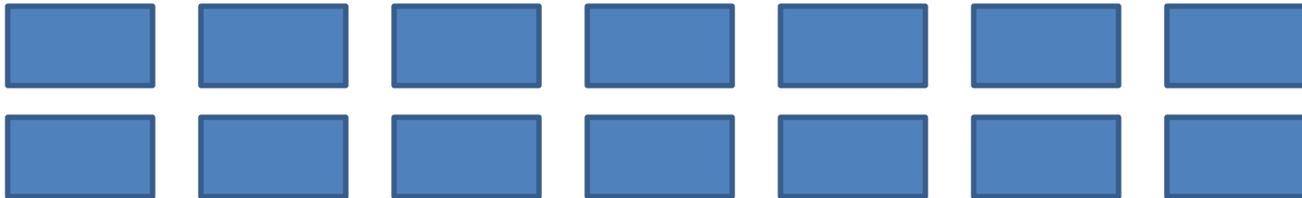
Red Team Spokesperson →



← Green Team Spokesperson



← "No-Fly Zone" →



Audience

Red Team should be to Reader's right

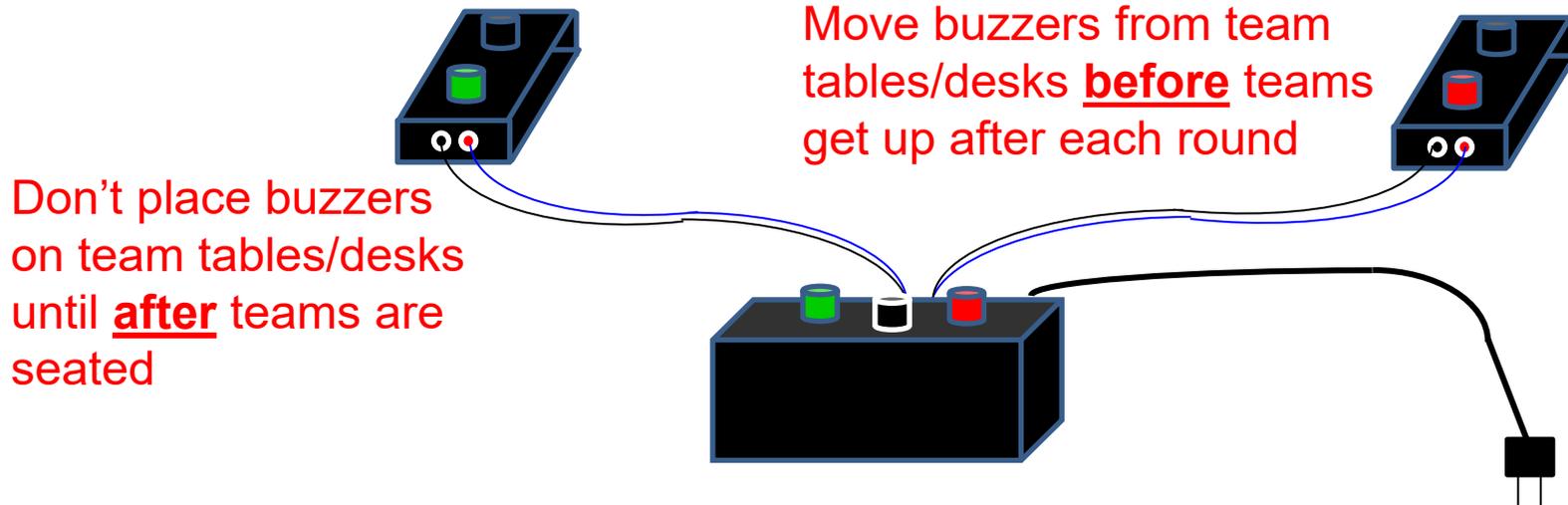
Reader may stand or sit but **must** have clear line of sight to each Team Spokesperson

Reader may **never** accept answer from anyone other than Team Spokesperson<sup>12</sup>

# SETTING UP

## • Buzzer System:

(part of package issued to readers on tournament day)



Connections: (Usually made by Reader)

- Black Wires to Black Ports
- Blue Wires to Red Ports
- Power cord to electrical outlet

Red Team should be to Reader's right

# SETTING UP cont.

- **Whiteboard (normally behind Reader):**

Old School 7A  
Red

Uptown 7B  
Green

Reader  
Timekeeper  
Scorekeeper

Jim Book  
Fred Time  
Jill Score

- **DO NOT** erase existing text/drawings on whiteboards
- **DO NOT** use permanent markers on whiteboards
- **DO NOT** write on screens
- **STAY AWAY** from electronic whiteboards

# SETTING UP cont.

## • ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

- If 3 officials per room:
  - 1 Reader
  - 1 Timekeeper
  - 1 Scorekeeper for official score sheet
  - You can use an audience member to keep score on the board, but **not** on the official score sheet
- If 4 officials per room:
  - 1 Reader
  - 1 Timekeeper
  - 1 Scorekeeper for official score sheet
  - 1 Scorekeeper for keeping score on the board
- If 2 Readers in room, the one not reading that round works as a Timekeeper or Scorekeeper (or monitors the round using 2nd Test booklet – PM Rounds)

# SETTING UP cont.

- **ROOM ASSIGNMENTS**

- If 2 officials per room:
  - 1 Reader/Timekeeper
  - 1 Scorekeeper for official score sheet
- You can use an audience member to keep score on the board, but **not** on the official score sheet
- If 1 official per room:
  - 1 Reader/Timekeeper/Scorekeeper for official score sheet
- You can use an audience member to keep score on the board, but **not** on the official score sheet

# SETTING UP cont.

- **ALL OFFICIALS**

- Be aware:

- **No electronic devices (i.e., phones, ipods, smart watches, etc.) allowed in competition area**
- **Spectators must have electronic devices silenced (instead of off) & stowed out of sight**
  - Reader may ask owner of any device that makes unexpected noise to leave competition room for remainder of round (IAW paragraph 16 of 2026 competition rules)
- **Only one “spectator” per team may take notes during each round**
  - This “room coach” is usually team coach, designated parent, or alternate team member not participating in round -- Exceptions are made for any press covering tournament

# THE COMPETITION

- **ALL OFFICIALS**

- Share responsibility for watching lights
  - Once a team hits its button and a light illuminates, **Reader must stop reading.** That team is not entitled to hear rest of question
  - Any active team member may hit buzzer, but only designated spokesperson may provide answer to Reader
    - **Inadvertent buzzing-in counts as having buzzed in**
- Each round consists of 30 questions
- If neither team buzzes in for a particular question, that question does count as one of the 30



# THE COMPETITION

- **ALL OFFICIALS**

- **BE ALERT FOR CHEATING:**

- Spectators mouthing answers to competitors
    - Spectators saying answers out loud
    - Texting
  - If spectators inadvertently say answers, Reader must warn them to stop
  - If you encounter active cheating, Reader:
    - May have offending spectator(s) removed from room
    - Must notify Scoring Room
  - Do **NOT** initiate any physical contact with team members, coaches, or spectators

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers:**

- Are captains of Oral Round competition rooms
- Must know & enforce competition rules & procedures, including Rules of Conduct (paragraphs 14 – 21 of 2026 competition rules)
  - Competition rules are on Brain Bowl website
- Must be able to comfortably take charge
- Must know duties & responsibilities of Timekeepers & Scorekeepers
- Determine where each Team Spokesperson sits
- May stand or sit but **must** have clear line of sight to each Team Spokesperson
- May **never** accept answer from anyone other than Team Spokespersons

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers:**
  - Must manage Oral Round competition rooms consistently and fairly, since teams play each round to gain as many points as possible
    - Suggested changes to rules for future competitions are welcome. However, please follow “**2026 Optimist Brain Bowl Competition Rules**” for this competition. The most frequently heard complaint from students, teachers, and parents is: “**Well that's not the way they did it in the other room!**”
  - **“WILL NOT accept an answer that is not on the sheet.”** (IAW 2026 competition rules paragraph 39)
  - Should read the “**2026 Optimist Brain Bowl Competition Rules**” before the competitions
  - Should bring copy of “**2026 Optimist Brain Bowl Competition Rules**” to their competition room

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers:**

- Will receive envelope before each round containing:
  - Question & Answer Booklet \* +
    - \* Contains Welcome Message
    - + 2 Question & Answer Booklets for Elimination rounds
  - Official Score Sheet
  - Team Roster Sheets (1<sup>st</sup> round only)
  - Elimination Rounds Team Listing (1<sup>st</sup> Elimination round only)
  - Room Closure Checklist (last round for each room only)

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Sample Welcome Message

Full team names for AM rounds are found in “Schedule of the Day” which will be provided to readers on day of competition

**Please read the following at the beginning of the fourth round:**

Good morning and welcome to Brain Bowl Round 4! At this time, please silence or turn off all cell phones, pagers, other electronic devices and anything else that might distract the competitors. This year we are allowing cell phones to remain turned on, but you will be asked to leave the competition room and not return if your device makes any noise during this round. Competitors may not have any electronic devices with them in the competition area, and everyone else must stow their devices away and out of sight.

This round features \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and will consist of 30 questions. The members of the audience are reminded that they may in no way be involved in discussions with team members, readers, scorekeepers or timekeepers during this round.

I need to know who the coach is for each team. Coaches, if you disagree with something I have done, or not done, with regard to a particular question during this round, please bring the matter to my attention after we have finished that question, but before we begin the next question. ONLY the two room coaches should be involved in that discussion.

The reader’s decision about questions and answers will be final in this room. Any protests of the reader's decisions should be taken to the Protest Room after the conclusion of this round. Procedural errors will be addressed according to the Official Brain Bowl Competition Rules and may not require any remedy. When a remedy is required, an alternate question will replace the original question asked and BOTH teams will have an equal opportunity to buzz in and answer.

Finally, I need to know who the spokesperson is for each team. Spokespersons, please speak clearly and distinctly when giving an answer. Competition rules require me to only consider the FIRST answer you give. If I cannot understand what you say to me, then the answer will be considered wrong. You will NOT be permitted to repeat or restate your answer.

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Sample Welcome Message

Full team names  
for 1<sup>st</sup> PM round  
will be included in  
envelope provided  
by runners

**Please read the following at the beginning of the first elimination round:**

Good afternoon and welcome to the Brain Bowl First Elimination Round! At this time, please silence or turn off all cell phones, pagers, other electronic devices and anything else that might distract the competitors. This year we are allowing cell phones to remain turned on, but you will be asked to leave the competition room and not return if your device makes any noise during this round. Competitors may not have any electronic devices with them in the competition area, and everyone else must stow their devices away and out of sight.

This round features \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and will consist of 30 questions. The members of the audience are reminded that they may in no way be involved in discussions with team members, readers, scorekeepers or timekeepers during this round.

I need to know who the coach is for each team. Coaches, if you disagree with something I have done, or not done, with regard to a particular question during this round, please bring the matter to my attention after we have finished that question, but before we begin the next question. ONLY the two room coaches should be involved in that discussion.

The reader's decision about questions and answers will be final in this room. Procedural errors will be addressed according to the Official Brain Bowl Competition Rules and may not require any remedy. When a remedy is required, an alternate question will replace the original question asked and BOTH teams will have an equal opportunity to buzz in and answer. Any protests of the reader's decisions will be addressed at the end of the round. Only protests which could change the outcome of the round will be considered. Both teams will remain in the room until protests are resolved or deemed unnecessary.

This is an elimination round, and one team will be done for the day at the end of this round. The winning team will play two additional rounds to determine the final finishing order. The reader will provide the winning team with a ticket to advance which should be given to the round 7 reader upon arrival.

Finally, I need to know who the spokesperson is for each team. Spokespersons, please speak clearly and distinctly when giving an answer. Competition rules require me to only consider the FIRST answer you give. If I cannot understand what you say to me, then the answer will be considered wrong. You will NOT be permitted to repeat or restate your answer.

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Sample Test Questions & Answers

Question # in upper left

Text in **bold font** in question emphasizes what is being asked

Answer in lower right

Math Question (MUST be read SLOWLY)

Text in parentheses is optional

Text in brackets is instruction to reader

2017 Optimist Brain Bowl	South Tournament	1 <sup>st</sup> Elimination
<p>1. Any <b>substance</b> which maintains a definite shape without external support is a ...<b>what</b>?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">solid</p>	<p>6. These annual festivals are held in <b>what state</b>?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">New York</p>	
<p>2. Starting in 1885 and continuing for the next 40 years, Wilson Bentley stood outside in the cold with his bulky camera-microscope and took thousands of photographs of tiny objects, no two of which were exactly the same. <b>What was Mr. Bentley photographing</b>?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">snowflakes</p>	<p>7. In 1711, the British musician John Shore invented <b>what acoustic device</b> with the shape of a two-pronged fork that resonates at a constant, specific pitch?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">tuning fork</p>	
<p>3. <b>Math Question</b> If a roadrunner triples its speed and doubles its time, it will go <b>how many times farther</b>?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p>8. <b>What enormous, sentinel-like cacti</b> grow in deserts of the Southwest?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">saguaros</p>	
<p>4. A pilot flying directly from Morocco to Egypt passes over <b>what immense desert</b>?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sahara (Desert)</p>	<p>9. <b>What Jules Vern tale</b> is an account of an adventure that begins at an Icelandic volcano?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">"Journey to the Center of the Earth"</p>	
<p>5. During the Civil War, cannons and mortars were among the <b>large-caliber weapons</b> collectively <b>known as what</b>?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">artillery [REJECT big guns]</p>	<p>10. Visible common sedimentary <b>rock characteristics</b> include mud cracks and ... <b>what</b>?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ripple marks OR layers</p>	

Question #s increment downward, not across

Accept only the answers provided in question booklet

Text in quotes must be exact

Check Score after every 10 questions

# THE COMPETITION

- Readers – Sample Score Sheet\*

**OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL**  
Individual Round Tally Sheet

Room # \_\_\_\_\_ Round # \_\_\_\_\_  
Reader's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_

We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_

We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain Signature \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

11. \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_

14. \_\_\_\_\_

15. \_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_

17. \_\_\_\_\_

18. \_\_\_\_\_

19. \_\_\_\_\_

20. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-20

21. \_\_\_\_\_

22. \_\_\_\_\_

23. \_\_\_\_\_

24. \_\_\_\_\_

25. \_\_\_\_\_

26. \_\_\_\_\_

27. \_\_\_\_\_

28. \_\_\_\_\_

29. \_\_\_\_\_

30. \_\_\_\_\_

**GREEN TEAM TOTAL** ○

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

11. \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_

14. \_\_\_\_\_

15. \_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_

17. \_\_\_\_\_

18. \_\_\_\_\_

19. \_\_\_\_\_

20. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-20

21. \_\_\_\_\_

22. \_\_\_\_\_

23. \_\_\_\_\_

24. \_\_\_\_\_

25. \_\_\_\_\_

26. \_\_\_\_\_

27. \_\_\_\_\_

28. \_\_\_\_\_

29. \_\_\_\_\_

30. \_\_\_\_\_

**RED TEAM TOTAL** ○

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	—
One point	
Two points	

Team Captains should enter total scores and questions to be protested under teams' names above, then sign where indicated.  
Reader should record any protest notes on the back of this sheet before returning it to the score room.

\* Will be covered as part of Scorekeeper Section

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Sample Team Roster Form\*

Full Team Name  
(no initials)

All Team Member  
names and grade  
level (including  
alternate)

Team Coach name,  
email address, &  
cell phone at  
Tournament (NOT  
Room Coach)

Optimist Brain Bowl Team Roster	
School / Team	
_____	
Example: "Southwest Middle School 7A"	
<i>Please Print!</i>	
Team Members	Grade
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
No more than six team members including alternates may compete.	
Coach _____	
Email _____	
Cell Phone# at Tournament _____	

**\*To be filled out  
by each team  
before start of  
Round 1**

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Sample Elimination Rounds Team Listings

(1<sup>st</sup> Elimination round only)

Full Team Name

Championship -- Elimination Rounds

Grade Level

Room Number

Team Rank	Qualifying Team Name	1st Elim Room	
<b>6th Grade</b>			
8	Stargate 6A	200	
7	Slavens 6A	227	
6	Southern Hills 6A	225	
5	Campus 6C	202	
4	Northridge 6B	202	
3	STEM School 6A	225	
2	Louisville 6B	227	
1	Campus 6A	200	
<b>7th Grade</b>			
8	Jefferson Acad 7A	206	
7	Stargate 7B	219	
6	Littleton Acad 7A	218	
5	Campus 7B	217	
4	Louisville 7A	217	
3	Southern Hills 7A	218	
2	McAuliffe 7A	219	
1	Stargate 7A	206	
<b>8th Grade</b>			
8	Jefferson Acad 8A	204	
7	Southern Hills 8B	226	
6	Slavens 8A	222	
5	Campus 8A	205	
4	Campus 8C	205	
3	Stargate 8A	222	
2	STEM School 8A	226	
1	D20 Challenger 8A	204	

Room Number

Full Team Name

Grade Level

### Central

**6th**

room	seed	room	room
2134	1 Littleton Acad 6A	2138	2135
	8 Chinook Trail 6B		2137
2136	4 Campus 6C		
	5 Goddard 6A		
2841	3 McAuliffe 6A		
	6 Slavens 6A		
2843	2 Campus 6A	2139	
	7 Hamilton 6A		

**7th**

room	seed	room	room
2135	1 Littleton Acad 7A	2134	2138
	8 Campus 7A		2139
2137	4 Campus 7B		
	5 West 7A		
2844	3 McAuliffe 7A		
	6 Slavens 7B		
2845	2 Challenger 7A	2136	
	7 Challenger 7B		

**8th**

room	seed	room	room
2138	1 Campus 8B	2135	2134
	8 Campus 8C		2136
2139	4 STEM School 8A		
	5 Cheyenne Mountain 8B		
2847	3 Rocky Heights 8A		
	6 Cheyenne Mountain 8C		
2951	2 Challenger 8A	2137	
	7 Cheyenne Mountain 8A		

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Sample Room Closure Checklist\*

*(For room packets Round 5 and later.)*

Optimist Invitational Brain Bowl  
Central/South Region – Heritage High School

### ROOM CLOSURE CHECKLIST

At the end of round five, collect Room Coach Evaluations from both teams.

At the end of round five, **ALL rooms should repack all Brain Bowl buzzers and timers (remove battery!) in the buzzer box and take the buzzer box to Room 2329.** Afternoon readers will sign out buzzer boxes again after lunch.

**Please have each member of your officiating team fill out the evaluation form for the event.** All evaluation forms (room coach and officials) should be returned with the buzzer box to room 2329. There is also a bin outside the score room for all evaluations, if necessary.

The following rooms will be used after lunch and should leave the furniture set up for competition:

All three rounds: 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, and 2139

First elimination round only: 2841, 2843, 2845, 2847, 2951, and 2955

**All rooms on the third floor and rooms 2953, 2956, 2957, and 2958 should be restored to their original condition after Round 5 because they will not be used for the afternoon rounds.**

If your room is finished, we request that you please “close up” the room:

1. Remove the battery from the Brain Bowl timer and repack all Brain Bowl materials in the buzzer box, then **return the buzzer box to Room 2329.**
2. Clear the room of obvious trash left by the Brain Bowl.
3. Please restore the room to its original order. On the hallway wall by the door is your room sign. Carefully remove it and its tape. On the back of the schedule is a coarse “room diagram.” Please use it as a guide to replace the tables, chairs, desks, etc. to the locations shown on the diagram. Then, mark a line or two across the diagram (showing you have completed using the diagram), and **deliver the sign sheet to Room 2329**, so that we know the room is done.)
4. Turn off the lights and close the door. **DO NOT lock the door!** The Tournament Director will inspect the room and leave a gift for the teacher before locking the door.
5. **If you cannot perform item No. 3, please leave the sign on the wall** so that others know that the room has not yet been restored to order. If you have if you already taken the sign down and cannot close the room nor replace the sign, please deliver the sign to the scoring room and tell them that the room has not yet been closed.

**THANK YOU very much for ALL of your efforts!!**

**\*Follow it after completing last round in your room**

Rooms that **will** be used after lunch

Rooms that will **NOT** be used after lunch

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Before starting each round:**
  - Take everything out of envelope:
    - In **1<sup>st</sup> round**, have each team **complete Team Roster** – Teams should list team coach & all team members, including late arrivals & absentees
  - Review all questions (30 standard + 5 alternates)
  - Read “Welcome to the Brain Bowl” message
  - Determine who designated spokesperson is for each team and tell him/her where to sit
    - Although any team member may activate "buzzer", accept **only** answer supplied by spokesperson. Ignore answers provided by any other team member
  - Introduce Officials conducting round
  - Test buzzers

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Step by Step Question Flow:

### Optimist Brain Bowl Reader Reference

**Pre-read (silently) the questions for the upcoming round.**

*Make notes on any questions that may be challenging to read aloud.*

**Test the buzzers at the beginning of each round.**

*Teams may request an additional buzzer test between questions if they suspect a problem.*

**For every question:**

<b>1. Reset the buzzers</b>	
<b>2. Announce the question number</b> <i>Any buzz after the question number is read should be treated as intentional</i>	
<b>3. Read the question</b> <b>Stop reading immediately (mid-word) if a team buzzes and go to Step 5</b>	
<b>4. Announce “15 seconds (to buzz in)”</b> <i>If no team buzzes in, skip to Step 7</i>	
<i>After a team buzzes in</i> <b>5. Announce “&lt;Red/Green&gt; team, 15 seconds (to answer)”</b> <i>If the team answers correctly, skip to Step 7</i> <i>If the team answers incorrectly or does not answer in the allotted time, go to Step 6</i>	
<i>If the entire question was read:</i> <b>6a. Announce “&lt;Green/Red&gt; team, 5 seconds (to answer)”</b>	<i>If the question was interrupted:</i> <b>6b. Read the entire question from the beginning. Announce “&lt;Green/Red&gt; team, 15 seconds (to answer)”</b>
<b>7. Award points</b> <i>If the team that buzzed in answered correctly, award 1 point</i> <i>If the second team answered correctly, award 2 points</i> <i>If neither team answered correctly or neither team buzzed in, award 0 points</i>	
<b>8. Read the remainder of the question, if any, and announce the correct answer</b>	
<b>9. If you are at the end of the page of questions, confirm score with Scorekeeper, whiteboard, and room coaches</b>	

**At the end of the round, confirm score and have a member of each team sign the score sheet and list any questions that will be protested. Use the back of the scoresheet to make notes for the Protest Room about any planned protests.**

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Guidelines during each round:**
  - Read each question number out loud
    - **Don't say "Next question"**
  - Speak clearly → **Once question is read in its entirety, you should never repeat it, in whole or in part**
  - If a team buzzes in before end of question, **immediately** stop reading and state "**Green/Red** Team -- 15 seconds to answer" as cue to start countdown timer
  - At end of each question if no one buzzed in, state "15 seconds to buzz in" as cue to start countdown timer:
    - If a team buzzes in before end of 15 second period, state "**Green/Red** Team -- 15 seconds to answer" as cue to start new countdown timer

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Guidelines during each round:**
  - After countdown timer for answering question expires, Timekeeper to call “Time” – Reader to:
    - Call on that team to answer, i.e., “Green/Red team, I need an answer now.”
    - Allow 1 second for spokesperson to start answering – if spokesperson:
      - Answers intelligibly, Reader to consider whether answer is correct\*or wrong
  - \*team’s answer must match answer in question booklet. Do NOT accept alternate answers
  - Is silent or attempts to stall, then Reader to treat this as no answer and move on, i.e., “Hearing no answer, ...”
  - Accept only first answer provided by spokesperson

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Guidelines during each round:**
  - Text in parentheses indicates optional word(s), but if given, they **must** be correct
  - Text in brackets indicates supplemental info or instruction(s) for reader
  - Text/Names/Titles in quotes **must** be exact, i.e., Text in quotes is mandatory
  - Generally, repeating parts of question in answer is acceptable
  - Generally, using an article (i.e., “a”, “an”, “the”, etc.) in answer is acceptable
  - **Do not accept an answer not printed in question booklet under any circumstances –** (Do not accept an alternate form of a word given in answer key → let protest desk sort out if an alternate form of a word is acceptable)

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Guidelines during each round:**
  - For Math questions:
    - State that the question is a math question → this helps teams be ready with their scratch paper when you start reading
    - **Read question slowly**
    - Read question exactly how it appears, including location of parentheses
      - For example: “Solve for  $3(X+5)-Y$ ” is read “Solve for 3 open parenthesis X plus 5 close parenthesis minus Y”
      - Question will include pronunciation in brackets, i.e., “[3 open parenthesis X plus 5 close parenthesis minus Y]”

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Guidelines during each round:**
  - For Math questions:
    - If question requires answer be given in particular format (i.e., “express your answer in simplest terms”), then accept only answer provided (i.e.,  $4/8$  is not an acceptable alternate answer for  $1/2$ )
    - If answer includes units that are **not** in parentheses, then these units must be provided for answer to be correct
    - **Read question slowly**

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Guidelines during each round:**
  - Keep track of score for each question in question booklet,\* i.e., mark “G1”, “R2”, or “0” as appropriate for each question
    - \* Take notes of potential protests on separate sheet for reference (question booklet is turned in after each round)
  - Check score after every 10 questions. (Review score on score sheet, board, and your score in question booklet & resolve differences)
  - During morning rounds, ties **are** permitted
    - Total points, not win-loss records, are significant
  - During afternoon rounds, ties are **not** allowed
    - If score is tied at end of round, alternate questions are asked → first team to provide a correct answer wins round

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Guidelines during each round:**
  - If you don't like a question or you disagree with answer given:
    - Still use this question
    - Accept only answer(s) given in question booklet
    - Don't throw out question
      - Only tournament directors make decision to throw out a question tournament-wide

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – Guidelines during each round:**
  - If you make a mistake that results in you needing to throw out a question (i.e., you accidentally read answer, you recognize wrong team and allow them to answer, etc.):
    - Don't panic
    - Acknowledge your mistake
    - Use an alternate question
    - Announce your decision and state “I am throwing out question number \_\_\_\_ and replacing it with alternate question number \_\_\_\_”
    - Annotate your question booklet accordingly
    - Ensure Official scoresheet is annotated accordingly

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Procedural Errors:

### WHAT IS A PROCEDURAL ERROR?

A Procedural Error occurs when the Reader incorrectly applies one of the tournament rules and advantages or disadvantages one of the teams. Below is a list of recognized Procedural Errors.

A.	The Reader did not reset the buzzers before reading the question and teams were unable to buzz in (no remedy is needed if the buzzers were reset after the question number was read but before the question was read).
B.	The Reader called on the wrong team (not the team that buzzed in first) and they answered before the mistake could be corrected (no remedy needed if the Reader realized the mistake quickly and called on the correct team before the opposing team answered).
C.	The Reader accepted an incorrect answer or accepted a corrected or modified answer (no remedy needed if the incorrect answer was from the second team, NOT the team that buzzed in, AND the Reader realized the error and corrected it before beginning the next question).
D.	The Reader ruled (correct OR incorrect) on an answer given by a team member other than the spokesperson.
E.	The Reader ruled the first team incorrect and revealed the answer without giving the second team an opportunity to answer OR the Reader interrupted the round to confer with the other officials before giving the second team an opportunity to answer
F.	The first team buzzed in before the entire question was read and answered incorrectly, then the Reader did not read the entire question from the beginning for the second team before giving them time to answer (no remedy needed if the second team answered correctly or if the mistake is called out and corrected before the second team is required to answer)
G.	The Reader continued reading after a team buzzed in early (no remedy needed if the team that buzzed in answered incorrectly)
H.	The Reader gave the second team 15 seconds to answer when they should have had only 5 seconds (no remedy needed if the second team answered incorrectly)
I.	The Reader gave any indication about why the first team's answer was wrong, providing additional information for the second team (no remedy needed if the second team answered incorrectly)
J.	The Reader mispronounced a word that is essential to the question in such a way that it was not possible to understand what was asked. Mispronunciation of a non-essential word is not a Procedural Error. Mispronunciation that does not affect one's understanding of the question is not a Procedural Error.

### WHAT DO I DO ABOUT A PROCEDURAL ERROR?

If one of the Procedural Errors listed above has occurred, find the matching color remedy below and ask an Alternate Question if called for. DO NOT ask an Alternate Question unless a listed Procedural Error has occurred. In doubt, send a runner to the Protest Room to request assistance from a Tournament Official and continue the round. Hold the teams in the room at the end of the round until a Tournament Official can rule on whether an Alternate Question is needed.

A-E	The Reader will read an Alternate Question UNLESS no remedy is needed.
F	The Reader will read an Alternate Question ONLY IF the second team was required to answer without hearing the full question and answered incorrectly, but not if the Reader corrected the error in real time and read the full question before giving 15 seconds to answer.
G-I	The Reader will read an Alternate Question ONLY IF the team gaining an advantage answered correctly and was awarded points.
J	The Reader will read an Alternate Question ONLY IF neither team buzzed in and attempted to answer AND the Timekeeper and Scorekeeper agree (or a majority of officials in the room agree) that the mispronunciation affected the answerability of the question.

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers:**

- Keep to “Schedule of the Day”, which will be provided to readers on day of competition
  - Oral rounds not strictly timed, but need to keep to overall schedule. → **Please move along promptly** and don't engage in conversation with audience once round has started
  - Morning Rounds:
    - Round 1 → 8:30 – 9:00
    - Round 2 → 9:10 – 9:35
    - Round 3 → 9:45 – 10:10
    - Round 4 → 10:20 – 10:45
    - Round 5 → 10:55 – 11:20
  - Afternoon Rounds:
    - Elim Round 1 → 12:45 – 1:10
    - Elim Round 2 → 1:15 – 1:40
    - Finals/Consolation Round → 1:45 – 2:10
  - **Do NOT start round early**
  - **Keep everyone in room until end of each round**

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – After each round:**
  - Congratulate both teams
  - Ask both teams if they intend to file protest
  - Ensure that correct score is given for each team on score sheet
  - Ensure that each team lists question #(s) they are protesting on score sheet
  - Ensure a representative from each team signs score sheet in respective field
  - Ensure completed score sheet and questions from that round are placed into envelope. **PLEASE DO NOT SEAL METAL CLASP ON ENVELOPE**
  - Ensure envelope is given to runner, who will pick up score sheet & questions from previous round and deliver score sheet & questions for next round

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – After last round for your room:**
  - “Close” it as directed by Room Closure Checklist that you should receive with question packet for your room’s last round
  - Restore room to pre-competition configuration
  - If question packet does NOT contain Room Closure Checklist, do NOT Restore room to pre-competition configuration (Room to be used in afternoon round(s))
    - Only 12 rooms continue competition in elimination rounds after morning rounds
    - Only 6 rooms continue competition after first elimination round

# THE COMPETITION

- **Readers – If your room will be used for afternoon round(s), then after last **morning** round for your room:**

  - Do NOT restore room to pre-competition configuration
  - DO return Buzzer System, Timer, etc. to Buzzer Official

- **Readers for afternoon rounds will be issued Buzzer System, Timer, etc. by Buzzer Official after lunch**

# THE COMPETITION

- **Timing:**

- Time to buzz in → Always 15 seconds
- Time to answer → 5 or 15 seconds\*
  - \* 1<sup>st</sup> team always has 15 seconds to answer
  - \* 2<sup>nd</sup> team has
    - 5 seconds to answer if full question was read when 1<sup>st</sup> team buzzed in & got it wrong  
(Reader may not repeat any part of question)
    - 15 seconds to answer if full question was NOT read when 1<sup>st</sup> team buzzed in & got it wrong  
(Reader must read entire question for 2<sup>nd</sup> team)
- Timekeepers to yell “TIME!” whenever time expires

# THE COMPETITION

- **Scoring:**

- If team which buzzed in answers correctly, it receives 1 point
- If team that buzzed in gets it wrong or fails to answer, and 2<sup>nd</sup> team answers correctly, 2<sup>nd</sup> team gets 2 points
- If neither team gets correct answer, both teams get 0 points
- In **morning** rounds, **ties are allowed**
- In **afternoon** rounds, **ties must be broken**
  - Use alternate question(s) to break ties

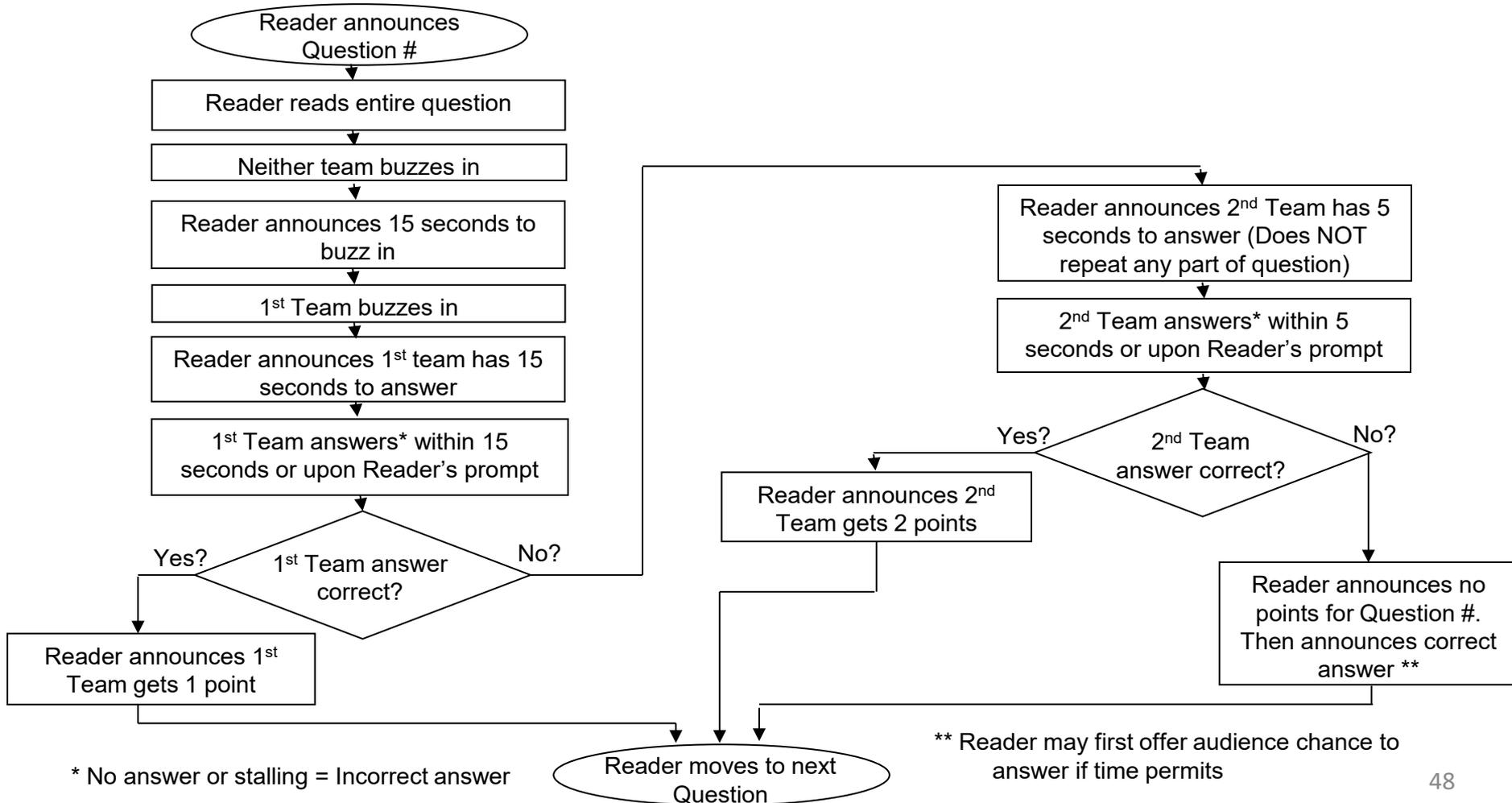
# THE COMPETITION

- **Nominal flow for each question:**
  - Reader reads question
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Team buzzes in
  - Both teams discuss possible answers
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Team spokesperson answers
  - If answer is correct, 1<sup>st</sup> Team gets 1 point
  - If answer is incorrect, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team gets to answer
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Team never has to buzz in
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Team spokesperson answers
  - If answer is correct, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team gets 2 points
  - If answer is incorrect, both teams get 0 points
  - Reader announces score for that question

# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Each Round

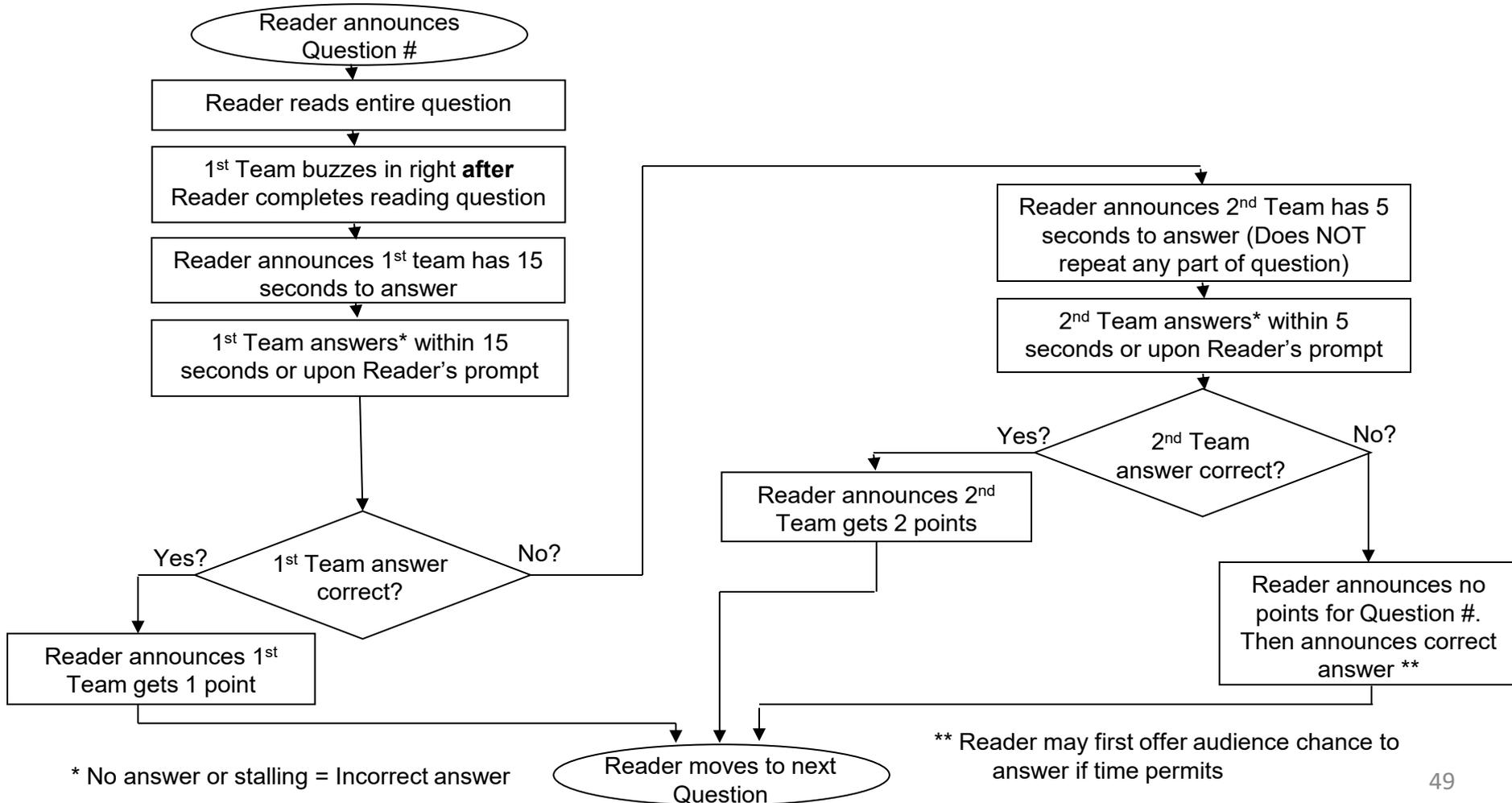
Scenario 1: Reader completes question but neither team buzzes in immediately



# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Each Round

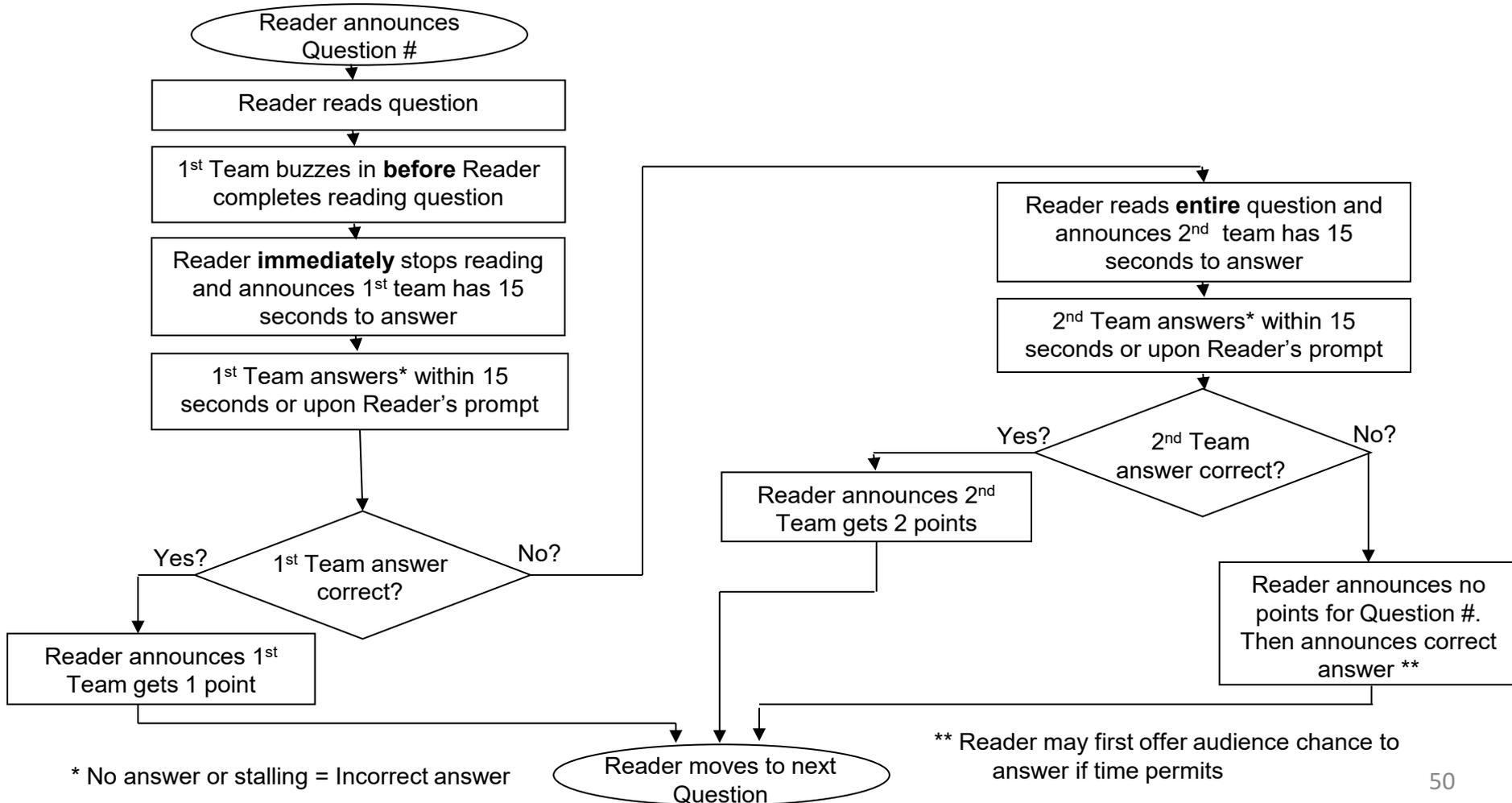
Scenario 2: 1st team buzzes in immediately after Reader completes question



# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Each Round

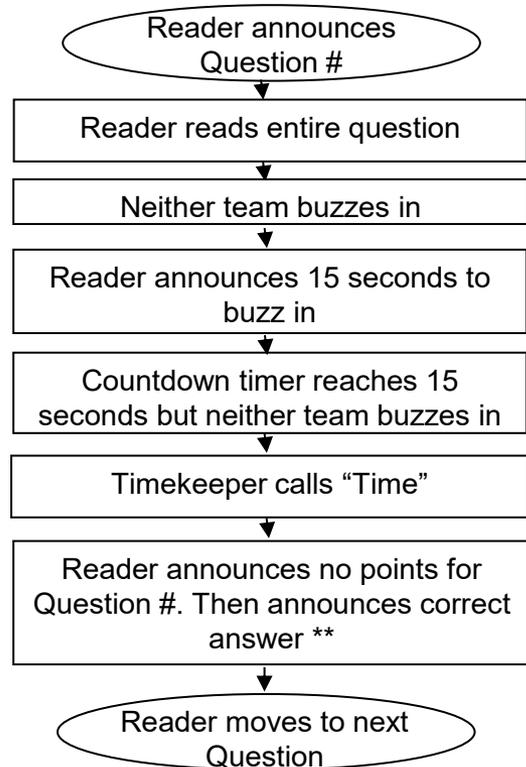
### Scenario 3: 1st team buzzes in before Reader can complete question



# THE COMPETITION

## • Readers – Each Round

### Scenario 4: Neither team buzzes in



\*\* Reader may first offer audience chance to answer if time permits

# THE COMPETITION

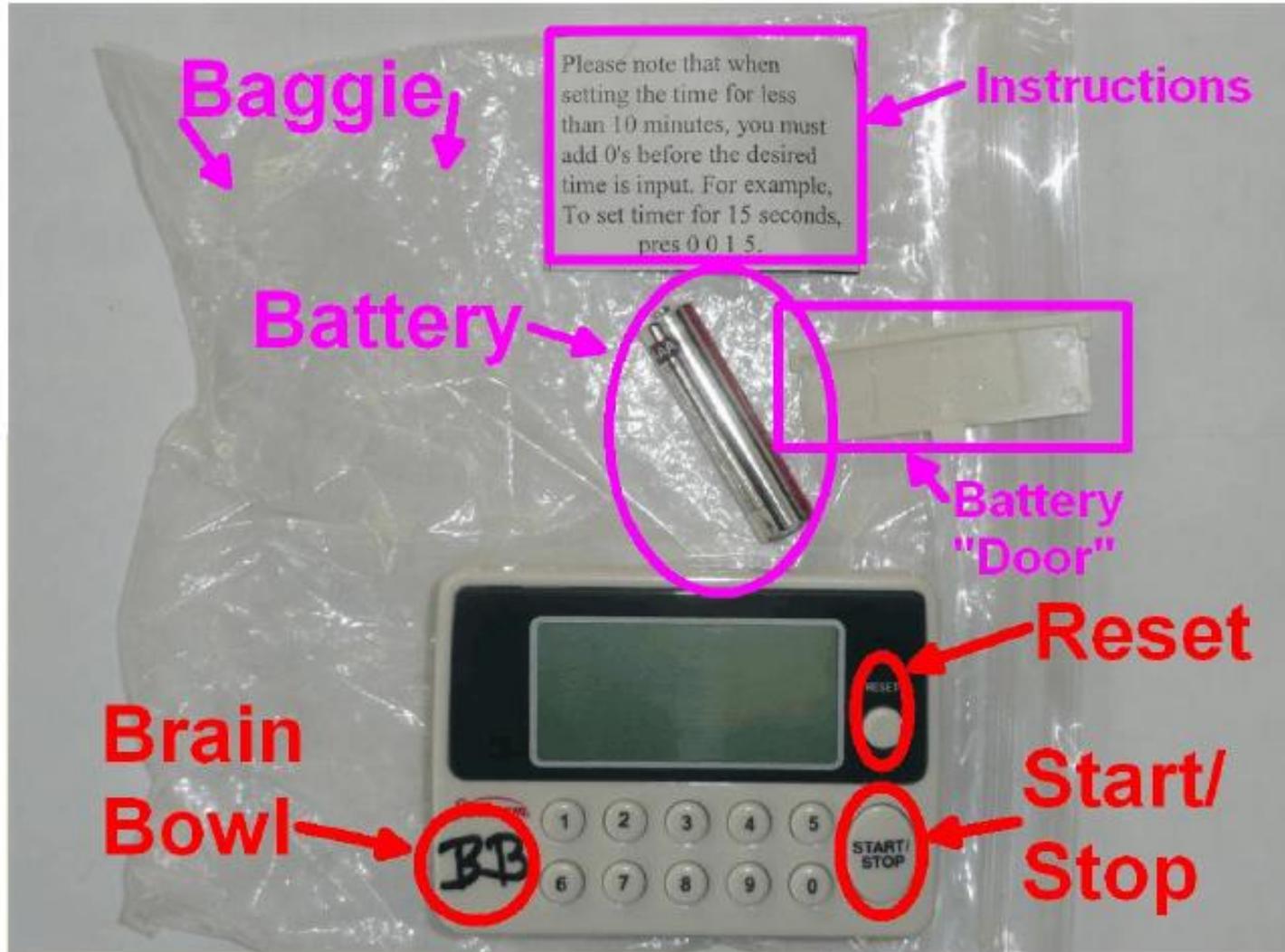
- **Timekeepers:**

- May use timer provided by Brain Bowl (Reader will bring it to room) or own timer
- May use timekeeping app on cell phone at Reader's discretion **if phone is in airplane mode with wifi turned off**

**(Don't want your cell phone making noise due to incoming calls, texts, Amber alerts, etc.)**

# THE COMPETITION

- **Timer:**



# THE COMPETITION

- **Scorekeepers** (or Readers performing Scorekeeping duties):
  - Help Reader keep track of buzzers:
    - If a team buzzes in and Reader has not stopped reading, **shout** that team's color (**red** or **green**)
  - Keep official Score Sheet:
    - Use full team names (beware of similar names), not just **red** or **green**
    - If alternate question(s) used, annotate score sheet accordingly
  - If you have two Scorekeepers, then one should keep official Score Sheet and other should keep track of score on black/white board

# SCORE SHEETS

- Score sheets revised for 2026
- Score sheets handed in assumed to be accurate

# SCORE SHEET

Enter:  
Room #

Enter:  
Round #

Enter:  
Reader's Name

Enter:  
Full Team Names  
(no initials)

**OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL**  
**Individual Round Tally Sheet**

Room # \_\_\_\_\_ Round # \_\_\_\_\_

Reader's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_

We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_

We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.	
Zero points	—
One point	
Two points	
1.	_____
2.	_____
3.	_____
4.	_____
5.	_____
6.	_____
7.	_____
8.	_____
9.	_____
10.	_____
Subtotal 1-10 _____	
11.	_____
12.	_____
13.	_____
14.	_____
15.	_____
16.	_____
17.	_____
18.	_____
19.	_____
20.	_____
Subtotal 1-20 _____	
21.	_____
22.	_____
23.	_____
24.	_____
25.	_____
26.	_____
27.	_____
28.	_____
29.	_____
30.	_____

**GREEN TEAM TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_ **RED TEAM TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captains should enter total scores and questions to be protested under teams' names above, then sign where indicated.  
Reader should record any protest notes on the back of this sheet before returning it to the score room.

Have representative from each team enter their Total Score (as of end of that round)

Have representative list question #(s) they are protesting

Have representative from each team sign

Check Score every 10 questions

For each row & column, enter:  
"I" for 1  
"II" for 2  
"—" for 0  
(Do not leave any blank spaces)

Keep running tally

# SAMPLE SCORE SHEET\*

<p><b>OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL</b></p> <p><b>Individual Round Tally Sheet</b></p>	<p>Room # <u>204</u> Round # <u>4</u></p> <p>Reader's Name <u>Joe Reader</u></p>
<p><b>GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)</b></p> <p>Team Name <u>Uptown 7B</u></p> <p>We agree that our team's score is _____</p> <p>We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): _____</p> <p>Team Captain Signature _____</p>	<p><b>RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)</b></p> <p>Team Name <u>Old School 7A</u></p> <p>We agree that our team's score is _____</p> <p>We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): _____</p> <p>Team Captain Signature _____</p>
<p>1. <u>     </u></p> <p>2. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>3. <u>     </u></p> <p>4. <u>      </u></p> <p>5. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>6. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>7. <u>     </u></p> <p>8. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>9. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>10. <u>     </u>      <b>6</b> Subtotal 1-10</p> <p>11. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>12. <u>      </u></p> <p>13. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>14. <u>     </u></p> <p>15. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>16. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>17. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>18. <u>     </u></p> <p>19. <u>     </u></p> <p>20. <u>  --  </u>      <b>11</b> Subtotal 1-20</p> <p>21. <u>      </u></p> <p>22. _____</p> <p>23. _____</p> <p>24. _____</p> <p>25. _____</p> <p>26. _____</p> <p>27. _____</p> <p>28. _____</p> <p>29. _____</p> <p>30. _____</p> <p><b>GREEN TEAM TOTAL</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 10px;"> </span></p>	<p>1. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>2. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>3. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>4. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>5. <u>     </u></p> <p>6. <u>      </u></p> <p>7. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>8. <u>     </u></p> <p>9. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>10. <u>  --  </u>      <b>4</b> Subtotal 1-10</p> <p>11. <u>     </u></p> <p>12. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>13. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>14. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>15. <u>     </u></p> <p>16. <u>      </u></p> <p>17. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>18. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>19. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>20. <u>      </u>      <b>10</b> Subtotal 1-20</p> <p>21. <u>  --  </u></p> <p>22. _____</p> <p>23. _____</p> <p>24. _____</p> <p>25. _____</p> <p>26. _____</p> <p>27. _____</p> <p>28. _____</p> <p>29. _____</p> <p>30. _____</p> <p><b>RED TEAM TOTAL</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px 10px;"> </span></p>
<p>Team Captains should enter total scores and questions to be protested under teams' names above, then sign where indicated.</p> <p>Reader should record any protest notes on the back of this sheet before returning it to the score room.</p>	

\* After 21 questions

# SAMPLE SCORE SHEET\*

**OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL**  
**Individual Round Tally Sheet**

Room # 204 Round # 4  
 Reader's Name Joe Reader

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
 Team Name Uptown 7B

We agree that our team's score is 18

We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Jane Scholar

Team Captain Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
 Team Name Old School 7A

We agree that our team's score is 16

We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Student

Team Captain Signature \_\_\_\_\_

1.     
2.     
3.     
4.     
5.     
6.     
7.     
8.     
9.     
10.    6 Subtotal 1-10  
11.     
12.     
13.     
14.     
15.     
16.     
17.     
18.     
19.     
20.    11 Subtotal 1-20  
21.     
22.     
23.     
24.     
25.     
26.     
27.     
28.     
29.     
30.   

GREEN TEAM TOTAL 18

1.     
2.     
3.     
4.     
5.     
6.     
7.     
8.     
9.     
10.    4 Subtotal 1-10  
11.     
12.     
13.     
14.     
15.     
16.     
17.     
18.     
19.     
20.    10 Subtotal 1-20  
21.     
22.     
23.     
24.     
25.     
26.     
27.     
28.     
29.     
30.   

RED TEAM TOTAL 16

Team Captains should enter total scores and questions to be protested under teams' names above, then sign where indicated.  
 Reader should record any protest notes on the back of this sheet before returning it to the score room.

Green Team Representative completed

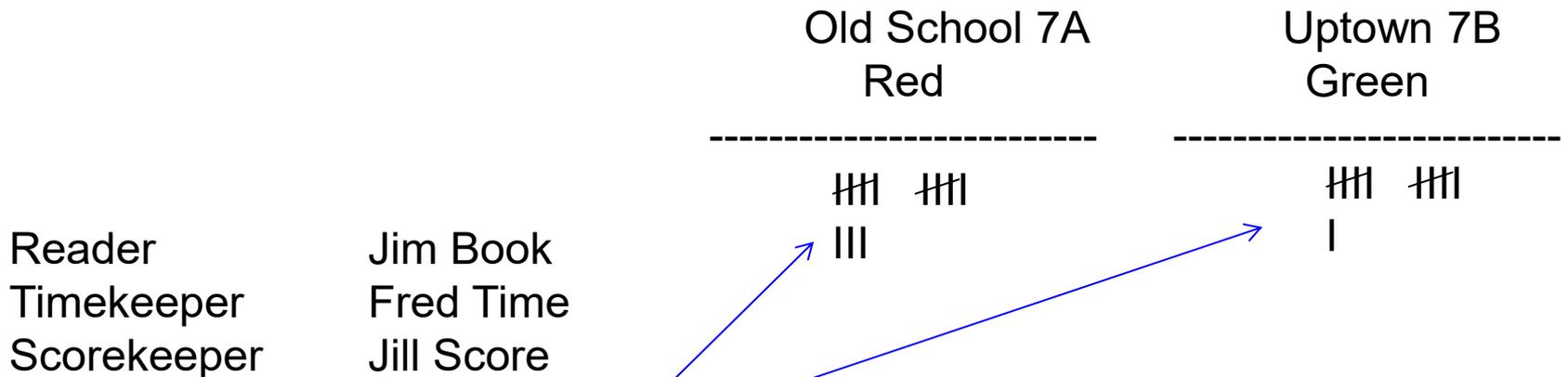
Red Team Representative completed

\* Score Sheet completed and ready to turn in

# THE COMPETITION

- **Whiteboard:**

(Audience Member may keep score on Board)



Keep running tally

→ DO NOT make copy of score sheet on board

- DO NOT erase existing text/drawings on whiteboards
- DO NOT use permanent markers on whiteboards
- STAY AWAY from electronic whiteboards & screens

# THE COMPETITION

- **Scorekeepers:**

- At end of each round:
  - Check that correct score is given for each team on score sheet
  - Have a representative from each team enter score and sign score sheet in respective fields
  - Have a representative from each team list question #(s) they are protesting
  - Put signed score sheet and questions from that round in manila envelope:
    - Special request from score room folks – do **NOT** use metal clasp to seal envelope, just fold flap over
  - Give envelope to Runner who brings next round's questions

# PROTESTS – AM & PM ROUNDS

- As part of welcome message at beginning of each round, Reader informs audience that protests of Reader's decision should be taken to designated protest room/area after conclusion of round
- Teams should notify Reader and opposing team at end of each round that they intend to file a protest
- Teams must indicate protest question numbers on score sheet. No score change will be allowed for protests not indicated on score sheet
- Use back of score sheet to make notes about any planned protests for Protest Officials

# MORNING PROTESTS

(DOES **NOT** APPLY TO AFTERNOON ROUNDS)

- Both teams can (and should) move on to next round without protest having been resolved

# AFTERNOON PROTESTS

(DOES **NOT** APPLY TO MORNING ROUNDS)

- When a playoff round is over, Reader to find out if either team plans to file a protest before letting them leave room:
  - Do the math. If protest might affect who won round:
    - Reader to keep both teams in your room and wait for **tournament official** to bring word of protest result
    - Reader to send one of your officials to room(s) where teams will be going to tell them you are waiting for result of a protest
  - If protest cannot change result, Reader to send winning team (or both teams) to next room(s)

# THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING IMPARTIAL

- **WE SHOULD NEVER AFFECT OUTCOME:**
  - Parents and kids sometimes think we are cheering for one team or another
    - Try not to get too excited when a team answers correctly.
    - No matter how badly you feel for a team which is getting trounced by another, you may not show any form of favoritism
  - **Contest Officials must be, and appear to be, impartial at all times**

# WHAT DID WE DO WRONG IN PAST YEARS?

- **ACCORDING TO COACHES:**

- When Timekeeper announced that time was up, Readers moved on without first demanding an immediate answer
- Readers did not give 2<sup>nd</sup> team a chance to answer after 1<sup>st</sup> team gave wrong/no answer
- We were not paying attention while parents gave hand signals or mouthed answers to their kids
- Readers accepted answers that were not in question/answer booklet

# WHAT DID WE DO WRONG IN PAST YEARS?

- **ACCORDING TO COACHES:**
  - Readers accepted partial answers instead of complete answers required by the questions
  - Readers discussed what they heard from 1<sup>st</sup> team that answered with fellow officials before question was completed
  - Readers accepted answer from non-spokesperson team member

# THE AFTERNOON ROUNDS

- **Thanks to those of you who signed up**
  - Please stay until all protests are resolved & enjoy lunch, even if you can't stay for afternoon rounds – **we may need to talk to you in the event of a protest, before we can determine which teams made the playoffs**
  - After lunch, top 8 teams at each grade level engage in single elimination playoffs
  - We need to staff:
    - 12 rooms for 1<sup>st</sup> elimination round
    - 6 rooms for 2<sup>nd</sup> elimination round
    - 6 rooms for championship and consolation rounds

# 2026 Volunteer Assignments

- Assignment Email to be sent to Readers, Timekeepers, Scorekeepers, Proctors, Written Round Score Checkers, Runners, Data Entry, Protest Desk, and Buzzers NLT Tuesday before each tournament
- Please review assignments for AM & PM rounds and respond to assignment email **ASAP (but NLT 8 PM Thursday)** if:
  - You did **NOT** volunteer for this tournament, but are listed
  - You **DID** volunteer for this tournament, but are not on list
  - You are listed to work in PM but not in AM
  - You are listed to work in PM & in AM, but are only available in AM
  - You are listed to work in two competition rooms at same time
  - You are not teamed with timekeeper/scorekeeper you requested

→ Reader/Timekeeper/Scorekeeper assignments to be revised accordingly (but requested timekeeper/scorekeeper teaming may not always be possible)
- “**Final**” Assignment Email to be sent NLT Noon Friday before each tournament

# Sample Volunteer Assignments

Emailed NLT Tuesday before each tournament

## 2025 Championship Brain Bowl **Morning** Volunteers

Saturday, 22 FEB 2025

19-Feb-2025

ROOM	GRADE	READER 1	READER 2	TIMEKEEPER	SCOREKEEPER
	6/7/8	<b>Chris Wienecke</b>		<b>Joy Criminger</b>	<b>Rudy Campbell</b>
	6/7/8	Allen Pierce		Bernie Nichter	Mary Gelb
3 rounds*	7/8	Tom Glazier		Judy Reed	Karen Somes
	6/7/8	<b>Lisa Anderson</b>		<b>Roxann Fromm</b>	<b>Linda Williams</b>
	6/7/8	<b>Susan Clark</b>		<b>Nancy DeNiro</b>	<b>Sheila Kraus</b>
	6/7/8	<b>George Ackerman</b>		<b>Shavon Forte</b>	<b>Jenny Spampinato</b>
	6/7/8	<b>Jerry Cunningham</b>		Cynthia Chandler	Amanda Dennis
	6/7/8	<b>Marty Bilkey</b>		Nancy Wright	Jeff Bandy
	6/8	<b>Scott Osgood</b>		<b>Katy Barber</b>	<b>Jeanette Thompson</b>
	6/7/8	Kent Gloor		Greg Young	Chelsea Shirley
	6/7/8	George Buzick		Michael Pontin	Molly Pontin Buzick
	6/7/8	Ron Benson		Mable Banks	Emmett Cumbler
	6/7/8	<b>Garrick Mitchell</b>		George Steinke	Kathy Eckhardt
	6/7/8	Rick Sutton		Bonnie West	Paula Moore
	6/7/8	Craig Eley	Susan Syhre ®	LuAnn Snyder	Susan Connors
	6/7	<b>Christy Landwehr</b>		<b>Deborah Martens</b>	<b>Karen Gold</b>
	6/7/8	<b>Kiera McClaury</b>		Mark Metevia	Don Roth
	6/7/8	Vaughn Kendall		Susan Steinman	John Reihl
	6/7/8	Larry Pulaski		Bill Morgan	Sue Morgan
	6/7/8	Tom Mehl		Diane Zitek	Suzanne Blea
	6/7/8	Bill Ashbee		Dale Syhre	BJ Burleigh
	6/7/8	<b>Karl Geil</b>	<b>Jessica Allen ®</b>		Eagan Reeder

\* Follow Room Closure Checklist after Round 3. Then report to Score Room for instructions

® = Rookie Reader

READER 1 & READER 2 share Reader duties

If no Timekeeper is listed, 2nd Reader performs Timekeeper duties

Name in **Bold Green font** = morning rounds and all three afternoon rounds

Name in **Regular Blue font** = morning rounds and first afternoon round only

Name in **Italicized Black font** = only morning rounds

“Final” Assignment Email to be sent NLT Noon Friday before each tournament

# Sample Volunteer Assignments

Emailed NLT Tuesday before each tournament

## 2025 Championship Brain Bowl **Morning** Volunteers

Saturday, 22 FEB 2025

19-Feb-2025

Proctors (AM rounds)	Written Rnd Score Checks	Runners	Scorers/Data Entry Vols
<i>Judy Hein</i> <i>Pearl Meulemans</i> <i>Philip Perington</i>	<i>Loretta Blessinger</i> <i>Greg Holt</i> <i>Karl Klemmick</i>	<b>Asia Adams</b> <b>Kevin Dempsey</b> <i>Al Gapuzan</i> <i>Donagene Gapuzan</i> <b>Aster Klein</b>	<b>Jareth Hein</b> <i>Bob Meyer</i> <b>Brad Wiesley</b>
Protest Desk <b>Bark Dank</b> <b>Nicole Powell</b>	Buzzers <b>John Hammer</b>		

Name in **Bold Green font** = morning rounds and all three afternoon rounds

Name in **Regular Blue font** = morning rounds and first afternoon round only

Name in *Italicized Black font* = only morning rounds

“Final” Assignment Email to be sent NLT Noon Friday before each tournament

# Sample Volunteer Assignments

Emailed NLT Tuesday before each tournament

2025 Championship Brain Bowl **Afternoon** Volunteers

Saturday, 22 FEB 2025

19-Feb-2025

Elimination Round 1						
ROOM	GRADE	READER 1	READER 2	TIMEKEEPER	SCOREKEEPER	NEXT ROUND
	6th	<b>Chris Wienecke</b>	<b>Garrick Mitchell</b>	<b>Joy Criminger</b>	<b>Rudy Campbell</b>	
	6th	Allen Pierce		Bernie Nichter	Mary Gelb	
	8th	<b>Lisa Anderson</b>	<b>Kiera McClaury</b>	<b>Roxann Fromm</b>	<b>Linda Williams</b>	
	8th	<b>Susan Clark</b>	<b>Marty Bilkey</b>	<b>Nancy DeNiro</b>	<b>Sheila Kraus</b>	
	7th	<b>George Ackerman</b>	<b>Scott Osgood</b>	<b>Shavon Forte</b>	<b>Jenny Spampinato</b>	
	7th	Rick Sutton		Bonnie West	Paula Moore	
	7th	Craig Eley	Susan Syhre ®	LuAnn Snyder	Susan Connors	
	7th	<b>Christy Landwehr</b>	<b>Jerry Cunningham</b>	<b>Deborah Martens</b>	<b>Karen Gold</b>	
	8th	Vaughn Kendall		Emmett Cumbler	John Reihl	
	6th	Tom Mehl		George Steinke	Kathy Eckhardt	
	8th	Bill Ashbee		Dale Syhre	BJ Burleigh	
	6th	<b>Karl Geil</b>	<b>Jessica Allen ®</b>	<b>Katy Barber</b>	<b>Jeanette Thompson</b>	

Elimination Round 2						
ROOM	GRADE	READER 1	READER 2	TIMEKEEPER	SCOREKEEPER	NEXT ROUND
	7th	<b>Garrick Mitchell</b>	<b>Chris Wienecke</b>	<b>Joy Criminger</b>	<b>Rudy Campbell</b>	
	6th	<b>Kiera McClaury</b>	<b>Lisa Anderson</b>	<b>Roxann Fromm</b>	<b>Linda Williams</b>	
	6th	<b>Marty Bilkey</b>	<b>Susan Clark</b>	<b>Nancy DeNiro</b>	<b>Sheila Kraus</b>	
	8th	<b>Scott Osgood</b>	<b>George Ackerman</b>	<b>Shavon Forte</b>	<b>Jenny Spampinato</b>	
	8th	<b>Jerry Cunningham</b>	<b>Christy Landwehr</b>	<b>Deborah Martens</b>	<b>Karen Gold</b>	
	7th	<b>Jessica Allen ®</b>	<b>Karl Geil</b>	<b>Katy Barber</b>	<b>Jeanette Thompson</b>	

® = Rookie Reader

Name in **Bold Green font** = all three afternoon rounds  
 Name in **Regular Blue font** = first afternoon round only

“Final” Assignment Email to be sent NLT  
 Noon Friday before each tournament <sup>71</sup>

# Sample Volunteer Assignments

Emailed NLT Tuesday before each tournament

## 2025 Championship Brain Bowl **Afternoon** Volunteers

Saturday, 22 FEB 2025

19-Feb-2025

Finals / Consolation Round					
ROOM	GRADE	READER 1	READER 2	TIMEKEEPER	SCOREKEEPER
	8 Consolation	<b>Chris Wienecke</b>	<b>Garrick Mitchell</b>	<b>Joy Griminger</b>	<b>Rudy Campbell</b>
	7 Final	<b>Lisa Anderson</b>	<b>Kiera McClaury</b>	<b>Roxann Fromm</b>	<b>Linda Williams</b>
	7 Consolation	<b>Susan Clark</b>	<b>Marty Bilkey</b>	<b>Nancy DeNiro</b>	<b>Sheila Kraus</b>
	6 Final	<b>George Ackerman</b>	<b>Scott Osgood</b>	<b>Shavon Forte</b>	<b>Jenny Spampinato</b>
	6 Consolation	<b>Christy Landwehr</b>	<b>Jerry Cunningham</b>	<b>Deborah Martens</b>	<b>Karen Gold</b>
	8 Final	<b>Karl Geil</b>	<b>Jessica Allen @</b>	<b>Katy Barber</b>	<b>Jeanette Thompson</b>

@ = Rookie Reader

Protest Desk	Buzzers	Runners	Scorers/Data Entry Vols
<b>Bark Dank</b> <b>Nicole Powell</b>	<b>John Hammer</b>	<b>Asia Adams</b> <b>Kevin Dempsey</b> <b>Aster Klein</b>	<b>Jareth Hein</b> <b>Brad Wiesley</b>

Name in **Bold Green font** = all three afternoon rounds

“Final” Assignment Email to be sent NLT Noon Friday before each tournament

# Volunteer Assignments – Contest Day

Reader, Timekeeper, Scorekeeper Check-in: 6:45 AM

## 1. Readers – Roll Call at 7:00 AM

- Receive Orientation 7:00-7:30 AM
- Receive Room Assignments 7:30-8:00 AM
- Room assignments may be changed if Reader(s) not at Roll Call at 7:00 AM

## 2. Timekeepers & Scorekeepers

- Receive Training 7:00-7:45 AM
- Receive Room Assignments 7:45-8:15 AM

**Timekeepers & Scorekeepers to receive “cheat sheet”**

**Question finished:** 15 seconds to buzz in

- 1<sup>st</sup> team buzzed in: 15 seconds to answer – 1 point if correct

- 1<sup>st</sup> team answer wrong: 5 seconds for 2<sup>nd</sup> team to answer – 2 points if correct

Room \_\_\_\_\_

**Question interrupted:** 15 seconds to answer – 1 point if correct

- 1<sup>st</sup> team answer wrong:

Read full question: 15 seconds for 2<sup>nd</sup> team to answer – 2 points if correct

Runners and Proctors may check in at 8:00 AM

Other Score Room volunteers may check in at 8:30 AM

# Quiz

Many Thanks to Chair / Tournament  
Director Laura Mitchell for initiating  
this quiz and for developing many of  
the quiz questions

# Quiz

## • True or False

1. The Reader does not need to draw a rough sketch of his/her assigned room before moving any furniture.
2. The Reader should wait until the Timekeeper and Scorekeeper arrive in the competition room before setting up the competition area.
3. The Reader usually makes the buzzer system connections.
4. The buzzers should NOT be placed on the team tables/desks until after both teams are seated.
5. The Reader may use an audience member to keep score on the board and on the official score sheet.
6. The Reader may sit or stand during each round.

# Quiz

## • True or False

1. The Reader does not need to draw a rough sketch of his/her assigned room before moving any furniture.

**False**

2. The Reader should wait until the Timekeeper and Scorekeeper arrive in the competition room before setting up the competition area.

**False**

3. The Reader usually makes the buzzer system connections.

**True**

4. The buzzers should NOT be placed on the team tables/desks until after both teams are seated.

**True**

5. The Reader may use an audience member to keep score on the board and on the official score sheet.

**False**

6. The Reader may sit or stand during each round.

**True**

# Quiz

## • True or False

7. The **RED** team should always be seated to the Reader's LEFT.
8. The Reader should accept the first answer spoken by ANY member of the responding team.
9. The Reader may assign any seat at the team table for the spokesperson.
10. The official Scorekeeper should also keep score on the whiteboard in the room.
11. If a team buzzes in after the question number is read but before the actual question is read, the Reader must stop reading and call for an answer.
12. The Reader should begin a morning round early if both teams are seated and ready to begin.

# Quiz

## • True or False

7. The RED team should always be seated to the Reader's

**False** LEFT.

8. The Reader should accept the first answer spoken by

**False** ANY member of the responding team.

9. The Reader may assign any seat at the team table for the

**True** spokesperson.

10. The official Scorekeeper should also keep score on the

**False** whiteboard in the room.

11. If a team buzzes in after the question number is read but

**True** before the actual question is read, the Reader must stop reading and call for an answer.

12. The Reader should begin a morning round early if both

**False** teams are seated and ready to begin.

# Quiz

- **True or False**

13. The Reader and official Scorekeeper should check the score after each page of 10 questions and resolve any discrepancies.
14. The official Timekeeper decides if a team receives 15 or 5 seconds to answer a question.
15. The Reader should identify the Room Coach for each team prior to the beginning of each round.
16. The Reader may elect to skip reading the full introduction / welcome script for Round 2 if neither team was in the Written Round during Round 1.
17. The Reader must keep everyone in the room until the end of each round.

# Quiz

## • True or False

13. The Reader and official Scorekeeper should check the score after each page of 10 questions and resolve any discrepancies.

**True**

14. The official Timekeeper decides if a team receives 15 or 5 seconds to answer a question.

**False**

15. The Reader should identify the Room Coach for each team prior to the beginning of each round.

**True**

16. The Reader may elect to skip reading the full introduction / welcome script for Round 2 if neither team was in the Written Round during Round 1.

**False**

17. The Reader must keep everyone in the room until the end of each round.

**True**

# Quiz

## • True or False

18. The Reader must rule the answer incorrect if the spokesperson initiates an answer, but then starts over with a different or modified answer, even if the different or modified answer is correct and is given before the Reader ruled.
19. The Reader may accept only the answers provided in the question booklet.
20. Once a question is read in its entirety, the Reader should never repeat it, in whole or in part.
21. For math questions, the Reader does not have to state that the question is a math question.

# Quiz

## • True or False

18. The Reader must rule the answer incorrect if the  
**True** spokesperson initiates an answer, but then starts over with a different or modified answer, even if the different or modified answer is correct and is given before the Reader ruled.

19. The Reader may accept only the answers provided in the  
**True** question booklet.

20. Once a question is read in its entirety, the Reader should  
**True** never repeat it, in whole or in part.

21. For math questions, the Reader does not have to state  
**False** that the question is a math question.

# Quiz

## • True or False

22. The official Timekeeper may be permitted to use a timekeeping app on a cell phone at the discretion of the Reader if the phone is in airplane mode with wifi turned off.
23. During a bye round, the Reader may, at his/her discretion, invite members of the audience to form a team to compete against the team with the Bye Round.
24. If a team buzzes in accidentally, the Reader treats this accidental buzz as intentional.
25. If the Reader continues reading after a team buzzes in early and that team answers correctly, no remedy is needed since that team answered correctly.

# Quiz

## • True or False

22. The official Timekeeper may be permitted to use a

**True** timekeeping app on a cell phone at the discretion of the Reader if the phone is in airplane mode with wifi turned off.

23. During a bye round, the Reader may, at his/her discretion,

**True** invite members of the audience to form a team to compete against the team with the Bye Round.

24. If a team buzzes in accidentally, the Reader treats this

**True** accidental buzz as intentional.

25. If the Reader continues reading after a team buzzes in

**False** early and that team answers correctly, no remedy is needed since that team answered correctly.

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

26. The **RED** team buzzes in after the entire question is read and answers incorrectly, then the **GREEN** team is given a chance to answer. How much time is each team given to answer?
- A. **RED** 5 seconds, **GREEN** 5 seconds
  - B. **RED** 15 seconds, **GREEN** 5 seconds
  - C. **RED** 15 seconds, **GREEN** 15 seconds
27. The **GREEN** team buzzes in and answers incorrectly. The reader announces the answer before giving the **RED** team a chance to respond, then announces that an alternate question will be used. Who gets to answer first?
- A. Both teams are allowed to buzz in
  - B. **GREEN** team
  - C. **RED** team

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

26. The **RED** team buzzes in after the entire question is read and answers incorrectly, then the **GREEN** team is given a chance to answer. How much time is each team given to answer?

A. **RED** 5 seconds, **GREEN** 5 seconds

B. **RED** 15 seconds, **GREEN** 5 seconds

C. **RED** 15 seconds, **GREEN** 15 seconds

27. The **GREEN** team buzzes in and answers incorrectly. The reader announces the answer before giving the **RED** team a chance to respond, then announces that an alternate question will be used. Who gets to answer first?

A. Both teams are allowed to buzz in

B. **GREEN** team

C. **RED** team

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

28. During a round, the score is kept by the reader, the official scorekeeper, a volunteer on the whiteboard, and both room coaches. After 20 questions, there is a discrepancy among the scores. Which score is MOST likely to be correct?

- A. Reader
- B. Official scorekeeper
- C. Whiteboard volunteer
- D. GREEN team room coach
- E. RED team room coach

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

28. During a round, the score is kept by the reader, the official scorekeeper, a volunteer on the whiteboard, and both room coaches. After 20 questions, there is a discrepancy among the scores. Which score is MOST likely to be correct?

A. Reader

B. Official scorekeeper

C. Whiteboard volunteer

D. GREEN team room coach

E. RED team room coach

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

29. The **RED** team buzzes in halfway through a question and answers incorrectly. What should the reader do next?
- A. Ask the **GREEN** team for a response
  - B. Finish reading the question from the point of interruption
  - C. Read the entire question for the **GREEN** team
  - D. Start over with an alternate question
30. The **GREEN** team buzzes in and answers correctly. What points, if any should be awarded?
- A. **RED** team, 1 point
  - B. **RED** team, 2 points
  - C. **GREEN** team, 1 point
  - D. **GREEN** team, 2 points
  - E. No points awarded

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

29. The **RED** team buzzes in halfway through a question and answers incorrectly. What should the reader do next?
- A. Ask the **GREEN** team for a response
  - B. Finish reading the question from the point of interruption
  - C. Read the entire question for the **GREEN** team
  - D. Start over with an alternate question
30. The **GREEN** team buzzes in and answers correctly. What points, if any should be awarded?
- A. **RED** team, 1 point
  - B. **RED** team, 2 points
  - C. **GREEN** team, 1 point
  - D. **GREEN** team, 2 points
  - E. No points awarded

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

31. The reader reads the question in its entirety. What should the reader do next?
- A. Give both teams 15 seconds to buzz in
  - B. Give the **RED** team 15 seconds to answer
  - C. Give the **GREEN** team 15 seconds to answer
  - D. Start over with an alternate question
32. The **RED** team buzzes in just before the end of the allotted 15 seconds. What should the reader do next?
- A. Give the **RED** team 5 seconds to answer
  - B. Give the **RED** team 15 seconds to answer
  - C. Award 1 point to the **RED** team
  - D. Give the correct answer

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

31. The reader reads the question in its entirety. What should the reader do next?

- A. Give both teams 15 seconds to buzz in
- B. Give the RED team 15 seconds to answer
- C. Give the GREEN team 15 seconds to answer
- D. Start over with an alternate question

32. The RED team buzzes in just before the end of the allotted 15 seconds. What should the reader do next?

- A. Give the RED team 5 seconds to answer
- B. Give the RED team 15 seconds to answer
- C. Award 1 point to the RED team
- D. Give the correct answer

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

33. The reader reads the question in its entirety and the RED team buzzes in within the allotted time. The RED team does not respond when the reader demands an answer after time is called. What should the reader do next?
- A. Award 1 point to the GREEN team
  - B. Ask the spectators to answer
  - C. Say “hearing no answer”, give the GREEN team 5 seconds to answer
34. After the RED team provides an incorrect answer, the GREEN team responds correctly within the allotted time. What should the reader do next?
- A. Award 1 point to the GREEN team
  - B. Award 2 points to the GREEN team
  - C. Award 0 points to both teams

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

33. The reader reads the question in its entirety and the RED team buzzes in within the allotted time. The RED team does not respond when the reader demands an answer after time is called. What should the reader do next?

A. Award 1 point to the GREEN team

B. Ask the spectators to answer

C. Say “hearing no answer”, give the GREEN team 5 seconds to answer

34. After the RED team provides an incorrect answer, the GREEN team responds correctly within the allotted time. What should the reader do next?

A. Award 1 point to the GREEN team

B. Award 2 points to the GREEN team

C. Award 0 points to both teams

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

35. The **GREEN** team buzzes in within the allotted time, but answers incorrectly. The reader gives the correct answer. What should the reader do next?
- A. Award 1 point to the **GREEN** team
  - B. Award 2 points to the **RED** team
  - C. Declare a procedural error, replace the question with an alternate, and ensure the scorekeeper annotates the score sheet accordingly
36. The reader reads the question in its entirety. Then the **RED** team buzzes in immediately and answers correctly within the allotted time. What should the reader do next?
- A. Award 1 point to the **RED** team
  - B. Award 2 points to the **RED** team
  - C. Award 0 points to both teams

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

35. The **GREEN** team buzzes in within the allotted time, but answers incorrectly. The reader gives the correct answer. What should the reader do next?

A. Award 1 point to the **GREEN** team

B. Award 2 points to the **RED** team

C. Declare a procedural error, replace the question with an alternate, and ensure the scorekeeper annotates the score sheet accordingly

36. The reader reads the question in its entirety. Then the **RED** team buzzes in immediately and answers correctly within the allotted time. What should the reader do next?

A. Award 1 point to the **RED** team

B. Award 2 points to the **RED** team

C. Award 0 points to both teams

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

37. The GREEN team buzzes in but the reader recognizes the RED team and accepts the RED team's answer. What should the reader do next?
- A. Award 1 point to the RED team
  - B. Award 2 points to the GREEN team
  - C. Declare a procedural error, replace the question with an alternate, and ensure the scorekeeper annotates the score sheet accordingly
38. Both teams answer the question incorrectly. Time is short. What should the reader do next?
- A. Replace the question with an alternate
  - B. Reread the question in its entirety
  - C. Give the correct answer and award 0 points to both teams

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

37. The GREEN team buzzes in but the reader recognizes the RED team and accepts the RED team's answer. What should the reader do next?

A. Award 1 point to the RED team

B. Award 2 points to the GREEN team

C. Declare a procedural error, replace the question with an alternate, and ensure the scorekeeper annotates the score sheet accordingly

38. Both teams answer the question incorrectly. Time is short. What should the reader do next?

A. Replace the question with an alternate

B. Reread the question in its entirety

C. Give the correct answer and award 0 points to both teams

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

39. The reader reads the question in its entirety. Neither team buzzes in but the **RED** team provides the correct answer. What should the reader do next?
- A. Award 1 point to the **RED** team
  - B. Ignore the **RED** team's answer, announce the correct answer, and award 0 points to both teams
  - C. Replace the question with an alternate
40. The reader reads the question in its entirety. Neither team buzzes in. Time is short. What should the reader do next?
- A. Replace the question with an alternate
  - B. Reread the question in its entirety
  - C. Give the correct answer and award 0 points to both teams

# Quiz

## • Multiple Choice

39. The reader reads the question in its entirety. Neither team buzzes in but the **RED** team provides the correct answer. What should the reader do next?

A. Award 1 point to the **RED** team

B. Ignore the **RED** team's answer, announce the correct answer, and award 0 points to both teams

C. Replace the question with an alternate

40. The reader reads the question in its entirety. Neither team buzzes in. Time is short. What should the reader do next?

A. Replace the question with an alternate

B. Reread the question in its entirety

C. Give the correct answer and award 0 points to both teams

# Quiz

## • Use info below to fill in partial score sheet

This is Round 4 in Room 203. Reader is John Smooth. Teams are Evergreen 6A, seated on reader's right, & Longmont 6C, seated on reader's left.

Question 1: **RED** buzzes in and answers correctly

Question 2. **RED** buzzes in and answers incorrectly, **GREEN** answers correctly

### OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

#### Individual Round Tally Sheet

Room # \_\_\_\_\_ Round # \_\_\_\_\_

Reader's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←

We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Team Captain Signature*

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←

We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Team Captain Signature*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	—
One point	
Two points	

\_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

# Quiz

## • Use info below to fill in partial score sheet

This is Round 4 in Room 203. Reader is John Smooth. Teams are Evergreen 6A, seated on reader's right, & Longmont 6C, seated on reader's left.

Question 1: **RED** buzzes in and answers correctly

Question 2. **RED** buzzes in and answers incorrectly, **GREEN** answers correctly

### OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

### Individual Round Tally Sheet

Room # 203 Round # 4

Reader's Name John Smooth

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
 Team Name Longmont 6C  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
 Team Name Evergreen 6A  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

1.   --    
 2.   ||    
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	—
One point	
Two points	

1.   |    
 2.   --    
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

# Quiz

## • Use info below to fill in partial score sheet

Question 3: GREEN buzzes in and answers incorrectly, RED answers incorrectly

Question 4: GREEN buzzes in and answers correctly

Question 5: Neither team buzzes in

Question 6: GREEN buzzes in and answers incorrectly, RED answers correctly

### OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

Room # 203 Round # 4

### Individual Round Tally Sheet

Reader's Name John Smooth

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
 Team Name Longmont 6C  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
 Team Name Evergreen 6A  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

1.   --    
 2.   ||    
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	—
One point	
Two points	

1.   |    
 2.   --    
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

# Quiz

## • Use info below to fill in partial score sheet

Question 3: GREEN buzzes in and answers incorrectly, RED answers incorrectly

Question 4: GREEN buzzes in and answers correctly

Question 5: Neither team buzzes in

Question 6: GREEN buzzes in and answers incorrectly, RED answers correctly

### OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

Room # 203 Round # 4

### Individual Round Tally Sheet

Reader's Name John Smooth

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
 Team Name Longmont 6C  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
 Team Name Evergreen 6A  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

1.   --
2.   ||
3.   --
4.   |
5.   --
6.   --
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	—
One point	
Two points	

1.   |
2.   --
3.   --
4.   --
5.   --
6.   ||
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal 1-10

Subtotal 1-10

# Quiz

## • Use info below to fill in partial score sheet

Question 7. **RED** buzzes in and answers incorrectly, Reader gives correct answer. **GREEN** Room Coach protests that they were not afforded opportunity to answer. Reader acknowledges error and goes to an alternate question. **GREEN** buzzes in and answers correctly.

### OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

#### Individual Round Tally Sheet

Room # 203 Round # 4

Reader's Name John Smooth

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
 Team Name Longmont 6C  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
 Team Name Evergreen 6A  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

1.   --
2.   ||
3.   --
4.   |
5.   --
6.   --
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	—
One point	
Two points	

1.   |
2.   --
3.   --
4.   --
5.   --
6.   ||
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal 1-10

Subtotal 1-10

# Quiz

## • Use info below to fill in partial score sheet

Question 7. **RED** buzzes in and answers incorrectly, Reader gives correct answer. **GREEN** Room Coach protests that they were not afforded opportunity to answer. Reader acknowledges error and goes to an alternate question. **GREEN** buzzes in and answers correctly.

### OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

#### Individual Round Tally Sheet

Room # 203 Round # 4

Reader's Name John Smooth

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
 Team Name Longmont 6C  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
 Team Name Evergreen 6A  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

1.   --    
 2.   ||    
 3.   --    
 4.   |     
 5.   --    
 6.   --    
 Alt 1 ← 7.   |     
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	--
One point	
Two points	

1.   |     
 2.   --    
 3.   --    
 4.   --    
 5.   --    
 6.   ||    
 Alt 1 ← 7.   --    
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

# Quiz

## • Use info below to fill in partial score sheet

Question 8: GREEN buzzes in and answers correctly

Question 9: RED buzzes in and answers correctly

Question 10: RED buzzes in and answers incorrectly, GREEN answers incorrectly

### OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

#### Individual Round Tally Sheet

Room # 203 Round # 4

Reader's Name John Smooth

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
 Team Name Longmont 6C  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
 Team Name Evergreen 6A  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

1.   --    
 2.   ||    
 3.   --    
 4.   |     
 5.   --    
 6.   --    
 Alt 1 ← 7.   |     
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	--
One point	
Two points	

1.   |     
 2.   --    
 3.   --    
 4.   --    
 5.   --    
 6.   ||    
 Alt 1 ← 7.   --    
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal 1-10

# Quiz

## • Use info below to fill in partial score sheet

Question 8: GREEN buzzes in and answers correctly

Question 9: RED buzzes in and answers correctly

Question 10: RED buzzes in and answers incorrectly, GREEN answers incorrectly

### OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL

#### Individual Round Tally Sheet

Room # 203 Round # 4

Reader's Name John Smooth

**GREEN TEAM (on Reader's Left)**  
 Team Name Longmont 6C  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

**RED TEAM (on Reader's Right)**  
 Team Name Evergreen 6A  
 We agree that our team's score is \_\_\_\_\_ ←  
 We understand that this score may change if either team has a successful protest. We are protesting the following question(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain Signature

1.   --    
 2.   ||    
 3.   --    
 4.   |    
 5.   --    
 6.   --    
 Alt 1 ← 7.   |    
 8.   |    
 9.   --    
 10.   --          5   Subtotal 1-10

Enter a score on every line for BOTH teams using only straight lines.

Zero points	--
One point	
Two points	

1.   |    
 2.   --    
 3.   --    
 4.   --    
 5.   --    
 6.   ||    
 Alt 1 ← 7.   --    
 8.   --    
 9.   |    
 10.   --          4   Subtotal 1-10

# **DISGRUNTLED PARENTS, COACHES, AND/OR PARTICIPANTS**

- **WHAT TO DO WITH THEM?**
  - There is only one thing to do – remember The Optimist Creed

# **THE OPTIMIST CREED**

## **PROMISE YOURSELF –**

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.**
- To talk health, happiness, and prosperity to every person you meet.**
- To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.**
- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.**
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.**

# THE OPTIMIST CREED

- **To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.**
- **To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.**
- **To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.**
- **To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.**
- **To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble**

# Questions?



Details pertaining to 2026 Optimist Brain Bowl are available via following website:

<https://optimistbrainbowl.org/>

Brain Bowl Volunteer Training Director/Scheduler: Gunar Neumann, DTC OC

303-766-9649 (home)

303-829-7903 (cell)

[gunarneumann@comcast.net](mailto:gunarneumann@comcast.net)

# **OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL 2026**

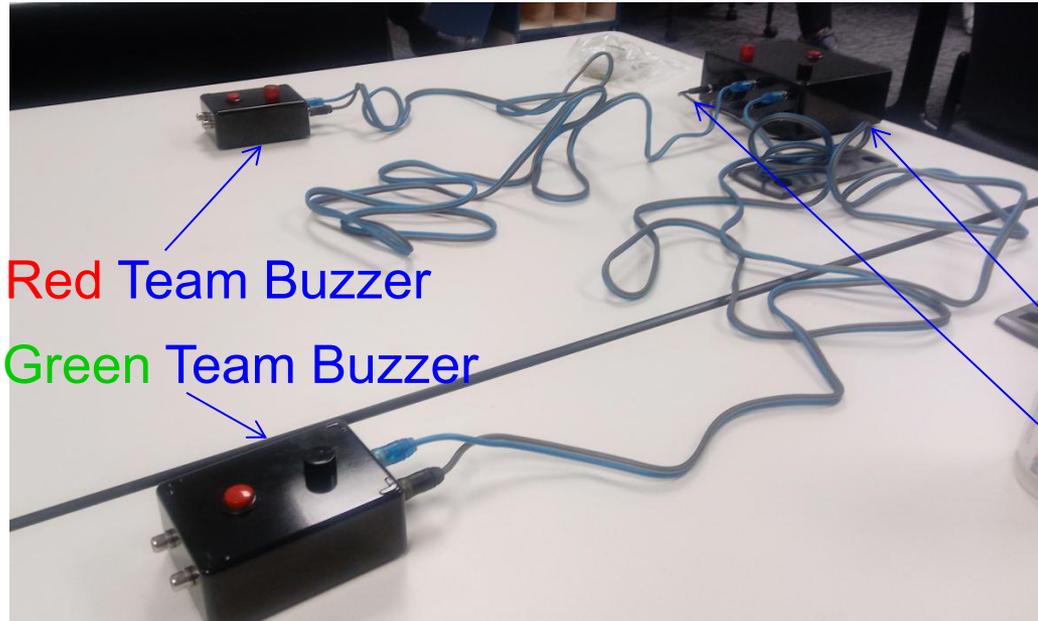
- **Hands-on Training**

# OPTIMIST BRAIN BOWL 2026

- **Backup Slides**

# SETTING UP cont.

## • Buzzer System:



- Black Ports
    - Bottom ports on Control box
    - Left Port on Buzzer
  - Red Ports
    - Top ports on Control box
    - Right port on Buzzer
- Control box
- Power Cord

Connections: (Usually made by Reader)

- Black Wires to Black Ports
- Blue Wires to Red Ports
- Power cord to electrical outlet

Red Team should be to Reader's right