

Science Olympiad State Tournament Amateur Radio Operator Policy and Procedures

1. The net for the Indiana Science Olympiad State Tournament will operate on K9IU, 146.94 (PL 136.5). Net Control may establish tactical nets on simplex frequencies or on other repeaters. Primary simplex frequency will be 146.58. The secondary repeater will be K90K, 146.64 (PL 136.5).
2. The Science Olympiad Net is a directed net. All communications will be through Net Control. Permission to "go direct" and permission for non- participating stations to use the frequency may be granted. Third party conversations will be encouraged in order to facilitate accurate communication between Tournament officials.
3. All participating stations will use tactical callsigns descriptive of the assignment: Net Control, Rover, Tina's Shadow, Chemistry, etc. Locations with multiple operators may be designated with a number - *i.e.*, Swain 1 - if it is necessary to distinguish between operators. FCC regulations require callsign identification at the end of a contact and every ten (10) minutes during a contact.

Sample contact:

Tactical Station: Net Control, this is Swain 1

Net Control Station: Swain 1, this is Net Control. Go ahead.

Tactical Station: Net Control, the Event Coordinator for ... [event]

Net Control Station: Swain 1, you have permission

Tactical Station: Net Control, this is Swain 1, KC9BWV, clear.

Net Control Station: This is Net Control, KB9RVB, standing by.

Keep transmissions as brief as possible. We should never need to do a 10- minute FCC ID.

4. The Science Olympiad Net will follow the NTS message priority system.
 4. ROUTINE -- Most messages.
 3. WELFARE -- An inquiry as to the health and welfare of an individual or an advisor from officials relative to the status of an individual.
 2. PRIORITY -- Messages having a time limit; official messages not emergency; other emergency-related traffic not of utmost importance; notice of personal or official injury or death at a location.
 1. EMERGENCY -- Any message having life or death urgency, including requests for supplies, materials or instructions vital to emergency relief. Very rare. When in doubt, do not escalate traffic to EMERGENCY priority status.
- 99 44/100% of all traffic will be ROUTINE. We may have one or two time-value PRIORITY messages and perhaps a single WELFARE inquiry.

5. Do not use names of student participants. This is particularly important in the case of injury, illness or missing persons. In such events, Tournament officials will request specific information intended to alleviate the incident or expedite assistance. If a Tournament official passes a name, assume permission to do so was obtained or a tactical decision was made. In no case would this decision be made by the amateur radio operator, by an Event Coordinator, or by a school representative without consultation with the Tournament officials.
6. Upon arrival on station, the radio amateur should visit each contest venue and identify to the Event Coordinators. Inform them of your primary location. Tell them that your assignment is to pass information between them and Tournament officials, scoring, and arbitration committees. Ask if there are any special considerations that you should honor if/when you need to enter their venue.
7. The radio amateur is primarily a communicator. We are not part of the Tournament officialdom. We have no authority to make decisions relative to the operation of the Tournament or of specific events. Do not become involved in disputes between participants and officials. Do not express opinions concerning scoring, judging, or management of events. Communicate. If a confrontation appears to escalate, communicate that to Tournament officials clearly without inflaming the situation. FCC regulations do not allow coded messages.
8. Along the same lines, the Science Olympiad State Tournament takes place in many buildings, widely separated on the Indiana University-Bloomington campus. Many participants and their coaches may have misgivings about getting to the next venue in a timely manner. Restrain your natural instinct to intervene. Offering assistance could result in a disqualification if a protest is filed. If approached, suggest that the participant contact Tournament for assistance.
9. The radio amateur is the communicator, not the gopher. The organizers and staff are responsible for having the appropriate supplies and equipment on hand for each event. It would be appropriate to ask you to request additional materials from the staff. It would not be appropriate for event staff to ask that you leave your post to obtain that material. On the other hand, if the Tournament officials make such a request through Net Control, you may comply if you feel comfortable doing so.
10. If you have to leave your post or if you have to go off the air, please notify and request permission from Net Control before doing so. In most cases, there will be no problem honoring such a request. However, it is better to be safe. At the end of the Tournament, you will be released from your post as soon as Tournament officials determine that all information has been turned in.

Thank you!