Welcome Coaches!

Please make sure to sign in and let us know your name, school, and email address.

October 28, 2026

Tonight’s Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Science Olympiad 2026/27 Info
  - Board Updates
  - 2026/27 Events
  - Important Dates/Calendar
  - Registration
  - Invitational Tournaments
  - Final Registration
  - Macomb SO Tournament
  - Advice from Veteran Coaches
  - Q&A

Board News

- Director – Monica Bergler
- Assistant Director – Dave Cambridge
- Coaches Chair – Mee Mee Ashba

- We are always looking for new board members. We are in need of a Secretary and Public Relations Coordinator.

2026/27 Events – Division B

Life, Personal & Social Science

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Disease Detectives
- Heredity
- Botany
- Water Quality

Earth & Space Science

- Dynamic Planet
- Meteorology
- Remote Sensing
- Rocks & Minerals
- Solar System

Physical Science & Chemistry

- Hovercraft
- Circuit Lab
- Thermodynamics
- Crime Busters
- Food Science

Technology & Engineering

- Boomilever
- Elastic Launch Glider
- Roller Coaster
- Scrambler

Inquiry & Nature of Science

- Codebusters
- Experimental Design
- Ping Pong Parachute
- Write It, Do It

*Like colors indicates schedule conflicts.

New events

2026/27 Events – Division C

Life, Personal & Social Science

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Designer Genes
- Disease Detectives
- Botany
- Water Quality

Earth & Space Science

- Astronomy
- Dynamic Planet
- Remote Sensing
- Rocks & Minerals

Physical Science & Chemistry

- Hovercraft
- Circuit Lab
- Thermodynamics
- Chemistry Lab
- Forensics
- Protein Modeling

Technology & Engineering

- Boomilever
- Electric Vehicle
- Mission Possible
- Wright Stuff

Inquiry & Nature of Science

- Codebusters
- Experimental Design
- Ping Pong Parachute
- Engineering CAD

*Like colors indicates schedule conflicts.

New events

Tournament Site Updates

- SEC will be open this year!
- Headquarters will be in the SEC
- Event viewing will be open for events in SEC
- Everyone will be in same room for awards

Important Dates

11/7/26	State Coaches Clinic – Virtual
12/3/26	Region 7 Workshop at L'Anse Creuse North
12/5/26	Event Coaches Briefings
12/1/26	Regional Registration Due Date
12/4/26	NDIA Sponsorship Application deadline
1/9/27	Rotating State Workshop at L'Anse Creuse North
2/12/27	Team Rosters & Principal Forms due
2/19/27	Parent/Student Registration Forms due
2/20/27	Region 7 Workshop at L'Anse Creuse North
3/4/27	Region 7 Final Registration Meeting at MISD Room 104
3/5/27	Self Schedule will open
3/20/27	Region 7 Tournament – Macomb CC South Campus
3/23/27	Tournament Debriefing at MISD Michigan/Superior Room
4/24/27	Michigan State Tournament – Western State University
5/14-15/27	National Tournament – Ohio State

Periodically Check the Calendar on Website

Registration

- You must register at both the regional and state website.
- Region 7 will collect all the fees and remit to state for each team.
- Michigan State Online Registration Site
  - https://miscioly.org/registration
  - $300 main team; $150 alternate teams (select pay by CC)
  - Covers National fee & Insurance
  - Electronic rule books are available at the National website, soinc.org
  - Fee must be received by 12/1/26, after late fee will be assessed ($100/team)
- Region 7 Registration
  - Use link send to you by the Coaches Chair
  - $75 main team ($375 total for state and region), $25 alternate teams ($160 total for state and region)
  - Registration kits will be provided to all primary teams (up to $200 value)

All teams must be registered with Region & State to participate in invitational or regional tournaments

Registration Kits

- We are doing something new this year. Each team will be able to create their own registration kit based on the available items in our order form.
- Each team will get up to $200 in materials to help them with their events. Teams that registered before October 1 received a $50 bonus.
- If you didn’t make your selections by October 12 you will need to arrange a pickup of your kit.
- The items on the order form are things that either past coaches or current supervisors recommended to the board.

Resources

- Macomb SO Website (www.macombso.org)
  - Links to registration, rules, online workshops, and other resources
  - Calendar of events
  - Information for each event, past recording of event training
  - Tournament schedule & team numbers
  - Head Coaches Information
- Macomb SO Workshops
  - We will host two workshops at LCHS-North
  - We will be asking students to register for the workshops – no cost
  - Some workshops will have giveaways

Resources

- Coaches Center (https://miscioly.org/coaches-center)
  - Statewide Coaches Meetings
  - Virtual Coaches Training
- Michigan Workshops (https://miscioly.org/workshops)
  - Coaches Clinic
    - Virtual, no fee
    - National, State and Local supervisors will present information and resources for B and C events
    - Multiple events during same time slots, have event coaches or students attend.
  - In-person Workshops
    - 4 workshops
    - LCHS-North – Free for our region; teams from other regions will need to pay to attend

Resources

- Region 7 Coaches Briefing
  - Virtual
  - Opportunity to hear Region 7 Supervisors
  - 30 minutes per event
  - Go over rules and explain how the event will be run
  - Q&A to clarify event
- Region 7 Workshops
  - In-person, hands-on
  - Opportunity for students to test devices, take practice tests, and get more information about the events
  - No fee, but will need to register

Resources

- National Website (https://www.soinc.org)
  - Download rulebook
  - Information for each event
  - Practice problems & tests
  - Purchase national test packets or event DVDs
- Scioly (https://scioly.org)
  - Test bank
  - Forums for all events
- Macomb Website (https://macombso.org/index.php/secondary)
  - Registration
  - Important dates
  - Tournament information

Invitational Tournaments

- https://miscioly.org/invitational-tournaments
- Check website for complete list
- Invitationals vary in cost and team responsibility.
- Some invitationals fill up quickly – register early.
- Battle of the States is a virtual invitational where teams form other states compete against each other.

Final Registration

- Final registration occurs a few weeks before the regional tournament.
- A team roster with the names of the students (up to 15) participating is submitted for each team.
  - You will need parent e-mail addresses – collect them now!
- Principal Sign-Off Form must be completed with principal signature.
- More information will be sent at the end of January
  - Coaches rosters and Principal form due 2/12/27
  - Parent registrations with waivers due 2/19/27

Region 7 Tournament

- Conflicts will match National suggested schedule with some adjustments:
  - Disease Detective will run first thing in the morning for all teams.
  - Self-Schedule events may be run for 1/2 day instead of full day
  - If there is a conflict, we will accommodate as needed

- Region 7 draft schedule will be released before the end of the year
- Team numbers will be assigned after registration is closed
- Take team photo and email to coacheschair@macombso.org to be included in the award ceremony
- Read (and re-read!) rules for allowed resources
- Team room will be made available upon request

Teams Tips

- Use Remind 101 or text the students the night before to remind them of tournament and any last-minute changes
- Have team meeting with parents a week before tournament to set expectations.
- Make sure your team knows it's Macomb Community ***South*** Campus
- Start build events early
- Communicate with students and parents and make sure they fully understand everything that's expected of them.
- Read rules multiple times and check state and national SO websites for rule clarifications and FAQs.

Teams Tips

- Make sure your team arrives early to competitions to get wristbands and take items to impound (make sure your devices are labeled).
- Make sure your team has the proper safety clothing and eyewear.
- Double check that you don’t assign a student to events that have a conflict
- Participating in an invitational helps get your team going earlier.
- Remember you can have no more than five (5) 9^{th} graders on B team, or seven (7) 12^{th} graders on C team.

Q & A