

SWSC Mathletes
Fall Meeting (breakout session of SWSC Mega-Meeting)
Wednesday, September 3, 2008
Joliet West High School

Attendance (according to sign-in sheet):

Andrew	Eric Johnson
Bolingbrook	Julie Berg
Bradley-Bourbonnais	Mark Hampton
Homewood-Flossmoor	Scott Furlong
Joliet	Dan Spradley, Kelli Chvoy
Lincoln-Way Central	Holly Misener, Lisa Parker, Roy Broderick, Katie Hannigan
Lincoln-Way East	Jim Aiu
Lincoln-Way North	Christin Parker
Lincoln-Way West	
Lockport	Carin Cooper, Tony Strahanoski
Sandburg	Dan Olsen, Elisabeth Broderick
Stagg	Mark Lyons
Statistician	Ricky Perez
SWSC Representative	Dawn Rueter-Cox

Dan Olsen (President) called the meeting to order at 7:20pm.

SWSC Business:

Dawn-Rueter Cox spoke as SWSC Representative and reviewed items on the SWSC Fall Mega Activities Meeting agenda. These items included discussion of travel arrangements; clarification that all SWSC schools must be considered viable for competition regardless of distance (e.g., Bradley to Stagg); verification that all SWSC activities must start on/after 5:00pm; and a request that procedures be established for late arrivals and cancellation of events. Jim Aiu questioned the cancellation procedure, and asked what role the SWSC activity directors would play. He described last year's notification of the cancellation of SWSC V as "lucky." Dawn said that she would look into streamlining this process. She then continued, informing us that the Mathletes budget would be the same as it has been. She discussed the by-laws and said they would be worked on throughout the year. She concluded with a request that we consider what information should be documented to represent Mathletes in SWSC history

Introduction and Approval of Minutes

Dan Olsen requested all coaches introduce themselves for the benefit of new coaches. He requested that head coaches email him (and Eric Johnson, webmaster) the email addresses for any new assistant coaches.

There were no amendments to the spring minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lincoln-Way East and seconded by Lincoln-Way Central. All in favor.

Questions on Schedules:

Holly reminded everyone that Lincoln-Way Central and Lincoln-Way West would only be bringing a total of four (4) judges between them, and that Lincoln-Way North would only be bringing two (2) judges. She asked coaches to revise their schedules as necessary. She also suggested that oral schedules might be revised to have LWW at the end of the Junior/Senior orals, thus allowing judges of those competitions to finish earlier.

Webmaster Updates:

Eric Johnson is the new webmaster, and the website is now located at <http://swscmathletes.vjamath.org/>. He requested that any suggestions on additions to/improvement of the site be emailed to him. Concerning the contest spreadsheet, future distribution will take place only through the website to avoid multiple versions floating around, blocked emails, etc. Whenever a new version of the spreadsheet is released, Eric will send out an email to inform people to visit the website to obtain it. Barring the discovery of major errors, there should no updates during the season with the exception of the addition of the conference topics which will be decided on in October. Only Joliet and Lockport (SWSC V hosts) need obtain the new version. An updated Coaches Directory will be sent out separately, as well as integrated into the spreadsheet.

Statistician Updates:

Ricky stated that all SWSC I folders have been distributed. She listed the number of copies of each contest that were in the folders, and said that if any more were needed (say, for Alternates) it would be the responsibility of the hosting coach to make them.

The remaining CDs with previous years' questions were distributed to those schools that had not already received them.

As decided on in the spring meeting, questions and answer packets will be emailed the day after each contest rather than being distributed by hardcopy on the contest night. There will still be one (1) copy of the entire packet available on the contest night for coaches to look at to check answers, etc. It was suggested that there be a total of six (6) copies of the answer sheets available, however, so that coaches can check answers that night after leaving the contest site if they wish. Since only one copy is in the SWSC I folders, hosts at those sites will need to make the extra five (5) copies.

Question Writer Updates:

Jim stated that questions for SWSC I-IV were done. After SWSC II, we will need to vote on the conference topics. Votes will be due by 3:00pm on the Friday following SWSC II. [This means votes will need to be in by October 24.]

Jim stated that questions for 2009-2010 are written, but not yet typed. Questions for 2010-2011 are progressing, with junior and senior questions written, and sophomore questions almost done.

Awards

Awards are in. [Awards were checked for completeness and accuracy before the end of the evening.]

It was confirmed that All-Conference awards are determined at the school level and criteria for these awards are at the discretion of the coaches. Coaches can get the certificates for these awards from their activities director.

It was confirmed that All-Academic awards are for seniors. All students who meet the criteria will receive this award. Activities directors have the pins.

Scheduling for SWSC Mathletes Contests:

The idea of moving SWSC V to December for the 2009-2010 season was discussed. Pros (keeping kids for the whole season, maintaining interest, more prep time for ICTM regionals) and cons (running close to final exams, snow day/cancellation issues) were brought up. Jim mentioned that contracts for the question writer and

statistician would need to be rewritten if SWSC V was moved to December. Currently, many questions are shared with SICA, since contests fall on the same dates. This would no longer be the case if the SWSC schedule were changed, and no overlap of questions would be tolerated. Additionally, the turnaround time for the conference questions would require that either a.) questions would need to be prepared for all sixteen (16) written contests ahead of time instead of just the eight (8) conference topics or b.) conference topics would need to be decided in advance, rather than after SWSC II. Ricky also stressed that the schedule would be very tight in terms of turnaround. Essentially, all questions would need to be written before, say, August 1 in order for them to be typed, proofread, copied, placed in folders, and distributed. Dawn was asked about the possibility of rewriting the contracts, and she said she would bring it up to the SWSC board.

Bradley motioned that SWSC V be moved to December for the 2009-2010 season. Lockport seconded.

Voting: 7 for, 2 opposed, and 3 abstentions

Motion was approved pending result of actions by the SWSC board concerning proposed contract revisions.

[If approved, dates for 2009-2010 would be 9/16, 10/7, 10/28, 11/18, 12/9.]

Amendments to the SWSC Mathletes Manual:

Dawn requested that procedures for All Conference selection be added to the manual, and that the awards list as it appears in the current bylaws document be added to the manual as well. After reviewing it, Dawn said she will offer the manual as the document to replace the one currently serving as our bylaws. (Jim and Dawn will email the relevant Word documents to Eric so that he can add the requested information and post it to the website.)

Carin Cooper noted an error on page 26 of the manual, section e., subsection (2): "Five (5) students..." when actually six students are allowed in the competition. Eric will make the correction.

SWSC History:

It was decided that only conference champions will be recorded as part of SWSC history. Keeping track of individual students' performance would be too cumbersome, raise potential legal issues if posted, and offer little value added.

New Business:

Lockport provided a handout detailing the amount that each school pays its Mathletes judges.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm (Motion: Lincoln-Way Central, Seconded: Lockport)