



NCSO Div A 2021 Season Overview

August 24, 2020 Update



Plan A

- K-12 schools are open for in person instruction
 - Gatherings of more than 250 are allowed
 - Host site is ready, willing, and able to host
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- ★ Tournaments will be in-person on Saturdays in the spring and will follow the proposed tournament schedule published in the manual. Additional safety measurements will be implemented using current public health recommendations.



Plan B

- K-12 schools are open, but blended or remote learning is being used by all students.
 - Teams are allowed to gather at the school but cannot travel
 - Host site cannot be secured
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- ★ Remote tournaments will be run on Saturdays in the spring or over a several day period after school (eg: 2 hours on Tues, Wed, & Thurs of a week). The proposed tournament schedule published in the manual will be used to set up the timing. Schools will sign a safety waiver agreement and abide by an honor code for monitoring tests and recording device results. Virtual awards ceremony will be broadcast and medals & trophies will be mailed to the schools.



Plan C

- K-12 schools are using remote learning for all students.
 - Teams are not allowed to gather at the school.
 - Host site cannot be secured
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- ★ Home tournaments will be run on Saturdays in the spring or over a several day period (eg: 2 hours on Tues, Wed, & Thurs of a week). The proposed tournament schedule published in the manual will be used to set up the timing. Students and parents will sign an honor code. Only tests will be given, no devices will be tested and lab events will present data to be analyzed, but will not involve actual experiments. Virtual awards ceremony will be broadcast and medals & trophies will be mailed to the schools.



Plans can vary across the state for each regional

- Each tournament must have everyone competing in the same way - if we run a virtual tournament, all teams must either be in their schools being supervised (Plan B) or every student must be at home competing alone (Plan C)



Home SO - Modified list of events

Animal Adaptations

Backyard Biologist

Codebusters

Data Crunchers

Genes R Us

Movers & Shakers

Progamers

Pump It Up

Rock Star

Sky Quest

Super Sleuths

Weather Permitting

What's the Matter?



Bite Size SO - All Plans

- Each month we do a deep dive on 2 events
- Lessons and challenges released on the 1st of each month
- Will be packaged as stand alone lessons that can be completed at home or in class by the students with little to no outside help
- Will include video resources covering the information and tips for learning more about the material
- Specialized games and a practice test will be released to registered coaches each month, but not posted publicly.
 - Coaches who register late will receive all these games and practice tests for any months they missed



Proposed Monthly Themes

September - Marshmallow Catapult/Backyard Biologist (Free Trial)

October - Movers & Shakers/Rock Star

November - Codebusters/Data Crunchers

December - Progamers/Animal Adaptations

January - Super Sleuths/What's the Matter

February - SkyQuest/Weather Permitting

March - Genes R Us/Pump It Up



Monthly Challenge Overview

- Social media challenges which will be like the Wonder Challenge - themed monthly and anyone is eligible to participate.
- Prizes awarded each month



All Plans - Virtual Mentoring

National Science Olympiad is highlighting the 3 C's -

Citizenship & Character in the Community

Our office will work to create an easy solution to having high school & college students mentor elementary teams through their school's preferred virtual meeting platform.

Goal to have at least mentor per team in NC



All Plans - Coaches Corner

At the beginning of the month at least 1 team building activity released that is ready for you to do with your team to build those relationships. Might be trivia, virtual scavenger hunts, timed escape rooms, etc.



How to Start?

Virtual club time for those of us who can not gather in person. Club time if you are allowed to meet.

Don't stress about diving deep into curriculum yet, there is time once things settle down.

What is important now is giving them something to be part of and work towards.

Use the monthly challenges for everyone to learn new things.

Leave building challenges until you know if your team will be able to compete in them.



Coaches Clinic

- Virtual
- Pre-recorded sessions loaded in to Wolfware - NC State's non-credit class system.
- Sessions can be watched when it is convenient for coaches
- Live Q&A sessions and keynote on Oct 3 for all registered coaches
- Course would remain available all year for coaches to take even if they start late
- 10 hours of sessions watched = 1 CEU
- \$50



NCSO Action Plan

- Released 2021 manual on Aug 1
- Regional director commits to hosting a tournament in a manner/date TBD depending on the many factors currently in the air.
- Registration opens Sept 1 with known regional names and dates to be announced in November
- Coaches Clinic in October to help folks get started
- Mentors assigned as requested and available
- Bite Size SO begins in Sept with free trial to all resources