NRMS Science Olympiad Club

**What is Science Olympiad?**

 Founded in 1984, Science Olympiad is one of the premier science competitions in the nation. Science Olympiad competitions are like academic track meets, consisting of a series of 23 team events in each division (Division B is middle school; Division C is high school). Each year, a portion of the events are rotated to reflect the ever-changing nature of genetics, earth science, chemistry, anatomy, physics, geology, mechanical engineering and technology. By combining events from all disciplines, Science Olympiad encourages a wide cross-section of students to get involved. Emphasis is placed on active, hands-on group participation.

**How does a Team work?**

 Teams of 15 students are selected. Students on a team will typically work in 1-2 person groups on 1-2 topics for the competition. Only one group from each team may compete in a topic. A team does not need to compete in all topics. Not all topics are available at each competition.

The highlighted topics are ones currently selected for competition becuase:

Students have indicated an interest AND

Parents have offered to teach/have knowledge of subject matter to assist

**What are the topics?**

The 2018 Division B events are listed

below.

LIFE, PERSONAL & SOCIAL SCIENCE

Anatomy and Physiology

Disease Detectives

Ecology
Herpetology
Microbe Mission

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
Dynamic Planet
Meteorology
Road Scholar
Rocks and Minerals
Solar System

PHYSICAL SCIENCE & CHEMISTRY
Crime Busters
Hovercraft
Optics
Potions and Poisons
Thermodynamics

TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING
Battery Buggy
Roller Coaster
Towers
Wright Stuff

INQUIRY & NATURE OF SCIENCE
Experimental Design
Fast Facts
Mystery Architecture
Write It Do It

**How does the competition work?**

Some topics are written or identification tests, some topics require the building or construction of an item, some topics require design or problem solving.

**When are the competitions?**

Currently we are looking at participating in 3 competitions plus the State competition upon qualification.

 Westlake 1/6/2018

 Kenston 1/13/2018

 Solon 2/3/2018

 State competition Ohio State University, Columbus 4/28/2018

Competitions are an all day long commitment. Events take place in the morning with results in the LATE afternoon.

**When are the practices?**

Practices will be Tuesdays from 3:15pm-5:00pm and Wednesdays from 3:15-4:30pm at NRMS room 1515. Practices are starting on Tuesday Nov 21st.

**What happens at practices?**

 Students will be given written material to study or instruction on the topic and the requirements of each topic.

**What is the cost?**

 The $25 NRMS Student Activity/Club fee must be paid. This cost covers supplies, facility use, etc. If you have already paid this fee for any other NRMS club, you do not need to pay it again. Additional cost will be incurred to cover the competition fees (typically $80-$85 per competition). Registration for a Science Olympiad team is $225. We are currently seeking donations from area organizations/NRMS PTA.

 Estimated cost for competitions per student $20.

**What is the Parent Involvement?**

 Parent involvement is critical to the success of the team. As parent advisors we can organize and instruct, but our time is limited. In order for students to make the most of their Science Olympiad topics and have the best chance of success, we need parents to step up and assist with the following:

 Topic coaches - Assist in the gathering and teaching of materials

 Encouragement of students to put in additional study time (6 hours)

 Cross-training of students in multiple areas

 Transportation - you will need to transport your own student to and from events, practices

 T-shirts - a parent will need to design, order and deliver student t-shirts for competitions, ie. a “uniform”

 Press Club - Parent needed to take pictures of practices, competitions and post to NRMS Principal, local news media, etc.