

Information for Coaches

Vancouver Island Regional Math Challengers Competition
Friday, February 16th, 2018, Camosun College Interurban Campus
Sponsored by Engineers and Geoscientists BC

This is meant to supplement the information that's on the Math Challengers web site, <https://www.eqbc.ca/Math-Challengers/Math-Challengers-Home>.

For liability reasons, we are unable to accept responsibility for your competitors. Therefore, it is our requirement that there be at least one adult from your school nearby at all times.

By the time you read this you should have already registered your competitors. If this is not the case, please contact Leo Neufeld immediately (contact info below) and he will help you get set up.

This year some regions, in addition to accepting grades 8 and 9 teams, are accepting grade 10 teams as well. Unfortunately, that will not be the case here. However, if the Registrar is made aware that you have interested grade 10 students, your school will be invited to send a grade 10 team to the provincials.

Team names: if, for example, SMU sends two grade 9 teams, we'll name them SMU 1 and SMU 2. Our system cannot handle creative naming such as SMU Alpha and SMU Beta ☹. Sorry!

Have your students bring a scientific non-programmable non-graphics calculator for use during the Team Co-op stage.

If on Thursday February 15, the day before the contest, you still have registration changes to make, please submit them directly to Nick Marsden, nmarsden@shaw.ca. He will be running things on Leo's behalf from this point onwards. The deadline for changes is 4:30 pm that day. Changes received after that will jeopardize your students' chances of being able to participate.

When you arrive on contest day:

- Refer to http://camosun.ca/about/documents/iu_map.pdf for parking and building locations.
- Parking is \$3.25 (4 hours) or \$6.50 (all day).
- Head to the TEC (Technologies) Building.
- And then room TEC 181. This is our multi-purpose room. We use it for registration and then later for refreshment time. We're happy to share that room with you.
- Camosun College offers free Wi-Fi: click on "Camosun Guest".

Contest Schedule

- 12:30 – 1:00 Check in at the Welcome Desk in TEC 181
- 1:10 – 1:15 Students report to their classrooms
- 1:20 – 1:25 Opening remarks and instructions
- 1:30 – 2:10 Blitz (Stage One)
- 2:20 – 2:56 Bulls-eye (Stage Two)
- 3:03 – 3:39 Co-op (Stage Three)
- 3:40 – 3:50 Nutrition Break, TEC 181 - free pizza (2 pieces) and a soft drink. Some students may want to bring additional snacks.
- 4:00 – 4:35 Face-Off (Stage Four), Grade 8's in Campus Centre 124, Grade 9's in TEC 173
 - Teachers, parents and guests are welcome. No cameras or other recording devices please.
- 4:45 – 5:30 Awards and Closing Remarks, Campus Centre, CC 124

Contest Details

You should be familiar with http://trackshoes.ca/mc/answering_rules.pdf

Blitz (Stage One)

During this 40-minute stage, individual competitors solve 26 problems. Parents and coaches may not attend.

Bull's-eye (Stage Two)

Individual students are given 12 minutes to solve each of 3 problem sets (36 minutes in total). Parents and coaches may not attend.

Co-op (Stage Three)

In this stage, teams (of five) will have 36 minutes to solve 15 higher-level, thinking problems. Parents and coaches may not attend.

Face-Off (Stage Four)

The names of those who have reached the Face-Off Stage will be on display just outside the Face-Off rooms. At the contest, students compete two at a time in an elimination format until there is only one person left. Parents and coaches are encouraged to attend. Everyone thoroughly enjoys the excitement of this event! No phones, cameras or recording devices of any kind (not even pen & paper ☺) please.

Make sure your students are aware of the specific rules around answering Face-Off questions:

You have 45 seconds from the time the question appears on the screen. You will be given a "10 seconds" warning at the 35 second mark.

If you wish to provide an answer, you must press your buzzer. But, only the first person who buzzes will be called to provide an answer. Any answer without pressing the buzzer will be disqualified. You get to give only one answer and you will have only 3 seconds after being called. The answer must be in an acceptable format (i.e. simplified to lowest terms or as otherwise specified). Your opponent may continue working while you are answering and if your answer is incorrect your opponent may use the remainder of the time (or 10 seconds, whichever is greater) to buzz and be called to provide an answer.

While students are engaged in the first three stages of Math Challengers, you may wish to spend some time around the College campus or nearby. The college cafeterias may or may not be open because it's their "mid-term" break. However, we ask that you return to the competition site periodically in case we need you for anything.

Please be aware that we will have an official photographer at our event, and you will be given a link to his/her photos a few days later. Also, some of these photos may be used by Math Challengers or Camosun College for future promotional reasons.

If you have any questions, Leo Neufeld will be happy to take your call at 250-595-3486 or you can e-mail him at leoneufeld@shaw.ca.

We look forward to seeing you and your young Math students on Friday February 16th!