

# 2023 OBOB General Training – POOL PLAY ROUND

## Cedar Mill Elementary School

Oregon Battle of the Books is a statewide reading competition.

### TEAMS

1. Consist of 4-5 team members
2. 4 are allowed to battle; one may be designated as an alternate
  - a. Alternates sit in a designated area during the battle and may not assist in answering questions while they are an active alternate.
  - b. Alternates may not "swap" out mid battle, but the active alternate can switch roles for subsequent battles
3. Spokesperson - One of the battling team members will be the spokesperson
  - a. Spokesperson is chosen by the team before the battle begins
  - b. The spokesperson is the only one allowed to give answers
  - c. Only the first answer the spokesperson gives will be accepted
4. Teams may battle with as few as 2 team members.

### GETTING STARTED

1. A coin toss will determine where each team will sit
2. The team to the left of the moderator will be ODDS, and answer odd-numbered questions
3. The team to the right of the moderator will be EVENS, and answer even-numbered questions

### THE BATTLE QUESTIONS

1. Each team will battle three times; total points will be tallied to determine which teams go to final bracket round.
  - a. 16 questions per battle
    - i. Each question is worth 5 points
    - ii. Each team will have an opportunity to answer 8 questions over the course of the battle.
    - iii. During Pool Play Rounds, teams will not be "stealing points" when the opposing team answers incorrectly.
  - b. 8 "In Which Book" questions
    - i. Full title and author names needed to receive all 5 points
    - ii. In the case of a partially correct answer, the first correct response will receive 3 points.
    - iii. Correct titles will be listed on the battle cards - answers must be stated as listed
    - iv. Author pronunciation sheet available as a reference. An answer is considered correct even if mispronounced, as long as the Moderator can discern that's the way those letters could possibly be pronounced.
  - c. 8 Content questions
    - i. Some may be two part questions
    - ii. If two parts, first correct response is worth 3 points, the second worth 2
    - iii. This is only recorded this way if the words "Two parts" appear on the card

## THE BATTLE

1. Teams will have 15 seconds to quietly discuss the question
  - a. Timing starts immediately after the question has been read for the first time
  - b. Questions may be repeated at the spokesperson's request however repeats must take place in the 15 seconds.
  - c. At the 15 second mark, the Timekeeper will call "Time!"
  - d. Discussion must stop as soon as time is called.
  - e. The question must be answered immediately by the spokesperson.
  - f. The team answering the question may talk/discuss during those 15 seconds.
2. The spokesperson will give a response.
  - a. Only the first answer the spokesperson gives will be accepted.
  - b. The moderator will not ask for more information or details.
  - c. Acceptance or not must be based on the spokesperson's response.
  - d. If the spokesperson interrupts the moderator, the answer must be given immediately.
  - e. Once time is called, or the spokesperson begins answering, the other team members cannot continue to feed information to the spokesperson.
3. Moderator will only answer "Correct" or "Incorrect" and will use their very best judgment to make that determination.
  - a. At any time, if the spokesperson is ready with the answer, they may give it (they do not need to wait until "Time!" is called)
4. A battle is considered complete once a challenge, if any, is resolved and the score sheet is signed by both teams.

## CHALLENGE PROTOCOL

1. Challenges may be entertained if a team feels it was not given credit for a correct answer.
  - a. At the end of a battle, the moderator will ask "Are there any challenges?"
    - i. Moderator will provide 15 seconds for the opportunity to challenge.
    - ii. Challenges must be articulated through the spokesperson only.
    - iii. Each team is limited to one challenge per battle.
2. Challenge Protocol
  - a. The Moderator will hand the challenging team a copy of the book in question (location TBD)
    - i. The Challenging team will have 2 minutes to find and mark the page number(s) where words can be found supporting their challenge.
    - ii. The Moderators will NOT provide page numbers.
  - b. The timekeeper will start timing when the copy of the book has been distributed.
    - i. At the end of the 2 minute time period, the spokesperson will show the moderator and judges the exact wording supporting their challenge.
  - c. The judges determine whether the challenge is successful or not.
    - i. if successful, the points will be awarded and the scores amended.
  - d. The decision of the judges is always final.

# Moderator Responsibilities – Pool Play Battles

## Pre-Battle

1. Ensure all Battle Questions are in numbered order.
2. Ensure the coin for the coin toss is present.
3. Set up four chairs in a circle for each team - one chair off to the side in case of an alternate
4. Set up one chair for the moderator and one for the timekeeper/scorekeeper
5. Set the Ground Rules for the Teams:
  - a. Establish who will answer even and odd questions based on the choice of the coin toss winner.
    - i Odd team (starts first with question 1) should be on the left.
    - ii Even team should be on the right.
  - b. Identify the Spokesperson on each team.
  - c. Provide the following reminders to both teams:
    - i Only the Spokesperson may answer for the team. If anyone else provides the answer, the team gets 0 points.
    - ii The spokesperson may ask the moderator to repeat the question, but the timer does not start over.
    - iii The first response of the spokesperson is the official answer & moderators cannot ask for additional answers/details.
    - iv All phones/devices must be turned off and placed in bags (no phones allowed in pockets).
    - v Remind them that in Pool Play, we will not allow “stealing” of points.
6. Pink cards are 1st Battle
7. Orange cards are 2nd Battle
8. Yellow cards are 3rd Battle

## During Battle

1. Always identify which team will be receiving the question before reading it.
2. If the moderator stumbles over words when reading the question, just start over and re-read it, then start the 15 seconds.
3. Slowly and clearly read each Battle question.
  - a. On Content questions, please announce the name of the book before reading the question.
  - b. On Content questions that are listed as having “Two Parts”, please announce to the team that it is a two-part question before reading the name of the book and the question.
4. Use your best judgment to accept/decline the responses given.
  - a. Moderators cannot ask for additional answers/details.
  - b. If in doubt, consult with your timekeeper/scorekeeper but the decision is ultimately yours.
    - i. If part of an answer is underlined, that particular word **must** be included in the answer.
  - c. Here are a few questions and example answers that would be acceptable, just to give an idea.
    - i. Answer is "Old Barn Owl", an acceptable answer is "Owl"
    - ii. Answer is "Ice Cream Sundae" so in this case "Ice Cream" wouldn't be good enough as Sundae is underlined and the main word they need to give.
    - iii. Answer is "Red Ford Pickup Truck", an acceptable answer is "Red Ford" or "Red Pickup Truck" or "Ford Pickup"
    - iv. Answer is "White (with blue ribbons)", an acceptable answer is "white". Words shown in parentheses are not required to be included.

- v. Sometimes the answers will include examples of answers that are not correct. For example, if the answer is "*Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* [not just *Snow White*]" The answer clearly says that if the team only says "*Snow White*" they would not receive credit for this answer.
- 5. Respond to the answer with a "Correct" an "Incorrect," or a "Partially Correct"
  - a. If part of the answer given is correct (ie, title or author), reveal what part was correct and incorrect.
- 6. Clearly state how many points are awarded to which team at the end of a question
  - a. For "In Which Book" questions:
    - i. If they get both the Title and Author correct, they are awarded 5 points.
    - ii. If they only get one correct (either Title or Author), then they are awarded 3 points.
  - b. For Content Questions:
    - i. If the question specifically says it's a two-part question, then one correct response would be worth 3 points, and the second correct response would be worth two. Therefore, if the team provides both correct answers to a two-part question, they would receive a total of 5 points for that question.
    - ii. If the question does not specifically state it's a two-part question, all correct answers are worth 5 points. No partial credit shall be given for a partial response.
- 7. Give a mid-battle score update between the In Which Book Questions and the Content Questions
  - a. Let the teams know where they both stand score-wise
  - b. Clearly state the name of each team and the number of points they have earned
- 8. If you "goof" on a question (state the answer mistakenly, etc)
  - a. there are extra question cards for each round in your packet
  - b. Be sure to use the correct type of question (IWB or Content)

## Post-Battle

1. Say "The Battle is now over, are there any challenges?"
2. Follow challenge protocol if there are any (found in General Training)
3. When complete, review the results of the battle out loud (team name and score) and declare a winner
4. Have the teams shake hands, be good sports
5. Ask the teams to remain in the until the other pool group is done with their battle.

# Scorekeeper/Timekeeper Responsibilities

## During Battle

1. Support the Moderator.
2. Act as Timekeeper using a phone or stopwatch. Set timer for 15 seconds. Start the timer as soon as the moderator finishes stating the question. When time is up, state "Time" loud enough for teams to hear
3. Complete the score sheet with each question asked and answered.
4. Remember - Teams may score partial points if they get the author or the title correct in IWB questions
  - a. First correct answer receives 3 points
  - b. All CONTENT questions are worth 5 points
    - i. Some content questions are "two part" questions.
    - ii. The first correct response earns 3 points and the second correct response earns 2 points.

## Post-Battle

1. If a challenge is requested and the books are not in the battle room, go request the necessary book for the challenge (location TBD).
2. After the battle is over and all challenges have been completed (if any), have the Spokesperson for each team sign the bottom of the score sheet.
3. Open the door to the classroom and have students wait quietly in the classroom until the other room in your Pool Group is done.
4. When the other group is done help guide teams to their next battle room.