

Minutes - Science Olympics

Tuesday October 6, 2009, 3:30pm, Banting Secondary School

Present: Terry Brown, John Budge, Elizabeth Heinicke, Dan LaJoie, Al MacIntyre, Christy McConnell, Rick Pardo, Laura Reid, Herm Vanderhayden, Caroline Whippey, Patrick Whippey

Regrets: Joanne Colling, Sarah Gallagher, Tim Kwiatkowski, Lisa MacMaster, Ian Martin, Rhonda Milton, Mike Newnham, Richard Tamminga, Frank Tancredi,

Agenda

1. Introductions

2. Financial Report - our bank balance on 31 August was \$2793.41.

3. Limiting Enrollment

- ~750 is the maximum that we can handle (2009 attendance)
- please register early!! We are reaching capacity and may be in danger of turning people away
- when designing events, keep this number (and numbers of teams) in mind

4. Events

Pentathlon Nine

- Chemical Capers - still ok
- Circuitous Circuits - still ok
- Cryptic Crossword - no problem to change if needs be - needs tweaking
- Models of Mitosis no longer works - take out completely - replace with ecology(?)
- Space Probe - could still work, but would like a change in it (John)

Pentathlon Ten

- Population Estimation - not directly related to curriculum - could have better event here - move to grade nine?
- Star Wars - bring this event back for grade ten. (Based on mirrors, optics) - John would be happy to run this. Space will be an issue. The Physics Dept renovations will begin soon - this will not be available for three years.
- Displacement Dragster - needs to come out (replace with Star Wars)
- INDYcator 500 is still ok
- Weather Watch has to come out (could be modified to be based on climate change?) Al MacIntyre will look at this. Put word out for ideas
- Need something for organ systems - could something be done with software? - could use the MC (comp sci) labs for this - thank you Laura - she would need enough time to talk to the UWO systems group. Curriculum is tissues, organs and systems
- Cryptic Wordsearch would need minor changes - new set of key words - could use climate change here, and then put in some kind of inquiry activity instead of weather watch!
- Bring back Heavy Engineering?

Grade 11 - 12

- Amazing Rodents - had three - easy to organize, but low entry numbers. Keep
- And This Little Pig - - we have the special system - renal and respiration OK
- Compound Boggle - OK

- Dantes Peek - OK
- Fermi Event - OK
- London Bridge - OK - Perry Cascanette has handed this event over to Tim Kwiatkowski.
- Function Deduction - OK - run as separate event
- Mathematics Biathlon - Lightening Calculators and Serial Series are OK
- Mystery Solutions - needs revision - sent e-mail to Nathan and Sandy saying that the current version uses chemicals that high schools don't have access anymore. Time to look at this, possibly use different chemicals.
- Robotic Event - OK
- Rube Goldberg - OK - you have to take your physics book and open it to page 42. The new event is up on the website

- We need new biology events for Penthalon nine and ten because of curriculum changes. Outside of this meeting. Christy is willing to help to coordinate this. Need a group of biology teachers to figure this out. Terry will also help with this. Christy will run either event (prefer gr. 9).
 - Committee: Christy McConnell, Terry Brown, Dan LeJoy - ask Mike Newnham for some ideas?
 - cells and tissues/ecology won't be implemented across Ontario until next year
 - could do an ecology this year for both nine and ten (rather than develop two new challenges)
- Forensics - ask John Twelves

Potential dates for dinner - middle of April (just after Easter)