

# Team Rules and Procedures

## Washington State Knowledge Bowl

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### WRITTEN ROUND

The written round has a time limit of 40 minutes. Each team will consist of not more than six members. All six may work cooperatively on the exam which will be scored immediately after time for the round has elapsed.

### ORAL ROUNDS

Four team members participate in oral rounds. Substitutions are permitted by the reader/judge, between rounds only. Oral rounds consist of 60 questions. At any point while the question is being read, teams may interrupt by "buzzing in." The reader stops immediately, the person watching the timing device calls out the team name and one member of that team will respond to the question. A point is awarded to the team giving the correct response to each question.

1. Each team must have a designated captain. Team name card must be placed directly in front of the team captain during oral rounds. Team members must be seated facing the reader/judge.
2. A team must press the bar (buzz in) to have the opportunity to answer a question.
3. The reader/judge will announce the number of each question. Once the question has been given, the team buzzing in must respond. Teams will answer only after being recognized by the timer.
4. A team that buzzes in has 15 seconds to begin its answer. The timer will start when a team is designated by the timer. The timing device will be visible to the contestants.
5. A team may buzz in at any time from the start of the question up to 5 seconds after the last team to buzz in.
6. If no team has buzzed in while the question is being read, any one team must buzz in within 5 seconds following the completion of the question.
7. If at least one team has buzzed in and the entire question has been read, a team that has not buzzed in must do so within 5 seconds after the previous team(s) complete(s) an incorrect response.
8. If the team to buzz in answers the question incorrectly, the next team indicated on the timing device will have the opportunity to answer the question. Each team is given 15 seconds to respond. A continuous response may be completed after expiration of time.
9. A team which answers out of turn (before being recognized by the timer) will be disqualified on that particular question and on the alternate question should it be required to replace the original question.
10. A question may be re-read only if the team responding to a partially read question answers it incorrectly and the other team(s) has not buzzed in. The team(s) that did not buzz in must request the re-reading of the question. A team that has buzzed in cannot request that a question be re-read.

11. A team may quietly discuss the question and/or answer per the judge's discretion. A team's discussion time ends when the team provides an answer.
12. One answer must be given by one spokesperson, either the team captain or his/her designee.
13. All answers must be clear and concise. It is recommended that they begin with "Our/The answer is..."
14. Talking between questions is to be kept to a minimum.
15. If the answer to a question is a name, the last name is acceptable unless the question sheet indicates that a full name is required.
16. Mathematics questions will be announced prior to the reading of the question (i.e., "The next question is a math question.").
17. Pencil and paper may be used for any question. Calculators are not allowed.
18. Any team found cheating will be disqualified from the round.
19. Only the designated team captain may address a reader/judge for clarification or a challenge. Other team members, coaches, and audience will not be recognized.
20. The decision of the reader/judge is final.
21. Each team captain must initial the score sheet at the conclusion of each oral round.
22. In qualifying for the Semifinal round, ties will first be resolved by the written round score. If a tie still exists, it will be resolved as follows: Ties between three teams will result in a "mini" oral round of 30 questions. Ties between two teams will result in a "mini" oral round of 20 questions.
23. In qualifying for the Championship round, ties will be resolved as follows: Ties between three teams will result in a "mini" oral round of 30 questions. Ties between two teams will result in a "mini" oral round of 20 questions.
24. The winner of each semifinal round will advance to the Championship round.
25. If a tie exists at the conclusion of the Championship round, it will be resolved as follows: Ties between three teams will result in a "mini" oral round of 30 questions. Ties between two teams will result in a "mini" oral round of 20 questions.