

**INTERSCHOLASTIC READING COMPETITION
GUIDELINES
(Modified: August 2001)**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. The bibliography will be compiled by members of the Book Selection Committee during their semi-annual organizational meeting. The titles will be chosen according to the guidelines set forth in the IU 8 Book Selection Guidelines implemented in September of 2000.
2. The bibliography will be distributed in the spring for the following year. The first 1/2 of the titles will be utilized for the fall competition. The second 1/2 of the titles will be used for the spring competition. There is a maximum of 42 titles on each list.
3. Individuals wishing to request reconsideration of a book will follow the procedure set forth in the Book Selection Guidelines.

TEAMS

1. Teams will be comprised of 8 to 12 students, plus two alternates. In the event a second tournament is held at a later date, team member composition may vary.
2. Alternates may be used in succeeding rounds on the same day.
3. Teams with fewer than eight students will be penalized by two points per student absent per round.
4. Teams with fewer than six students will **not** qualify for team honors.
5. No team member substitutions will be permitted during a round.
6. A maximum number of 12 students may participate in any given round.
7. An individual school will be permitted to field as many teams as they wish, provided the host school can accommodate them.
8. There are three levels of competition. Level I (Elementary): Grades 5 and/or 6, Level II (Middle/Jr. High): Grades 6, 7, 8, and/or 9, Level III (High School): Grades 9, 10, 11, and/or 12. Teams can include any combination of students from the grades indicated for that level. *Note: If a school encounters a lack of interested fifth or sixth grade students needed to field a team, a few fourth grade students can be included. However, a team can not be composed of mainly fourth grade students.*
9. An annual fee of \$60 per competition level will be assessed for each school district entering the competition. Up to ten teams from the same school can participate for the initial \$60 fee. Schools registering more than ten teams at one level will be assessed and additional \$30.

COMPETITION

1. In the event of inclement weather, IU8 will make the determination if the competition is to be held. If the competition is cancelled, the "rule of thumb" will be to reschedule the competition at a time that best meets the schools schedule. Confirmation of cancellation will be by telephone and e-mail via the IU8 office.

2. Each team **must** be accompanied by an adult whose additional duties may include scorekeeping or moderating. Advisors/coaches who choose not be moderating or scorekeeping, may be a spectator in any of the rounds of competition as long as there is an adult traveling with each team.

3. The overall point totals will determine the overall winners.

4. If there is an even number of teams, each team will compete in three rounds of competition. If there is an odd number of teams competing, there will be three teams competing in two rounds only. Those teams with a "bye" round will have their total score determined by averaging their scores for the other two rounds and using that average as the score for their "bye" round. Teams with "byes" are chosen a random.

5. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend all competitions.

AWARDS

1. Certificates and bookmarks will be given to all competitors as well as ribbons for the team members who are award winners. Each winning team also receives a ribbon to display in the trophy case at their school. The team with the highest point total from each competition level will receive a trophy instead of a ribbon for their school. Team members will be invited to the awards table to receive all awards.

2. Approximately 50% of the teams will receive a ribbon.

REGISTRATION

1. All participating schools must confirm their participation by notifying the IU8 office no later than the date designated on the registration form.

2. The registration form must be completed when returned including team names, moderator/scorekeeper name(s) and address, as well as the coach and team members' names.

3. Approximately 1 week prior to the competition, all registered teams will receive a letter of confirmation from the IU8 indicating that their registration has been received. Teams who DO NOT receive a confirmation letter should contact the IU 8 A.S.A.P.

4. All teams, upon arrival at the competition, must pick up their team packet at the registration desk.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. No paper, pencils, food, drinks (except bottled water), and books are permitted in close proximity of the teams in the contest room. Failure to comply with this rule will result in **disqualification**.
2. Students are not permitted to leave the contest room except in dire emergencies.
3. Students are not permitted to confer with opposing teams once the contest has begun.
4. Students may challenge an answer only during the time period before the next question is asked. They must voice a valid reason for the challenge. The moderator may substitute another question, if, in his/her judgement, a legitimate challenge has been made. Questions may not be challenged if the team does not know the answer or wishes to keep the opposing team from getting the point. **Each team is limited to two challenges per round.**
5. Students may challenge procedural errors with the consent of both teams and shall ask for a ruling by the chairperson.
6. The team captain is to carry the official team scoresheet to each of the rounds. At the end of the rounds, the captain has the scorekeeper write the score on the appropriate line and sign it. After the last round, the captain gives the scoresheet to the scorekeeper or moderator to bring to the office.
7. All team members are to remain in their third round rooms until the announcement has been made concerning the cut-off scores and school/team dismissal. Teams who do not qualify for a ribbon can either attend the awards ceremony or board their bus to go home.

SCORING AND QUIZZING

1. The moderator calls the team captains for a coin toss to see who answers the first question.
2. The moderator reads the question twice and allows the teams to confer for **twenty seconds**. The moderator then says "*Your answer please.*" The **team captain** has the option to answer the question himself or designate a specific team member, by name, to answer the question. The team captain will collaborate with the other members of the team before giving the answer.
3. If the answer is correct, the moderator continues the questioning.
4. If the first team fails to answer the question correctly, the question will go to the opposing team. The question will not be repeated. The team captain or his designee will respond. (No time will be permitted for additional conferring.)
5. Both teams are to confer quietly so as not to give the opposing team the advantage.
6. After each question, the moderator will verify the answer and announce the number of points earned by each team.
7. Questions may only be used once in any school year. Question security will be the responsibility of the IU8 office.

8. A practice round of two questions per team can be held, but is not required. (If performed, use questions from the extra question packet.)

9. Recording of scores on the official scoresheet will be done by the scorekeeper using the colored pen provided in question packet #1.

MODERATOR'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Moderators will be faculty members or parent volunteers from participating schools. Moderators and scorekeepers will not have teams from their home school in their room.

2. The moderator has complete control over the round assigned to him/her. The moderator will not allow any comments or discussion from the audience. The moderator can decide to penalize a team up to 5 points for interference by spectators from their group.

3. The moderator will be the judge of each answer. Final decisions will be made by the moderator, and all students must abide by his/her decision. Interruptions from the audience will not be tolerated.

4. The answer for book titles must be exactly as listed on the question sheet (e.g. "Red Fern" will not be accepted for "Where the Red Fern Grows".) Omission of articles, however, will be permitted. Prepositions in the title must be indicated (e.g. in the title "Of Mice and Men" the 'Of' must be included in the answer). Moderators are asked to use their own judgement regarding answers. If the answer to the question is something other than the book title, some leeway must be given. If the response means the same thing but is worded differently than what is written on the question form, accept the answer. In some cases the question has more than one acceptable answer indicated. (example: \$75 or money) The moderator can accept either answer. Unless a question specifically asks for a character's full name, moderators should accept the person's first name or last name or complete name.

5. The moderator will exercise control over the classroom where the round is being held and the adjacent hallway.

6. The scorekeeper will return the "round completed cards" to the school office immediately upon completion of rounds 1 & 2. The next round can not begin until all cards have been turned in. At the completion of round 3, the scorekeeper or moderator will return the four question packets and the two official team scoresheets to the main office.

7. Any disruptive behavior will result in disqualification.

8. Moderators and Scorekeepers who are uncertain about any matter may refer those matters to the chairperson for help.

9. Students may challenge an answer before the next question in that round is asked. Questions are not to be discarded just because a team has not read the book. **Teams are not permitted more than two challenges per round.**

10. Moderators and/or scorekeepers may not moderate and/or keep score for their own schools, unless unavoidable due to cancellation or other emergencies.

11. Moderators may not give additional clues, editorialize or comment on the questions or answers in any fashion. The moderator is to simply read the question as it appears on the question sheet.

12. Moderators and Scorekeepers must check in at the school office before the first round is to begin. At check-in the question packets for all three rounds as well as the extra question packet will be passed out. All four question packets must be returned at the end of the competition.

MODERATOR'S AND SCOREKEEPERS PROCEDURES

1. Count the number of students on each team.

2. Have each team sit on separate sides of the classroom in such a manner to facilitate conferring. Teams do not have to sit in the desks. Just make sure that the two teams are separated and not able to overhear the opposing team's discussions.

3. Please be sure to have all food and drinks (except bottled water), paper, pencils, and books removed from the teams proximity prior to the start of the rounds.

4. Make sure you use the correct questions for each round. Each packet has 20 sheets of questions with two questions on each sheet. Extra questions are included in a separate packet. You can either separate the questions into forty separate sheets of paper or keep the sheets intact. **Make sure you shuffle the sheets of questions before you begin.**

5. A practice round may be conducted, but it is not necessary. Teams may decide if they want a practice round. If a practice round is conducted, use the extra questions. Follow the following procedures:

- a. Flip the coin;
- b. The first question goes to team A assuming it won the toss;
- c. Read a sample question. If correct, say "Correct, Team A"
- d. If the answer is incorrect, say "Incorrect. Team B?"

6. The competition will then start and proceed in this manner until each team has had the opportunity to answer **20** one point questions.

7. Tabulate and validate the scores. Additionally, the blackboard can be used by the scorekeeper, if possible. Announce the scores and the winner of the round.

8. Sign the official score sheets with the colored pen that was included in the first packet of questions. Each team captain has his/her team's score sheet.

9. Send the "round completed card" to the school office immediately after finishing the round. Make sure the person who brings the card to the office knows to return to the room.

10. Only after the announcement via the PA system has been made, can students move to the next round.

11. Moderators and scorekeepers will remain in the same room for all three rounds of competition.

12. Students not competing in the next round are to report to the cafeteria.

13. The cumulative totals for the three rounds will determine winners.
14. An illustration of the scoring procedure is as follows:

TEAM A		TEAM B	
<u> x </u>	1.	<u> c </u>	Place a "C" for each correct answer and a "X" for each incorrect answer. Make sure each team is asked 20 questions.
<u> c </u>	2.	<u> c </u>	
<u> c </u>	3.	<u> </u>	
<u> x </u>	4.	<u> c </u>	
<u> c </u>	5.	<u> </u>	
<u> x </u>	6.	<u> x </u>	
Total <u> 2 </u>		Total <u> 3 </u>	Note: Both teams got #6 wrong.

NOTE: Use both the scoresheet and the blackboard, if possible. Also, the moderator and the scorekeeper should keep the score as a safeguard against error.