



February 10, 2026

2026 Butler University Regional Science Olympiad Competition

Greetings Science Olympiad Colleagues!

Please read the following letter containing important information about the competition day on **Saturday, Feb 21, 2026**. We have a Butler University Science Olympiad website this year where most of this info can be found: <https://www.butler.edu/arts-sciences/sci-olympiad/>.

IMPORTANT DATES

Butler University Science Olympiad Regional **February 21st, 2026**

Indiana Science Olympiad Wildcard Tournament (Purdue University NW) **March 14th, 2026**

Indiana State Science Olympiad (Northridge High School) **March 28th, 2026**

EVENT SCHEDULES

Event schedules for Divisions B and C can be found on the website link found at the beginning of this letter. In addition, you can find a general schedule, home base assignments and event room numbers on the website as well.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND CONSENT FORMS

Don't forget we have several student volunteers that will be taking pictures throughout the day of the events and settings around the campus so **please have each student sign the picture consent form from your school using the this google link**. [Picture Consent Form](#) (This link is also posted on the Butler SO website listed above).

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD WEBSITES

We encourage you to periodically check the following websites for important announcements and updates:

National Science Olympiad
Indiana Science Olympiad

<http://www.soinc.org/>
<https://www.indianascienceolympiad.org/>

ESUS PLATFORM

Please use the ESUS platform to complete your scheduling for all online sign-up events. You should have already received an email containing your unique username and password to access the website. Please note that scheduling is a first-come, first-served process, and you must officially sign up for a time slot prior to the start of the event. Teams will not be permitted to simply "show up" at an event without a scheduled time. If you have any questions or have not received your login credentials, please contact Ashlee immediately.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost items may be found in the **scoring room, Gallahue 285**. Please check there if anything goes missing.

RULE CLARIFICATIONS AND BINDER RULE UPDATE

There will be several rule clarifications this year. Please review them at the link below:
<https://indianascienceolympiad.org/forms-and-files/rule-clarifications-2/>

Please note an important change beginning in the **2026 season**: Indiana will now follow the official rules manual regarding reference sheets. Unlike in previous years, **Division B students will NOT be permitted to bring binders** for events that allow reference sheets. This is a significant change, and we appreciate your support in helping students understand and comply with this update.

Be sure to check the state site frequently for updates, especially for **Entomology**, which now has a narrowed insect list compared to the national event.

A summary of events and the materials students are permitted to use under the new rules can be found here: [SO Notes Rules.xlsx](#)

Please ensure your students have printed their reference sheets and binders **before arriving at the competition**, as there are no public printers available at Butler.

SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, Butler University awards a scholarship to a high school junior who has expressed interest in attending Butler University. **Please send me the names of any juniors who have expressed interest as soon as possible.**

CELL PHONE POLICY

As in prior years, cell phone use is strictly regulated. If a team is observed using a cell phone or taking pictures outside of a competition room in a manner that suggests dishonesty, the team may be disqualified from that event. Additionally, if an event coordinator sees a cell phone in a competition room at any time before or during an exam, the coordinator has the authority to disqualify the team.

Only the event coordinator may issue disqualifications. Grievances related to cell phone use filed with the Regional Director will not be honored. If a competitor observes a cell phone during an exam, they should discreetly notify the event coordinator. ***Coaches are encouraged to advise students to avoid bringing phones to competition sites.*** Cell phones may only be permitted during non-exam events, such as construction events.

FOLDER

Your team folder will be available at 7:00 am on Saturday, February 21st in the Levinson Family Hall lobby ([Science Olympiad Map](#)). Materials contained in the folder will be posted on our website. Enclosed in this folder you will find:

- 1) a list of team numbers and home base assignments (on the Events Schedules sheet).
- 2) QR codes for Butler website, campus map and Event schedules
- 3) a General Schedule of the Day's Events.
- 4) a final Schedule of Competition Events for Division B or Division C – any minor changes will be posted at the registration desk.
- 5) a campus map
- 6) a Code of Conduct Form - each team must file a completed form at the registration desk the day of the event.
- 7) nametags - students must wear a nametag to gain admission to competition venues.

- 8) a sample Appeal Form - each event coordinator will be given Appeals Forms to be used in the unlikely scenario in which procedural questions cannot be resolved amicably and simply through dialog between coach and coordinator.
- 9) a sample Code of Conduct Violation Form - each event coordinator will be given a supply of Code of Conduct Violation Forms to be used in the unlikely scenario in which the spirit of the competition is violated by unsavory behavior exhibited by a student, coach, or parent.

PARKING

The 2026 Science Olympiad coincides with a Butler basketball game and the Shen Yun performance at Clowes Hall. As a result, the **Hinkle parking lot will not be available**.

We recommend using the **parking garage connected to the Chatham Tap restaurant**. The garage will operate with hourly rates until **10:30 a.m.**, after which it will switch to an **event rate of \$15**.

Parking details can be found here:

<https://www.butler.edu/campus-services/parking/visitor-event-parking/>

Buses may drop off students and supplies near **Levinson Family Hall (see campus map)**.

Large Buses:

After drop-off, large buses should park at the Butler softball diamond (51st Street and Bulldog Road). This location can accommodate 22 buses. Once full, eight additional buses may park along the west side of the I Lot. See pictures below and on the website.

Minibuses:

Minibuses should park at **South Campus** in the Shelton Auditorium Parking Lot (marked with a yellow star on the South Campus map- [Map of South Campus](#)).

Bus parking instructions will be provided via PDF and distributed in paper form by volunteers on the morning of the event.



COMPETITION

Competition starts promptly at 8:00; participants who are late will not be given extra time. It is necessary to stick to the printed schedule. This is especially important as we approach the time of the award ceremony, since we will not be able to compute the team scores to determine who advances to the State Science Olympiad until the last event scores are tallied.

NOTE: Impound events are available for impound from 7:30-8:00 am only

INTERNET ACCESS

Most rooms will have a computer in it that you can use. The access code should be in the room on the day of the event or will be provided at the registration desk.

LUNCH

Students should either bring their own lunch or purchase a lunch at the Butler food service. Two options are available. Students may visit the A-town café (cafeteria) on the second floor of Atherton Union or A-town Market on the first floor.

A-Town Café Details:

- Brunch/Lunch: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Cost: \$13.50 (credit/debit cards or Apple Pay only)

Brunch on Saturday features a variety of breakfast items starting at 9:00 a.m. The salad and deli bar opens around 10:00 a.m., with lunch items added to the menu at 11:00 a.m. All offerings are available until 2:00 p.m.

[On-Campus Dining at The A-Town Cafe \(credit/debit cards or Apple Pay only – cash not accepted\)](#)

Coaches (one coach and two assistants) are invited to a free complimentary lunch in the Ford Salon in Robertson Hall ([Science Olympiad Map](#)) from 11:30 to 1:00. Please stop by and enjoy a good meal and conversation with other coaches and the directors of the Butler Regional.

DISPUTES

In the unlikely possibility that a coach or student disputes the way that the event is being run, the event coordinator will try to resolve the dispute in a manner that is consistent with the rules as spelled out in the student manual and fair to all competitors. If resolution is not possible, the coach may request from the coordinator an appeal form that is to be completed by both of you and given to another event coordinator OR brought to the registration desk in Levinson Family Hall within one hour after termination of your event. An assistant or coordinator will receive the form and call me. I will muster an appeals committee that will rule on the appeal.

Note that there is to be no verbal harassing of an event coordinator by any student, coach or guest of the team. Any such occurrence results in automatic disqualification of that team from your event at the discretion of the event coordinator.

PICTURES

As mentioned before, we have several student volunteers that will be taking pictures throughout the day of the events and settings around the campus to create a slide show during the awards ceremony. The special slide show from 3:15 to 4:00 will be presented in the Reilly Room before the awards ceremony. Copies of the slideshow will be made available sometime shortly after the event day, likely within two weeks.

AWARDS CEREMONY

The award ceremony is scheduled to begin at 4:00. Division B and Division C medals and ribbons will be awarded first, followed by school awards. This year we will be giving medals for the first three places in each event and ribbons for places four through six. The top four Division B and Division C schools will receive plaques with the **top nine teams in Division B** and the **top nine teams in Division C** advancing to the State Science Olympiad on **March 28th, 2026** at Northridge High School. Teams will receive official advancement letters at the awards ceremony with details about the state tournament. In addition, three teams will be able to attend the Indiana Science Olympiad Wildcard Tournament on **March 14th, 2026** at Purdue University NW.

Teams advancing to the State Tournament or the Wildcard Tournament need to read the tournament letters and respond to the tournament directors as soon as possible. Planning for these events is tight.

CAREERS IN SCIENCE

Many of our event coordinators are professionals from the area. If your students are interested in careers in any of the event categories, I would encourage you to encourage them to talk with the event coordinators after the competitions. I am sure the coordinators would be happy to talk with your students about careers paths and options. For example, nearly all the engineering and technology events are coordinated by engineers from local companies, members from the Indianapolis crime lab run our forensic type events, the meteorology event is coordinated by a meteorologist who works at the airport, Butler science faculty are hosting many of the chemistry, physics, and biology events, and the list goes on. We can host a regional because these volunteers give their time. **Be sure to thank them as you see them throughout the day.**

We wish to express our gratitude to you for the time and energy that you have donated to helping make this Regional Science Olympiad a fun and rewarding experience for the students involved. It is gratifying to see students getting so excited about science that they are willing to spend after-school hours practicing science in order to participate in this event. This is what sustains our efforts as co-directors of the Butler University Regional Science Olympiad. Furthermore, this could not be possible without the assistance of volunteers like you.

Thank you.

Good luck!

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