



*Exploring the World of Science*

New York State Science Olympiad, Inc.  
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### **Rule Enforcement:**

In order to ensure fair, orderly, safe, and efficient tournaments, New York State Science Olympiad, Inc.'s ("NYSSO") Board of Directors (the "Board") maintains the following policy regarding the enforcement of rules at Regional and State Tournaments:

#### 1) **General:**

- a) There are three types of Science Olympiad Tournaments in New York State: Invitational, Regional, and State. Generally, rule enforcement is more lenient at early tournaments, where the emphasis is on allowing students to participate and assess their own readiness, and becomes stricter at later tournaments, where rigorous adherence to the rules is expected.
- b) At Invitational tournaments, significant opportunity may be given to student event participants to correct rule violations. However, NYSSO does not directly oversee Invitational tournaments. Consult with the Invitational Tournament Coordinator for details concerning their enforcement of event rules.
- c) At Regional and State Tournaments, rules are strictly enforced, with one exception: construction violations (see below).
- d) At all tournaments, electrical outlets are off limits unless they can be supplied to all teams.

#### 2) **Regional Rule Tournament Enforcement:**

- a) At Regional Tournaments, Event Supervisors **may** allow teams to use a portion of their event time to fix construction violations discovered during inspection. Teams must remain in the event area and use only tools brought with them. Teams may not use power tools or other tools that the Event Supervisor deems unsafe.
- b) Event Supervisors **may** announce at the start of event how many minutes of the event time teams may use to fix construction violations.

#### 3) **State Rule Tournament Enforcement:**

- a) By the State Tournament, teams should know the rules and clearly understand the expectations set by Science Olympiad.
- b) The time and date for the State Tournament event site to be available for teams to arrive will be announced prior to the tournament. Teams may not show up early to use the facilities. A penalty may be assessed for noncompliance.

