

## Ten Reasons Why Students Should Join the Science Olympiad

- 1) Preparing for the Science Olympiad competition can be an independent study project. Students can organize their time to fit their individual schedules.
- 2) Students get to practice and compete with friends or classmates. Best friends can prepare together. The practice sessions also give friends more time to hang out together.
- 3) Teachers do not have to organize science fairs. The Science Olympiad supplies the rules, the location, the judges, the scores and the awards. Students prepare and show up on the day of the competition.
- 4) The Science Olympiad has a proven record of attracting young women into the STEM subjects. Over the years the Idaho Science Olympiad has alumni who are now engineers, cartographers, military officers, MDs and MD surgeons in academia, industry, military, and government.
- 5) The Science Olympiad has the widest variety of subjects and, unlike some competitions, appeals to more students in a team setting.
- 6) The Science Olympiad events are designed to parallel the school's STEM curriculum. Thus, much of what you learn in class already prepares you for the Science Olympiad competition. The hands-on experience with the Science Olympiad helps cement key concepts taught in class.
- 7) High school students can add their Science Olympiad accomplishments to their college applications. Accomplishments include awards to the student holding office in a Science Olympiad club. Not everyone is good at sports, but the Science Olympiad can accommodate a wide variety of skills.
- 8) High school students can also fulfill community service hours by mentoring younger students in the Science Olympiad subjects. Many events run in both B and C Divisions. This can also build your district's Science Olympiad "Dynasty".
- 9) The many Science Olympiad events give students the opportunity to try out a subject that may lead to a future career. Nothing like trying out something before you commit too deeply.
- 10) Unlike some competitions, the Science Olympiad is not just paper and pencil. We have construction events, think-on-your-feet events and mini-labs.