

Too Many Students for One Event? www.idahoscioly.org

How does a coach handle a situation where the number of interested students exceeds the students allowed in a given event?

The National Science Olympiad Rules state that a team of up to 15 students may compete in each event only once.

The rules for each event specify the maximum number of students allowed to compete in that event. With some exceptions, the limit is two students. (Check the current rules)

There are several ways to handle this issue. (This issue is similar to the sports coach's dilemma where everyone wants to be the quarterback or pitcher.)

- 1 Enter another team. Schools can have more than one team.
- 2 Propose an intramural at some future date and wait for excess students to drop out.
- 3 Hold an intramural among the contenders and pick the best students.
- 4 Pick the students who work together best as a team.
- 5 Pick the students who have done best in a related curriculum in school.
- 6 Negotiate with the multiple students and give the odd-students-out another favored event.
- 7 Have your team of 15 vote on their best-to-succeed team.
(Caution, this can turn into a popularity contest)
- 8 Give preference to upper classes (senior, over junior, over sophomore, over freshman) Lower classes always have next year.