

## **How Are Scores Calculated at the Idaho Science Olympiad?**

The Science Olympiad has two divisions, Division B for grades 6 – 9, and Division C for grades 9 – 12. Students in grade 9 can compete in either division. There are twenty-three events in each division.

Each event is scored according to the criteria stated in the official National Science Olympiad rules and as determined by the event supervisor. The competitors within each event are ranked from first place to last place. From this ranking the first-place winner receives a score of one, the second-place winner receives a score of two, the third-place winner receives a score of three, etc. Teams that did not compete in a particular event receive a score equal to the number of teams that DID compete in that event PLUS ONE.

Thus, a lower score is better. A competitor's score in an event immediately indicates their place in the event standings. For example, a score of five indicates fifth place. Competitors with event scores of one, two, or three will each receive a gold, silver or bronze medal.

The score for a team is the sum of their scores for all twenty-three events added together. While a team is not required to compete in all events, not competing in an event will increase the team's total score. Again, a lower total team score indicates a higher standing. The teams are ranked according to their total scores. The team with the lowest total score receives the first-place trophy, while the team with the next lowest total score receives the second-place trophy. Trophies are awarded for the top three teams in each division for display at each team's school. First place teams in each division are invited to participate in the national competition.