

Gardner Middle School Team Selection Criteria

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR GMS REGIONAL TEAM (TOP 30 or 45 STUDENTS depending on number of teams allowed to compete)

The goal of the Gardner Science Olympiad program is to allow as many kids as possible to learn and do science while having fun. Although the competition aspect makes it important to have rules in place and a system to determine which students will get to compete at our competitions, it would be very disappointing for all of us if we lose sight on our real goal.

A. Class Scoring – Coaches will set forth their method of grading students, whether by quizzes, tests, assessments of work completed, attendance, etc. All students will be assigned a random Identification Number to protect their identity and to keep the scoring “blind on tests.” Test scores **may** be weighted the most.

B. Point System – The following uniform scoring system will be used for all students in determining which students will advance to the Regional Team. There is a 5 point maximum for any student, with a maximum of 5 events for any student.

1. Previous medal (places 1-10) and/or ribbons (places 11-20) holders at the Regionals from last 2 years (2016 and 2017 Regionals): 1.0 POINT MAX
2. State top 15 from last year (2017 State): 1.0 POINT MAX
3. Highest marks in the tests, quizzes for lab/study events, and highest marks for effort and quality of the design in building events. Points will be assigned as follows:

Event Rank	Points Earned	Multiplied by the # of events
Top 1	0.5	X # of events
Top 3	0.3	X # of events
Top 5	0.1	X # of events

4. Parent Volunteer points (maximum 1 POINT)
 - Coaches/Leadership Team/Treasurer: 1 POINT
 - Assistant Coach: 0.5 POINT

For example: *Jack is a 7th grader who participated in SO last year and was placed 3rd at Regionals in one event and 12th in another. He also won 4th place in an event at the State level. His mom is coaching an event and dad is an assistant coach for another event. This year, Jack is participating in 3 events and was placed 2nd in the first, 4th in the second, and 3rd in third at the practices based upon each coach’s scoring system. Jack’s points would be calculated as...*

- Regionals medal winner from last 2 years: **1.0 POINT**
- State medal winner from last year: **1.0 POINT**
- SO Event Class placement points

For the first event... $0.3 \times 1 = 0.3$

For the second event... $0.1 \times 1 = 0.1$

For the third event... $0.3 \times 1 = 0.3$

So, the total in this section would be $0.3 + 0.1 + 0.3 = 0.7$ POINTS

○ Parent Volunteer points... **1 POINT**

Jack's total SO points= $1.0 + 1.0 + 1.0 + 1.0 = 3.7$ POINTS

C. In case of the conflict of the point while selecting the Regional Team, preference will be given to the students whose parents are Coaches, Assistant Coaches or similarly designated Volunteers for Science Olympiad.

D. Pursuant to Section B., points will be credited only to students who earned ribbons and medals at official Science Olympiad Invitational, Regional and/or State competitions while the student was in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade. Awards earned while attending another school will be verified by the GMS Head Coach.

E. Students may be requested to switch events in order to ensure the GMS Science Olympiad Regional Team is fully represented at the competition.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE STATE TEAM (15 Students)

A. Formation of the State Team is based on many factors, including a student's individual performance at Regionals, Invitationals, and previous State Teams. The Leadership Team will also consider the student's event representation, team performance, and any outside obligations other than Science Olympiad. The team members will be selected from across the teams as they fit best based on above criteria.

B. Students may be requested to switch events in order to ensure the GMS Science Olympiad State Team is fully represented at the competition.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND FEES

A. Parents should email the Coach first to resolve the matter. If the matter cannot be resolved, the Coach and the Parents will email the Head Coach with questions. Every attempt will be made to reply to and resolve the issue within 2-3 days.

B. Parents are discouraged from making comparisons to other students.

C. The Leadership Team and Team Head Coach will keep all matters private, and when communicating quantitative data will use only student identification numbers.

D. The decision of the Gardner Middle School Science Olympiad Leadership Team is final, and failure to abide by the policies listed hereinabove, including by parents and coaches, may result in removal of the student from the GMS Science Olympiad program.