

Category 14: Scholarships

Scholarships will be awarded to seniors only. [3-20-92]

Scholarship paperwork will stay with the Bookkeeper's position. [Revised 6-10-17]

The price charged by TMSCA for the catered meal less the cost of the meal will be placed in the scholarship fund. [12-13-97]

A copy of the guidelines for selecting the scholarship winners are attached to this policy manual. [12-13-97]

Solicitations for scholarship funds including but not limited to printing and postage will be deducted from the budgeted scholarship monies. [12-13-97]

The profit from the sale of T-shirts will go only to the scholarship fund. [12-11-98]

Scholarships will be given to six students per classification (1A- 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A). [7-17-99]

No classification will exceed the scholarship amount budgeted for that classification. [7-27-02]

Scholarships will be increased to \$1400, \$1200, \$1100, \$1000, \$900, and \$800. [Revised 6-10-17]

Once the Treasurer mails the scholarship funds, TMSCA's involvement is at an end. [12-11-04]

The Treasurer-Elect's name will be put on scholarship material mailed out in May. [3-16-07]

When memorial scholarships are donated, the winning student will be given a certificate with the Memorial name on it. If possible the scholarship will be awarded in the classification that is the same as the honoree's hometown. [6-18-16]

Category 15: HS and MS State Meets

Accommodations will be made at TMSCA sanctioned meets, if possible, provided the teacher provides advance notice in writing that accommodations are needed. This will be accomplished by submitting the TMSCA Accommodations Form to the appropriate Meet Director ten days prior to the meet. This form will stipulate the type of accommodation requested and will certify that this accommodation is in the student's IEP and is routinely provided for the student at his/her school. [Updated 6-10-17]

Home school participation in TMSCA is not allowed. The exception is a student who has been approved for participation in UIL Academics in the public school in their geographic attendance zone and who actually participates in the aforementioned activities. Documentation of this approval MUST be submitted to the TMSCA State Office directly from the district level. Documentation submitted from a parent or non-district person(s) to TMSCA will not be accepted. This exception is contingent upon a current TMSCA membership. (3-18-23)

High school or middle school student(s) will be allowed to grade test papers when given prior approval by the TMSCA Executive Board.. (3-18-23)

No advertisement, promotions, material sales, or fund-raising activities will be allowed at the State Meets. [6-18-16]

There will be no refunds for no-shows at the state meets and all TMSCA services will be suspended until the account is settled. [(Revised 12-13-97)]

Individuals will be disqualified for cheating, making disturbing noises or any other inappropriate testing room behavior. [(Revised 12-11-98)]

Individuals will be disqualified for using pencils on the number sense test. Note: It would be advantageous to use non-black ink. [12-11-98]

Verification of scores will be a period of 30 minutes from the time verifications sheets have been distributed. If a school representative is not present for this process a designated person in the grading room will check the scores for data accuracy only, and if all matches, they will sign off on the verification sheet. [Revised 6-10-17]

At the state meets, students must participate at their current grade level and only for the school where he/she is currently enrolled. Failure to comply will result in disqualification for this student in all events. [7-14-05]

Cell phones, PDAs or other electronic devices that can remotely transmit information may not be used in any testing rooms once the proctor begins giving instructions. These devices must be turned off and stored away. Failure to follow this rule will result in disqualification. [7-14-05]

Graders will be instructed to grade papers in a different color ink than used by the student. [7-14-05]

At State and Championship meets, once a paper has been graded the prescribed number of times, only the verifying coach can change the score. These changes can only be made with the approval of the contest director or BOTH prior graders. Changes in scores must be completed by the end of the verification period. [Revised 7-15-06]

Late fees will consist of an additional charge equal to the entry fee. For example, if entry fees are \$7.00, then late fees are an additional \$7.00 for a total cost of \$14.00. [7-27-07]

There will be a charge of a \$200 building use fee for students in an unauthorized room to offset additional charges from UTSA. [7-28-07]

When coaches and/or students violate the TMSCA eligibility policy regarding the High School State Meets and Middle School Championship Meets consequence will be as follows:

1. The coach will be suspended from TMSCA membership for a period of 2 years.
2. The student will be suspended from competing at any TMSCA sanctioned meet for a period of 2 years.
3. A letter of information with TMSCA's finding of the eligibility violation will be sent to the Coach's direct supervisor, principal, and superintendent.

4. Student will be required to return all awards and/or scholarships won from TMSCA. [8-14-08]

All private, charter, and parochial schools will compete in the same classification as the public high school district attendance zone in which the said school is located. Policy to go into effect in 2012-2013 school year. [6-9-12]

If a middle school feeds into two or more high schools of different classifications, then the middle school will be classified as the highest classification of those high schools. [12-13-14]

No fundraising or selling of items by participating schools is permitted at either the High School State Meet or the Middle School Championship Meet as this could jeopardize our contract with UTSA. [[6-18-16]

Category 16: HS State Meet

Accommodations will be made at TMSCA sanctioned meets, if possible, provided the teacher provides advance notice in writing that accommodations are needed. This will be accomplished by submitting the TMSCA Accommodations Form to the appropriate meet director ten days prior to the meet. This form will stipulate the type of accommodation requested and will certify that this accommodation is in the student's IEP and is routinely provided for the student at his/her school. [Updated 6-10-17]

Ties will be broken will be broken according to UIL rules. If there is a true tie, duplicate awards will be given. [Revised 6-10-17]

The procedure of using red dots to designate senior papers will be replace by using either a red check or red stamp. [6-10-17]

Senior papers, as all others, will be graded a total of three times. [6-10-17]

Seniors in classification 1A/2A, 3A and 4A may be combined in testing rooms. [6-10-17]

Grading: On the math and science tests: If hand graded, USE CAPITAL PRINTED LETTERS ONLY for math and science. All problems answered with non-capital letters will be counted wrong. [7-24-04]

Awards:

- Individuals placing 1 – 6 will receive individual trophies and those placing 7 – 10 will receive individual ribbons
- Each team placing 1 –3 will receive a team trophy and individual ribbons for each classification and each event.
- Top gun certificates will be one per classification, per grade for a total of twenty. Senior scholarship winners, places 2-6 , will not receive a top gun certificates.

- Science medals will be awarded the top biology, chemistry, and physics for each division for a total of fifteen.
- Two sweepstakes trophies (no ribbons) will be awarded per classification. [7-14-05]

Regarding student substitutions at the high school meet: Substitutions can be made at registration. Adding a student not previously registered will be charged a contest fee plus late fee equivalent to the entry fee for each event entered. The coach will be responsible for determining that the student is academically eligible to compete. [7-18-10]

All private, charter, and parochial schools will compete in the same classification as the public High school district attendance zone in which the said school is located. Policy to go into effect in 2012-2013 school year. [6-19-12]

Home school participation in TMSCA is not allowed. The exception is a student who has been approved for participation in UIL Academics in the public school in their geographic attendance zone and who actually participates in the aforementioned activities. Documentation of this approval MUST be submitted to the TMSCA State Office directly from the district level. Documentation submitted from a parent or non-district person(s) to TMSCA will not be accepted. This exception is contingent upon a current TMSCA membership. (3-18-23)

Any charter school that is located in a district with three or more high schools or draws their enrollment from multiple school districts will compete in the same classification as the public high school district attendance zone in which the said school is located. [6-18-16]

Schools not participating in the High School State Meet may purchase the TMSCA State Tests for \$200 and all four tests must be purchased. [6-9-18]

Category 17: Middle School Qualifiers and Championship Meet

Accommodations will be made at TMSCA sanctioned meets, if possible, provided the teacher provides advance notice in writing that accommodations are needed. This will be accomplished by submitting the TMSCA Accommodations Form to the appropriate meet director ten days prior to the meet. This form will stipulate the type of accommodation requested and will certify that this accommodation is in the student's IEP and is routinely provided for the student at his/her school. [Updated 6-10-17]

Home school participation in TMSCA is not allowed. The exception is a student who has been approved for participation in UIL Academics in the public school in their geographic attendance zone and who actually participates in the aforementioned activities. Documentation of this approval MUST be submitted to the TMSCA State Office directly from the district level. Documentation submitted from a parent or non-district person(s) to TMSCA will not be accepted. This exception is contingent upon a current TMSCA membership. (3-18-23)

Schools must provide proof of membership to schools hosting a qualifying meet. [6-10-17]

Participants in all TMSCA qualifying meets shall be limited to participation with their school team only. [6-9-18]

CLASSIFICATION

Middle/Elementary parochial and/or private schools without grades 9-12 will compete in the same classification as the public high school district attendance zone in which the said school is located.

All private, charter, and parochial schools will compete in the same classification as the public high school district attendance zone in which the said school is located. Policy to go into effect in 2012-2013 school year. [6-9-12]

If a middle school feeds into two high schools of different classifications, then the middle school will be classified as the highest classification high school. [12-13-14]

INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIERS

Each year qualifying scores will be set at the December Executive Board Meeting and will be posted on the website (www.tmsca.org) and in the January issue of the newspaper, which also is found on the website.

The two invitational qualifying tournaments that qualify individuals for the Championship Meet must use all four TMSCA tests. [12-14-96]

A current membership in TMSCA is a requirement for participation in a TMSCA Qualifier or a TMSCA Regional Meet. An updated list of members will be provided the host site by the Executive Director. [6-10-17]

The two dates that qualify individuals for the Championship Meet are invitational tournaments. [7-14-05]

The following are the TMSCA specifications for Middle School Qualifiers/Regional Qualifiers:

- Contests at the middle school qualifiers/regional qualifier must be given in the following order: Number Sense, Calculator, Math, and Science.
- The first contest must begin at 9:00 A.M. and the last contest should conclude no later than 12:30 p.m. All times reflect local time zones. Failure to follow these TMSCA guidelines could result in all scores being invalid. [12-9-07]
- For the two individual state qualifying meets it is required that a minimum of 3 schools be in attendance. [6-20-15]
- Number Sense should be assembled so that contestants flip entire test over for problem number 1 at Middle School Qualifiers and Regional Tournaments. [3-16-05]

- Page 1 of the Calculator test should be printed on the back of the cover sheet. [6-18-16]
- All qualifying meet directors shall ensure that all tests used to qualify for the Championship Meet are printed clearly and stapled in correct order. [7-14-05]
- Failure to comply with any/all these criteria (as applicable) will result in nullification of all student scores earned at the meet on all tests, with no students being allowed to advance to the Championship Meet based on the results of the meet in question.

Individual qualifier meets and regional host sites' results must be emailed, faxed, or mailed (postmarked) by the Tuesday following the meet. Such results will include the individual schools' Executive Director's report and a complete copy of the meet results. Failure to provide meet results to the Executive Director in a timely manner could result in the forfeiture of the right to host a qualifying meet. [7-14-05]

Only those students who are in sixth, seventh and eighth grade are permitted to compete for advancement to the Championship Meet. [7-14-05]

An answer on the answer key may not be changed. If you think you have found an error on any test, notify the State Office, but you may not change the answer unless the State Office says you may. [6-18-16]

If a question(s) is omitted from a test at a middle school qualifier, regional qualifier, or at the Championship Meet by the TMSCA executive office, the maximum score for that test will drop by the value of question(s) omitted. [3-16-07]

At qualifying and regional tournaments a team cannot be disqualified for the action of an individual student for purposes of qualifying for the TMSCA Championship Meet. Host schools can apply their own rules for purposes of determining their awards, but qualifications for Championship Meet are governed by TMSCA policy. [7-28-07]

Contingency plan for bad weather for qualifying meets - Test writers will write an extra test for the test pool to be used in case of an emergency due to inclement weather during a qualifying meet. If the test is not used then it will be used for the kick off meet the following year. The emergency test will be given on an assigned date designated by the Executive Director and the middle school director. If necessary, meets may be moved to alternate locations as long as two schools are in attendance. Schools will only be charged half price if they need to host an emergency meet. [6-20-15]

REGIONALS

A school may attend only one Regional Qualifying Meet. (Teams may not split and send students to multiple meets to qualify more students.) If a school is found to have split its team at the Regional Qualifying Meets, then all students' scores from that school at all Regional Meets will be null and void. No student from that school may advance to the Championship Meet by team, rank or individual scores earned at the Regional Qualifying Meets. However, students who have qualified at any of the two prior individual qualifying meets may advance to the Championship Meet based solely on their previous scores. [7-14-05]

If a student is unable to compete with his team at the regional qualifying meet due to other school obligations, then the student can request to be allowed to compete as an individual only at a different regional host site. Prior written approval must be received from the TMSCA State office. The student is only eligible to qualify by individual score and not by rank or team. [3-14-08]

At qualifying and regional tournaments an entire school team cannot be disqualified for the action of an individual student for purposes of qualifying for the TMSCA Championship Meet. Host schools can apply their own rules for purposes of determining their awards, but qualifications for the Championship Meet are governed by TMSCA policy. [7-28-07]

A current membership in TMSCA is a requirement for participation in a TMSCA Qualifier or a TMSCA Regional Meet. An updated list of members will be provided the host site by the Executive Director. [6-10-17]

Hosting a Regional Meet

Middle School directors will review and approve regional host sites annually. [12-8-07]

Only those students who are in sixth, seventh, or eighth grade are permitted to compete for advancement to the Championship Meet. [7-14-05]

The Regional Qualifiers must be open tournaments and follow the criteria

- Have permission of the middle school directors
- Have at least five schools participating
- Have at least 75 students competing
- Contests at the middle school qualifiers/regional qualifier must be given in the following order: Number Sense, Calculator, Math, and Science.
- The first contest must begin at 9:00 A.M. and the last contest should conclude no later than 12:30p.m. All times reflect local time zones. Failure to follow these TMSCA guidelines could result in all scores being invalid. [12-9-07]
- Number Sense should be assembled so that contestants flip entire test over for problem number 1 at Middle School Qualifiers and Regional Tournaments. [3-16-05]
- *Page 1 of the Calculator test should be printed on the back of the cover sheet.* [6-18-16]
- All qualifying meet directors shall ensure that all tests used to qualify for the Championship Meet are printed clearly and stapled in correct order. [7-14-05]
- Failure to comply with any/all these criteria (as applicable) will result in nullification of all student scores earned at the meet on all tests, with no students being allowed to advance to the Championship Meet based on the results of the meet in question.
- In order to avoid sanctions for non-compliance the host site must provide written documentation to the Executive Director within five days, that they, in good faith, relied on the attendance of a sufficient number of team/and students in order to meet the TMSCA approved criteria. Such documentation should include copies of faxes, emails, entry forms, etc. that were submitted by schools to the host site. Individual qualifying meets MUST comply with the event sequence and event times stated above.

An answer on the answer key may not be changed. If you think you have found an error on any test, notify the State Office, but you may not change the answer unless the State Office says you may. [6-18-16]

If a question(s) is omitted from a test at a middle school qualifier, regional qualifier, or at the Championship Meet by the TMSCA executive office, the maximum score for that test will drop by the value of question(s) omitted.[3-16-07]

A student must have a positive score (greater than zero) in order to advance to the Championship Meet. [6-18-16]

No ties are to be broken at the Regional Qualifying Meet for advancement to the Championship Meet; raw scores only will be used. This applies to 4th place position for advancing teams as well as the 3rd place position for individual rankings. Meet Directors may use tie breakers for award purposes only. [6-18-16]

Team members of each contest should be determined by the Meet Director or a person appointed by the Meet Director, not individual coaches. [6-18-16]

1A and 2A compete as separate classifications at the Regional Meet even though they are combined at the Championship Meet. [6-13-15]

Team scores are the top four positive scores (greater than zero), one of which is a non-eighth grader. If there are less than four positive scores, then the team is composed of those students with positive scores. [12-8-01]

There will be three ways to qualify for the Championship Meet:

- by score at the two individual qualifying meets and/or the Regional Qualifier Meet(
- 1st or 2nd place team at a regional qualifier meet by conference level
- 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place individual rank in each contest, each grade level at the regional qualifier by conference level [12-10-16]

Individual qualifier meets and regional host sites' results must be emailed, faxed, or mailed (and postmarked) by the Tuesday following the meet. Such results will include the individual schools' Executive Director's Report and a complete copy of the meet results. Failure to provide meet results to the Executive Director in a timely manner could result in the forfeiture of the right to host a qualifying meet. [7-14-05]

CHAMPIONSHIP MEET

Only those students who are in sixth, seventh, or eighth grade are permitted to compete for advancement to the Championship Meet. [7-14-05]

No substitutions will be allowed at the Championship Meet. [12-12-98]

School districts who choose to combine an intermediate/elementary school (grade 6) with a middle school/junior high feeder school (grades 7 and 8) for the state meet competition must:

- Register both schools for the state meet and pay all registration fees separately (i.e. entries, meals, administration fees)
- File the appropriate form requesting the combining of the schools with the TMSCA state office on/or prior to the state meet registration deadline.

TMSCA office will combine the schools after the registration deadline, but prior to the date of the meet. TMSCA office will move students from lower grade levels to the JH/MS of the upper level. Awards will be in the name of the upper level school.

Combining of schools will not be allowed after the registration deadline or during registration check-in at the state meet. [12-10-16]

Combining Schools: Students from lower grade levels will be moved to the JH/MS of the upper level. Awards will be in the name of the upper-level school. [12-10-16]

When schools are combined, awards will be in the name of the upper-level school. [12-10-16]

If a question(s) is omitted from a test at a middle school qualifier, regional qualifier, or at the Championship Meet by the TMSCA state office, the maximum score for that test will drop by the value of question(s) omitted. [3-16-07]

Team scores are the top four positive scores, one of which is a non-eighth grader. If there are less than four positive scores, then the team is composed of those students with positive scores. [12-8-01]

For the awards only at the Championship Meet:

- Number Sense: Ties will be broken by percent accuracy.
- Calculator: Ties will be broken by the number of stated and geometry problems. If two or more students have the same score and the same correct number of stated and geometry problems, then there is a true tie.
- Math and Science: Ties will be broken by percent accuracy. If two or more students have the same score and the same percent accuracy, then there is a true tie. [3-11-05]

1A and 2A will be combined only at the Championship Meet. [6-13- 15]

No awards will be given for non-positive score (zero or less) at the Championship Meet.

Awards:

- Team trophies with four medals will be awarded 1-6, each classification, each event.
- Individual trophies will be awarded 1-10, each classification, each event, each grade and medals will be awarded 11-20, each classification, each event, each grade and medals will be awarded 11-20, each classification, each event, each grade. [7-14-05]

- Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded to the first and second place teams in 1A-2A, 3A and 4A. Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded to the first through sixth place teams in 5A and 6A at the Championship Meet. The awards will be based on the point total from all four events using the raw team scores from Number Sense and Calculator and weighted scores from Math and Science using the 8/5 multiplier. [Revised 6-10-17]

CLASSIFICATION

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Contingency plan for bad weather for qualifying meets - Test writers will write an extra test for the test pool to be used in case of an emergency due to inclement weather during a qualifying meet. If the test is not used then it will be used for the Kick-Off Meet the following year. The emergency test will be given on an assigned date designated by the Executive Director and the Middle School director(s). If necessary, meets may be moved to alternate locations as long as two schools are in attendance. Schools will only be charged half price if they need to host an emergency meet. [6-20-15]