

Coaches Meeting
May 8, 2007
Notes

1. Digital pictures of specific equipment or launching apparatus' used in the running or evaluation of an event would help clarify events and teams are encouraged to include in write-ups. Please upload pics to website with event description. Runners can opt not to include pictures if they want teams to interpret event description on their own.
2. Changes to constitution: Scorekeeper, Webmaster and/or Treasurer will step in and run meet in absence of President. Scorekeeper's duties will be listed.
3. Financially the league is in good shape. The league broke even for the year and continues to be on the plus side due to previous year's surpluses and the collection of dues on the part of Miguel Hernando (Treasurer/Chelsea). The increase of the reimbursement (\$175 to \$300) has helped ease the financial burden of hosting schools and produced more fruitful spreads.
4. The league (generally) and the event runners (more specifically) need to ensure that safety remains a top priority. All events must carry a clause that addresses safety issues and spells out safety equipment need by teams to compete in an event. Infractions will carry a uniform 10 point penalty for borrowed equipment (at discretion of runner) and a DQ for events where equipment cannot be acquired/borrowed. Events that involve chemicals or projectiles must have goggle requirements. Apron requirements are at the discretion of the event runner.
5. Events must be written to ensure that teams will have enough time to complete an event within the hour given to each event. Events most affected are those that attempt to achieve the "strongest" or "longest" performances of an invention.
6. Event write-ups for the April meet must be prepared and available for distribution at the February meet.
7. The coaches are considering the possibility of a mini Science Olympiad in March. The meet would not be part of the standings and would award its own set of trophies. A Saturday in March is being considered and the first meet would have approx 10 events for the teams. Events could mirror MA Science Olympiad events or could be events coaches have wanted to do that exceed the restrictions of the regular Tuesday meets. Stay tuned and respond to discussion concerning this possibility.
8. The possibility of holding a meet in Cape Elizabeth, ME needs more time and discussion. Coaches need to digest the time requirements and the cost of travel, and ramifications for teams unable to attend the meet. CE could "host" a meet at a proxy school.
9. Nametags will be available next year for coaches to wear so we know who we are talking to at meets.
10. The trophy ceremony at Billerica was well received and will be continued next year.
11. Mike Maloney will generate user names and passwords for each school for use on the league website. This should reduce spam issues and rogue postings.
12. Attempts will be made by the president to recruit new teams into the league (Wakefield, Winchester, Malden, Melrose, etc). The president has also tried to contact the western league (WSSL) with little success. The hope is to get the two leagues together for some inter-league events. Check out their website:
[HTTP://MAIL.BEDFORD.K12.MA.US/MICHAELGRIFFIN/WSSL](http://mail.bedford.k12.ma.us/michaelgriffin/wssl)
13. A private citizen from Newton saw an article in the Marblehead Reporter and has asked if the league could use an infusion of money to do better things. The coaches are considering possibilities including the March mini-science Olympiad. Details will follow.
14. Teams are encouraged to push noted science projects forward to compete in the State Science Fair, Region 4. Details can be found at [WWW.scifair.com](http://www.scifair.com) or from Mike Maloney (Somerville HS).