

Maine ADvocate
October 7, 2015

Dear Coaches,

Changes this year's State Competition

Speeches will be given with three decathletes and two judges in the room. The first 30 minute speech block, which was broken into three 10 minute blocks, will be one 30 minute block with all three speakers in the room together. One of the goals of the speaking portion of Decathlon, should foster the ability to speak in front of a group. This is a trial run for USAID to see coaches' and students' reactions.

The Super Quiz will again be a stand allows competition. There will again be 12 questions per group where all 12 are collaborative.

School Registrations

There are two returning schools: Deering High School (coach is Kathleen Costello) and Thornton Academy (coaches are Sean Turley, Jason Cote, and Marsha Snyder)

Team registration checks have been received from 2 schools thus far: Deering High School, Hall-Dale High School, and a PO from Portland High School

Team/Alternate registration, with specific names (up to 12), is due December 18, 2015. Also the form for Extras (above 12) is due. Remember that t-shirt orders are also due and the cost for **ALL** participants who order one (except coaches) is \$9 per shirt. The GPA Excel Spreadsheet (9 team members on page one, essay alternates on page two, and extras on page 2) is on the web site.

Team Forms - December 18th: Team/Alternate registration (9 + 3 essayists)
12 Student Release/Code of Conduct Forms
12 GPA Form (transcripts)

Extras' Forms - December 18th: Extras' Registration
Student Release/Code of Conduct Forms for each extra

T-Shirt order form Orders for **ALL** participants (except coaches/judges) are \$9

I will send out copies of the forms with the later this month. If you need them earlier and can't download them, let me know.

Important Dates and Sites

November 21, 2015 Preliminary Competitions (contact indicated coach for more information)

Copies of the Prelim Tests and CD or MP3 files will be sent out by Monday, November 16th.

I have only heard from one school willing to host. Sites listed below are last years. If no host comes forth, the site will be eliminated. (both for the 21st and 23rd)

South - Scarborough High School - Matthew Davis mdavis@scarborough.k12.me.us

Central - Monmouth Academy – Cathy Foyt cfoyt@kidsrsu.org

North – Bangor High School – Carl Robbins crobbins@bangorschools.net
East - Calais High school – Stan Sluzenski ssluzenski@calaisschools.org

Participating schools need to let myself and the host coach know which site you intend on attending and approximate numbers for copying purposes.

January 23, 2016 Regional Competitions (contact indicated coach for more information)

South - Scarborough High School - Matthew Davis mdavis@scarborough.k12.me.us
Central - Monmouth Academy – Cathy Foyt cfoyt@kidsrsu.org
North – Bangor High School – Carl Robbins crobbins@bangorschools.net
East - Calais High school – Stan Sluzenski ssluzenski@calaisschools.org

For both the Preliminary and Regional Competitions, I would like to receive the high and low score from each school on each test. These will be shared with everyone. I would also like to receive team totals (top six students on the seven exams). These scores will not be published but will be used for some PR with the newspapers about top finishers in the prelims. The more PR we can get the better. I will send a form to each host school along with the exams.

January 26, 2016 Essay Portion of the Competition At your high school

1st event of the state competition

Week of February 1st - Essay Scoring

February 27, 2016 State Competition – Scarborough High School, Gorham Rd, Scarborough

Maine Web Site – The State Web site address is www.mainead.org as corrections come in from USAD; I will forward them to you. These corrections can also be found on the USAD web site in the coaches' area. The can be located at <http://www.usad.org/coachesupdates.html>.

State Competition - Call out for sponsors and volunteers. We would like to expand the number of volunteers to allow changes in the competition due to the venue.

I have contacted volunteers from last year and am hearing back as we speak.

- Speech/Interview (36 judges) currently have 7 signed up.
- Proctoring (12 proctors) currently have 1 signed up.
- Super Quiz (one per team – Usually coaches)

If you know of people who would be interested please send their names and emails to David Heckman. If you have decathletes who have been out of high school for at least four years who are interested, let me know. It is clear that geography dictates how many volunteers can be supplied by some schools.

I am looking forward to this Decathlon year and I welcome any suggestions you have for improving the competition and widening its appeal. Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. If you know of potential schools, let me know. First year schools get free registration and free materials to help start the program.

David Heckman
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Maine Academic Decathlon
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