# SCIENCE OLYMPIAD CODE OF ETHICS AND SPIRIT OF THE PROBLEM

To be signed by coaches, students, parents and all other persons accompanying the team.

This Code must be signed and turned in when you register on-site at the State Tournament.

Teams are expected to compete in tournament events with honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of the competition. Team members are expected to be the builders of all the devices used in the events. The goal of competition is to give one's best effort while displaying honesty, integrity, and sportsmanship. Students, coaches, supervisors, parents, and guests are expected to display courtesy and respect toward Science Olympiad officials, other teams, and guests of the Science Olympiad. Failure to show honesty and/or courtesy by a participant, coach, or guest of the team may result in the disqualification of the team from that event, the entire tournament or future tournaments. Our collective example will promote the spirit of cooperation among all participants.

#### **Science Olympiad Pledges**

**Student:** I pledge to put forth my best effort in preparation for the Science Olympiad tournament and to uphold the principles of honest competition. In my events, I will compete with integrity, respect, and sportsmanship towards my fellow competitors. I will display courtesy towards Event Supervisors and Tournament Personnel. My actions will exemplify the proud spirit of my school, team, and state.

**Coach:** I pledge to encourage excellence in preparation and investigation, honesty, sportsmanship, and respect for Tournament Personnel, Coaches, and all Teams. I, along with teachers, parents and other adult supervisors, understand I am responsible for insuring that any applicable laws, regulations and school policies are not broken. I want our team's efforts to bring honor to our community and school.

**Parent:** I pledge to be an example for our children by respecting the rules of Science Olympiad, supporting independence in design and production of all competition devices, and respecting the decisions of Event Supervisors and Judges. I, along with coaches, teachers and other adult supervisors, understand I am responsible for insuring that any applicable laws, regulations and school policies are not broken.

**Event Supervisor**: I pledge to run my event with fairness and respect for the participants and their coaches. I understand safety is of the utmost importance, and I am obligated to prevent unsafe acts and devices. My actions will reflect the principles of the Science Olympiad program and display the pride we feel as representatives of our colleges, universities, companies, states or organizations.

#### **Spirit of the Problem**

Teams may not interpret the rules so that they have an advantage over the rules or another team. Unless otherwise stated, it is generally understood that, if notes, resources, calculators, actions etc., are not excluded, then they are permitted unless they violate the spirit of the problem. No direct or electronic communication is permitted with external resources (including people, places, etc.) during the tournament. This effectively excludes the use of any computer, PDA, calculators, wireless devices, phones, etc. that have access to external communication or data retrieval during an event unless specifically permitted.

**Integrity** "The most important human endeavor is the striving for morality in our actions. Our inner balance and even our very existence depend on it. Only morality in our actions can give beauty and dignity to our lives." **Albert Einstein.** 

### SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

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Note: A second page may be attached to fit the signatures of students, coaches, parents, and anyone else accompanying the team.