

Archdiocesan and Diocesan Bible Bowl Rules - adopted July 2006

Starting 2007

Participants

Each parish and mission of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America is eligible to enter one teen team, ages: 13-19 and may have one or two alternates enter at the halfway point of the Bible Bowl. At least one team member must stay for the entire competition.

The exception to this rule is that in the diocese of Los Angeles and the West there are two teen divisions ages 13-15 and 16-19, all other rules apply. The winning 16-19 year old team will represent the Diocese of the West in the Archdiocesan Competition. The winning teen team in all other dioceses will represent their diocese.

Questions

All questions will come directly from the assigned text. All Biblical texts will come from ***The Orthodox Study Bible***.

Those wishing to gain more insight into the biblical text may want to use the footnotes in The Orthodox Study Bible. These notes are especially helpful as they expand upon the text, though questions will not come from the footnotes.

The Orthodox Study Bible may be purchased from the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Bookstore--358 Mountain Road--Englewood, New Jersey 07631 or online from Conciliar Press at www.conciliarpress.com

Most questions will have no more than one part.

Example: "Name the twelve Disciples" most likely would not be used. "Name one of the twelve Disciples" more likely would be asked. Some questions may be phrased as multiple choices, fill in the blank or true and false. These questions will be asked in a way that can be answered with one word or at most, a short phrase.

All teams will be expected to answer all questions during the bowl using the following format: For at least the first round each team, in turn will be asked to give an oral answer to the question. When a team is asked for an oral answer, the team members may confer among themselves to arrive at the single team answer. As one team confers to give their oral answer, all other teams will be team members individually write down their answer. Team giving written answers may not confer. In following rounds oral questions may continue or as a means of saving time all questions in round two and on may all be written with no oral questions.

Example: When question (1) is asked, the team asked the question would give one oral answer from the entire team. While this is happening, all other participants will be writing down their answer on their own private sheet. At a signal from the timekeeper, the team asked the oral question would give its answer by the selected member.

Simultaneously, the monitor will have collected their team's individual sheets and will compile only the number of correct answers and this number is to be announced by the monitor.

SCORE:

A correct oral answer will count for 3 points. An incorrect ORAL answer will count for ZERO points. Teams giving written answers will be awarded one (1) point for each correct written answer. The total number of points awarded to a team for both oral and written will determine the final team scores. A round is completed when all teams have been asked to answer an ORAL question. The number of rounds in the bowl can be determined by the number of teams participating or by the time allotted. One and one-half hours should be considered the normal amount of time for a complete Bible Bowl, though no Bible Bowl should exceed 2 hours.

TIEBREAKER

In the event that a tie should occur, a tiebreaker question will be conducted, as there will be only one Diocesan Teen Team winner and one Archdiocesan winner.

Judges

All answers will come from the assigned text. The participants have a right to challenge the answer, but the final decision is in the hands of the judges once they review the challenge against the actual text as found in the Orthodox Study Bible or other non-biblical text.

The Judges are the sole authority on whether the answer is correct or not correct. Should the judges feel there is a discrepancy in the text, such that the question was misleading and confusing they will direct that question, and its answer, not be used and another question be substituted. The three (3) judges should be assigned from members of the clergy or other individuals selected by the Chairperson of this event that are qualified to judge the text. It is preferred that judges be chosen from those that do not have a participating team in the Bible Bowl.

Bible Bowl Coordinator: Please make sure the MC has had time to look over the questions before the event. The Questions will be prepared and chosen by the Archdiocese Department of Youth Ministry.

Choice of questions: A list of question numbers will be provided by the department of youth from which each team's questions will be chosen randomly. A typical Bible Bowl on the Archdiocesan level will consist of 5 rounds, approximately 35 questions. A Typical Bible Bowl on the Diocesan level will be 1 to 3 rounds depending on the number of teams participating and the amount of questions that can be asked and answered in the approximate 90 minutes of a typical Bible Bowl.

TIMEKEEPER

The timekeeper starts the clock running upon completion of the question being asked for the second time. The timekeeper shall signal when the answering time is up. 10 seconds will be allowed to answer a question then the score sheet is given to their monitor.

MONITORS:

One monitor is assigned to each team to check their answers and give the combined score for that team.

The monitor is the spokes-person in the event a question needs to be asked to the judges. It is also the responsibility of the monitor to ensure that each team member is doing his or her own work.

PROPER ATTIRE:

Participants are asked to dress appropriately the Bible Bowl in a manner that represents their diocese and parish well in a public Church event. Remember you are representing your Diocese and we should dress accordingly. Torn jeans or t-shirt (unless they are obviously Parish or diocesan apparel) would be considered inappropriate.

Suggestions to assist the coordinator with the Bible Bowl:

It is best if the diocese festival coordinator oversees the teams and answers any questions needed during the bowl instead of reading the questions.

In addition, to make sure no one sees each other's written answer, it is suggested that carbon paper be used. You can purchase carbon paper at any paper supply store. Use two sheets of notebook paper with carbon between and this way the answer will only show up on the second sheet preventing a team member to see what you have written down. The answers are written by using a shish kebab stick and not a regular pen or pencil. You can purchase these sticks at any grocery store. It is suggested that the sheets have numbered answers with lines for each answer, so you will know which the current answer to the question being written is.

This event is to be enjoyable, but also we all need to take it seriously as many hours is spent studying for this event.