



# CVMS 2011-12 Science Olympiad

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## IMPORTANT DATES

Welcome to the Carmel Valley Middle School Science Olympiad (CVMS SO) organization for 2011-12. This program is sponsored by the Carmel Valley PTSA and is supported entirely through volunteer efforts.

CVMS has had great success in past competitions due to the efforts of our parent coaches and volunteers as well as assistance from community businesses. This year's program will require many parent volunteers to continue that success. **Parent volunteerism is a prerequisite for your child's participation in CVMS Science Olympiad.**

We would like to extend our personal thanks for past support as well as an invitation to new and returning parents to assist in this year's program.

- SEPT 13, 2011** Informational Meeting
- SEPT 13, 2011** Applications materials available at the SO link on [www.cvmsptsa.com](http://www.cvmsptsa.com)
- SEPT 20, 2011** Application deadline
  - Three required items:**
    - ♦ Online form
    - ♦ Hardcopy form
    - ♦ Suggested payment
- SEPT 23, 2011** Practice science test—12:15pm
- SEPT 29, 2011** Coaches Meeting 7pm  
CVMS Media Center
- OCT 10, 2011** Tentative date to release student event assignments
- NOV 12, 2011** SO program workshop  
2:30 PM – 4:00 pm  
Bernardo Heights Middle School
- FEB 4, 2012** Regional SO competition  
Rancho Bernardo High School  
ATTENDANCE REQUIRED
- APRIL 2012** State SO competition  
Anaheim, CA

# CVMS SO Participant and Family Requirements

## ➤ Parent volunteers are critical.

- Every parent of an SO student **must** volunteer in some capacity. The majority of volunteers will be lead coaches or assistant coaches.
- Lead coaches must plan to continue coaching the same event through the state competition, even if their student does not make the state team.

## ➤ Maximum SO participation is limited.

- Maximum participation per school at the regional SO competition is six self-contained teams of 15 students each, for a total of 90 participants. At CVMS, it is very likely that more than 90 applications will be received, so there will not be enough spots on the final team for all interested students.
- In early December, students will be selected for the competition team based on coach assessment of performance, participation and attendance, focus and teamwork, seniority, and parent coaching.

## ➤ Students must be flexible on event assignments.

- Each team member must compete in either three or four events, including at least two non-building events.
- Coordinators will do their best to assign students to their top event choices. However, events must also be assigned according to other factors including schedule parameters and team composition. For instance, events that are held at the same time on competition day must obviously be assigned to different students.
- The more time slots marked as available on the online application form, the better the chances to receive desired event(s).
- Every event requires work with a partner at the competition. Students are not guaranteed any choices or partners.

## ➤ The application has 4 portions: paper, online, test and payment.

- The paper form is the last page of this packet, and the online form is on the Science Olympiad link at the CVMS PTSA website ([www.cvmsptsa.com](http://www.cvmsptsa.com)).
- **Both portions of the application, and the suggested payment, must be turned in by Tuesday, Sept 20, 2011.**
- The practice science test will be conducted on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> at lunchtime. More information will be emailed to participants prior to the test.
- Students will be notified on or about Oct. 10 of their event assignments and practice times.

## ➤ Students are expected to “do the work.”

- Coaches and parents may offer advice or assist with potentially dangerous tasks (e.g. cutting with a power saw), but they may not build devices.

- Students must be courteous and attentive during practices. Students who are reported as having consistent behavior issues will be given one warning and then removed from the team.
- Students are expected to complete additional homework assignments as directed by their coaches.

### ➤ **Team members must attend practices and do their best.**

- Weekly practice sessions are used to coach students in the events, collaborate with team members, practice academic event competitions, and construct and test devices.
- Event practices are scheduled by coaches. The student should plan on practices of at least 1 hour each week per study event and 1.5 hours weekly for building events. Additional homework/studying outside of practice is also required.
- Students must attend all SO meetings/practices. If they can't make an event meeting, they must notify the coach and their partner(s) IN ADVANCE with the reason for the absence.
- Students and at least one parent must attend the competition on February 4, 2011 all day.

### ➤ **Student lunch meetings are held as needed.**

- There will be approximately 2-3 lunch meetings for SO students, held on Fridays at lunch time in the PAC. The first meeting will be held October 14th.
- All student participants are expected to attend in order to stay informed and prepared for the Science Olympiad competition. Students should sign in when they arrive to record attendance.

### ➤ **Science Olympiad at CVMS is 100% parent-funded.**

- Each team member, if possible, should donate at least \$125 to the CVMS PTSA for Science Olympiad.
- Study materials distributed to a student must be returned to the coach after the Science Olympiad competition, otherwise students are financially responsible for replacement of the materials.

### ➤ **SD Regional SO Competition will be held Feb 4, 2012.**

- This is an all day competition. Students and parents will need to arrive by 7am.
- One parent per student team member must volunteer to assist at team headquarters, monitor events, or escort students to event competitions.
- At least one parent MUST be at the competition with each student all day.

### ➤ **State SO Competition will be held in Irvine, CA in April, 2012.**

- If CVMS qualifies by scoring well at Regionals, we will send 15 students to the State Competition.
- The State Team is selected by a point system, as follows: Points are awarded for each place won by the student in the Regional Competition, including the top three events done by each student.
- The top students (usually at least 10) are selected for the State Team by points. The remaining team members are selected by a combination of factors including points, knowledge of events that best meet the needs of the team, and seniority.

# SO Event Descriptions for 2011-2012

(more info available at [www.sandiegoso.org](http://www.sandiegoso.org) and [www.soinc.org](http://www.soinc.org) )

<b>Anatomy</b>	Knowledge of anatomy and health concepts including respiratory and muscular systems
<b>Awesome Aquifer</b>	Construct an aquifer and answer questions on groundwater concepts
<b>Bottle Rocket*</b>	Construct rockets designed to stay aloft for the greatest amount of time
<b>Compute This</b>	Solve a problem which requires quantitative data capture and presentation
<b>Crime Busters</b>	“Crime” solving using paper chromatography and analysis of solids, liquids and plastics
<b>Disease Detective</b>	Apply principles of epidemiology to a real-life health situation or problem
<b>Dynamic Planet</b>	Answer questions and solve problems relating to Earth’s fresh waters
<b>Experimental Design</b>	Given a set of unknown objects, design, conduct, analyze, and write up an experiment
<b>Food Science</b>	More complete description to be posted on SO website by end of September
<b>Forestry</b>	More complete description to be posted on SO website by end of September
<b>Keep the Heat</b>	More complete description to be posted on SO website by end of September
<b>Meteorology</b>	Use process skills as applied to meteorology, with a focus on severe storms
<b>Microbe Mission</b>	Answer questions, solve problems, and analyze data pertaining to microbes
<b>Mission Possible*</b>	Design, build, test and document a "Rube Goldberg-like device" to complete a task
<b>Mousetrap Vehicle*</b>	Design, build and test a vehicle that uses mousetraps as the sole propulsion source
<b>Optics</b>	Compete in activities and answer questions related to geometric and physical optics
<b>Reach for the Stars</b>	More complete description to be posted on SO website by end of September
<b>Road Scholar</b>	Interpretation of various map features using a variety of road and topographic maps
<b>Rocks and Minerals</b>	More complete description to be posted on SO website by end of September
<b>Storm the Castle*</b>	Design, build and test a catapult to launch a projectile as accurately as possible
<b>Towers*</b>	Teams design and build the most efficient tower
<b>Water Quality</b>	Teams will be tested on their knowledge of anatomy and health concepts including re
<b>Write It/Do It</b>	Describe a contraption and team members must recreate it using only the description

**\*Building events:** Each student must compete in a minimum of two non-building events, in addition to a maximum of two building events.

# CVMS Science Olympiad 2011-2012 Application

## **Checklist for complete SO application—ALL ITEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED by Sept. 20, 2011:**

- Part 1 (hardcopy form—page 5 of application packet)—submit to Science Olympiad box in CVMS office
- Part 2 (online form)—at Science Olympiad link on the CVMS PTSA website (cvmsptsa.com)
- Check for suggested donation of at least \$125 to CVMS PTSA—submit with Part 1 form to SO box in CVMS office

Print Student Name (first/last) \_\_\_\_\_

## **Science Olympiad Organization Code of Ethics**

Student participants are expected to compete in tournament events with an honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of the competition. The goal of competition is to give one's best effort while displaying honesty, integrity, and sportsmanship. Students, coaches, parents and guests are expected to display courtesy and respect toward Olympiad officials, other teams, and guests of the 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.

I pledge to put forth my best effort in the Science Olympiad and to uphold the principles of honest competition.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge to support my child in upholding the Science Olympiad Code of Ethics and to personally uphold the principles contained therein for parents.

Parent/guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Carmel Valley Science Olympiad Parent or Guardian Permission Form**

I give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) to participate in the Carmel Valley Science Olympiad Program. I understand that I am responsible for all transportation for my child to and from team event meetings, workshops, field trips, and competition(s). I also understand that I am responsible for the cost of materials used in device construction. I agree to be responsible for any damage done, accidentally or purposefully, during preparation for or at the competition in the Science Olympiad Program by my child. If damages are incurred, I understand that a bill will be sent to me for payment. I give my permission for representatives of the Science Olympiad Program to seek appropriate medical treatment or attention on behalf of my child as may be required by the circumstances, including but not limited to medical doctor and/or hospital visits and the power to authorize medical treatment or medical procedures in an emergency situation. I agree that I have financial responsibility for any necessary medical treatment or attention for my child. I understand that this program is sponsored by the Carmel Valley PTSA and supported entirely through volunteer efforts. I understand that rules have been established for student behavior during preparation for and at the competition during the Science Olympiad Program. I understand that I am responsible for my child at all times during the program. If I am not personally in attendance, I understand that all reasonable and appropriate measures will be taken to ensure the safety and welfare of my child and I agree to not hold representatives of or volunteers for the Science Olympiad Program liable. I AGREE TO BE IN ATTENDANCE THE ENTIRE DAY OF THE COMPETITION WITH MY CHILD.

**I have read the entire application packet pages 1 – 5, with special attention to the “Expectations for CVMS SO Participants and Families,” and I agree to comply with all program requirements.**

Parent/guardian name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_