



# Odyssey of the Mind<sup>®</sup>

## Keystone Oaks Odyssey of the Mind Overview 2023-2024

### 2023-2024 Important Dates:

- **KO Coaches Training:** October 17, 2023 7:00pm @ KOMS Cafeteria
- **WPAOM Coaches Training:** November 11, 2023 @ 8am (Boyce Middle School, registration required)
- **Registration (and payment) Deadline for students:** November 1, 2023 (see link on koodyssey.com)
- **Keystone Oaks Team Registration Deadline:** December 15, 2023 – COACH MUST have complete form submitted to coordinator. Link on koodyssey.com.
- **Judges Training (mandatory for judges):** February 3, 2024 @ 9:30am @ Robert Morris University
- **Spontaneous Fun Day optional/highly recommended:** February 17, 2024 @ Linton MS (Penn Hills)
- **KO Dress Rehearsal:** February 19, 2024 @ KOHS *time tbd*
- **WPA Regional Tournament: March 2, 2024 @ Keystone Oaks HS/MS**
- **Pennsylvania State Competition:** April 6, 2024 @ Pocono Mountain East High School (Swiftwater PA)
- **Odyssey of the Mind World Finals:** May 22-25, 2024 @ Iowa State University

### What happens at the Competition?

- Teams will present their long-term solution in an 8-minute skit to the judges, spectators are encouraged!
- Teams will compete in a spontaneous problem. Coaches and parents are NOT permitted in the room for the spontaneous portion of the competition (this is the rule every year).
- At the end of competition day, the WPAOM will hold a sock hop and awards ceremony in the High School Gym.

### Team Requirements:

- 5-7 Students per team (no exceptions!)
- One coach required—you may have multiple coaches
- Each team is required to have one volunteer and two judges.

### Division Breakdown: (The oldest student on the team determines the division in which the team will compete)

- Primary—Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Competes in the regional competition ONLY
- Division I—3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Division II—6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Division III—9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Practices:

- Practice should be held weekly (and more as the competition gets closer) but ultimately your team decides when/where/how often.
- Practices can be held at home, public spaces (that you have permission to use), online, or at the school (see website for permit requests as well as guidelines for school use for practices)
- Team Spontaneous practices will be held throughout the season and run by the coordinator and other parent/coach volunteers. *Dates are still TBD*. Once dates are available, I will post them on the website and notify coaches and registered families.

### Note to Parents:

- STUDENTS MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR THE COMPETITION TO PARTICIPATE!!
- Support your coach! You can: volunteer for the competition, train to be a judge or help at practices.

### Costs:

- Registration payments are due November 15, 2023. Registration is \$50 per student in division 1-3 and \$40 per student in the primary division.  
*Registration payments go toward regional competition fees, membership fees, spontaneous fun day registration, coach stipend, and competition t-shirts.*
- Coach receives up to a \$50 stipend for materials (when receipt is presented). All other expenses are the responsibility of the team.
- Students moving onto the State Final and World Final Competitions will have additional costs TBD.

**Questions??? Email [KOOdyssey@gmail.com](mailto:KOOdyssey@gmail.com)**