7 Tips for Parent Success in Science Olympiad

With nearly a half million parents involved in Science Olympiad annually, it's important that you follow the guidelines below.

1. Communication should always begin with your student and your student's Science Olympiad coach.

2. Science Olympiad coaches and building administrators have the sole responsibility of selecting Science Olympiad team participants and the scientific events in which they will participate. Team selection is a building-level decision, just like the lead of the play or the starting point guard in basketball. Remember, Science Olympiad is a club and welcomes all members; there are many opportunities for participation.

3. If you have questions about your team, contact your coach. If you feel you need to involve building administration, contact the principal. Science Olympiad officials **cannot** be involved in the selection of any students on teams. Do not contact Science Olympiad State Directors or Tournament Directors regarding these matters.

4. Allow your children to build all the devices in Science Olympiad. Abide by the posted **Building and Tools Policy** posted on the Science Olympiad website. Use your best judgment in terms of helping and mentoring. Inspire, share your passion and demonstrate strategies.

5. Become familiar with the Science Olympiad **Code of Ethics and General Rules** posted on the Science Olympiad website, including the **Parent's Pledge**. If you violate these policies, you, your child, your child's team, and/or your school may be impacted.

6. The majority of Science Olympiad Event Supervisors, Tournament Directors and officials and State Science Olympiad Directors are volunteers. While they are trained and prepared to run excellent Science Olympiad events, mistakes do occur. Please be respectful and contribute to identifying a positive solution.

7. Model sportsmanlike behavior: be a fan of everyone on the team; respect the decisions of officials; win and lose graciously; express yourself positively.