

Arizona Odyssey of the Mind



Getting Started Kit
2008-2009

Welcome to Arizona Odyssey of the Mind! Our organization involves exciting opportunities for kids K-college to compete in an environment that prizes creativity, risk taking, team work, and problem solving!

This kit will be your first step in bringing the Odyssey of the Mind program to your school. It includes:

- **An informational sheet (FAQ) for you to use in your Open House packets or meetings.**
- **Problem Synopses for 2008-09**
- **2008-2009 Arizona Odyssey Calendar of Events**
- **Explanation of the registration process for teams.**
- **Helpful suggestions for coordinating the Odyssey of the Mind program for your school.**
- **Contact information for Arizona Odyssey of the Mind Board of Directors.**
- **Website addresses for Arizona and International Odyssey of the Mind.**

Good luck in your adventure!

**Chris Eaton
Asst. Association Director
AZ Odyssey of the Mind
astazad@azodyssey.org**

**Carol Fortier
Board Member
AZ Odyssey of the Mind
carol@azodyssey.org**

ARIZONA ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. What is Arizona Odyssey of the Mind?**

AZ Odyssey of the Mind is a non-profit organization that provides competitions in creative problem solving for K-college students throughout Arizona. We value creativity, teamwork, and appreciation and understanding of others.
- 2. How does the competition work?**

Teams of 5-7 students compete in one of four divisions—Div I (grades 3-5), Div II (grades 6-8), Div III (high school), & Div IV (college). K-2 students (Primary Division) can also be on teams and perform at tournaments, but do not compete against each other.
- 3. How are the teams judged?**

Teams are judged in three categories: long term problem solution, style during their long term performance, and spontaneous problem solving.
- 4. What do you mean by long term problem?**

There are five types of long term problems: vehicle, technical, classical, structural, and theatrical.
- 5. How many tournaments are there?**

Teams compete in the spring at a regional tournament. Arizona has 4 regions—Central, Northern, Southern, & Western. Teams who qualify at regional competitions go on to the State Competition. Qualifying teams at State represent Arizona at the World Finals competition.
- 6. What is the cost?**

International registration is \$135. AZ Odyssey Membership is 1 team-\$125, 2 teams-\$175, 3 teams-\$225, 4 teams-\$250, 5 teams-\$275. (More than 5 teams--\$25 for each additional team). Primary teams do not pay.
- 7. How can my child get on a team?**

Teams are organized at the individual schools. Contact your school to see if they have a team, or about starting a team.
- 8. Where can I get more information about AZ Odyssey of the Mind?**

Check out our website at www.azodyssey.org and or international website at www.odysseyofthemind.com.

August 2008

2008-2009 Arizona Odyssey of the Mind
Calendar of Events

(Suggested Timeline for Teams!)

August	Informational meeting at your school
September	Get your team(s) put together! (Remember, each team is required to furnish a judge and a tournament worker for your tournament! <u>Begin recruiting yours now!</u>)
October	SUGGESTION: Pay international registration by October 31. Check the online calendar for coaches training dates in your region
November	Check the online calendar for coaches training and style/spontaneous training dates in your region
December	SUGGESTION: Pay AZ Odyssey registration by December 9th.
January	9th - Deadline for State Registration. After this date there will be a \$50 late fee 23rd – Absolute registration deadline with \$50 late fee
February	Judges training
March	7 th - Central Regional Tournament Grand Canyon University 7 th - Southern Regional Tournament Ironwood Ridge High School 7 th - Western Regional Tournament – site TBA 7 th - Northern Regional Tournament – site TBA
April	4 th - STATE TOURNAMENT IN PHOENIX at Grand Canyon University

May

**May 27 to May 30, World Finals Competition
Iowa State University**

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Step 1: International Registration

The form used for this registration is from the International Odyssey of the Mind website: Odyssey of the Mind Forms. To register and pay your International Fees online, go to <http://odysseyofthemind.com/registration>. Complete the form(s) online with a credit card or send payment (check, money order, or P.O.) payable to:

CCI
406 Ganttown Road
Sewel, NJ 08080

EACH paid member will receive a packet containing their membership card, a complete description of each Long Term problem, and one copy of the Odyssey of the Mind Program Guide.

The membership card must be presented at each official competition. Go to the international website to get details on lower cost for more than 5 or 10 schools from a district.

DO NOT SEND YOUR INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION TO THE ARIZONA TREASURER. THIS WILL DELAY YOUR INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION AND DELAY YOUR RECEIVING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AND LONG TERM PROBLEMS. SEND YOUR INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION TO NEW JERSEY!!

Step 2: AZ Odyssey Membership Registration

Once you have received your international packet containing a membership card, Long Term problems, and one copy of the Odyssey Program Guide, you are ready to register your team(s) with Arizona Odyssey of the Mind.

All Regions are registering online at www.odysseyofthemind.com under "Member Area." You will need your membership number from the international organization (CCI) and the zip code you used for the membership address in order to start your registration.

After registering each team online you will receive an e-mail confirmation to the coach. Please print that confirmation as your receipt and send payment to:

Bob Bessen
AZ Odyssey of the Mind
10659 E. Palm Ridge Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
treas@azodyssey.org

The cost for:

One Team	\$125
Two Teams	\$175
Three Teams	\$225
Four Teams	\$250
Five Teams	\$275

Add \$25 per team for any more than 5 teams. Primary teams do not pay.

- All registrations after January 9th 2009 will be assessed a \$50 late fee for each team.
- No registration will be accepted after January 23th 2009.
- **If you have more than one team in a division that wants to do the same problem, you must purchase a second International and AZ Odyssey membership.**
- Confirmation of payment for AZ Odyssey Membership will be by e-mail.

Note: In order to register online, you will need the following information:

- Region you are in
- Problem your team wishes to solve
- Division your team qualifies for (There is a division finder tool located within the Member Area of www.odysseyofthemind.com for your use if you are unsure.)
- School or Organization Name and address
- Principal's Name and e-mail address
- School or organization phone and fax number
- Coach Name and address
- Coach home phone
- Coach e-mail
- (Same information for all assistant coaches)
- Number of team members
- Team Member's Names
- Team Member's Birthdays
- Team Member's Grade in school

Judge And Tournament Worker Registration Forms

The quality of the Arizona Odyssey of the Mind program is dependent on volunteer participation. Without volunteer judges and tournament workers our Odyssey program would not be possible.

AZ Odyssey of the Mind **REQUIRES EACH** team to provide one judge and one tournament worker for their regional tournament. A \$50 fee will be assessed to the team for each missing volunteer.

Being a judge or a tournament worker is a commitment. Coaches need to have their judges check their schedules to be sure they can attend the training day, the regional tournament day and - hopefully - the state tournament day.

Judges and tournament workers should give their information to the coach, to be submitted with the AZ Odyssey Online Membership form. More than one judge and tournament worker is greatly appreciated

General Information about Judges

- No experience is needed to be a judge. We will teach you everything you need to know at a judges' training workshop (usually a 4 hour morning session).
- Your volunteer will not judge the problem/division in which your team is competing.
- A judge is scheduled to work his/her own problem/division for the entire day, and should not plan on being able to watch your team compete.
- Judges may participate in more than one regional tournament.

General Information about Tournament Workers

- Tournament workers should not be coaches! It is suggested that parents or other Odyssey supporters volunteer for this position.
- Tournament workers will not be scheduled to work during your team's performance.
- We ask that tournament workers work 2 or more hours.

Start recruiting early!

Note: In order to register judges and tournament workers online, you will need the following information:

- Region you are in
- Problem and division of team the volunteer is representing
- School or Organization Name and address
- Judge/Tournament Worker Name, Address, Home Phone, and e-mail
Job preference

Coordinating the Odyssey of the Mind Program In your School

Keep up with the latest news and information on our AZ Odyssey website! www.azodyssey.org Click on Current News!

Use your regional director and AZ Odyssey of the Mind State Board Officers and Members as informational resources. We are always happy to help!

Paperwork—always use the forms published for the current year! The forms are often updated/modified, so it's important to use the current ones!

Be aware of registration deadlines to avoid late fees.

Take advantage of coaches' trainings and workshops offered for your teams.

Be sure that each coach has copies of registration forms, membership card, long term problems, and problem clarifications.

AZ ODYSSEY OF THE MIND 2008-2009 STATE BOARD MEMBERS AND PROBLEM CAPTAINS

Deanna Day, State Director

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Chris Eaton, Assistant State Director

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**HELP IS ALWAYS
AVAILABLE,**

24/7!!!

Just go to:

AZ Odyssey of the Mind website

www.azodyssey.org

International Odyssey of the Mind
website

www.odysseyofthemind.com