**COACHING THE ACADEMIC BOWL!**

**CHEAT SHEET**

**Before Academic Bowl season starts** (pre-season until screening test)

1) Hold information session for interested students and sign students up.

2) If there are more than four interested students, figure out a way to narrow down the team. Possibilities include (based on actual selection processes at various schools):

1. Develop a AB screening test and select players based on their scores.
2. Distribute a study guide during the summer, then develop a tryouts test based on the topics in the study guide for when the students come back in the fall. Select the top 6-8 students then continue to practice until right before the screening test period (early November). Finally, choose your top 4-5 players for the screening test.
3. Establish an Academic Bowl elective course, or an after-school activity, at your school and invite those who are interested to join the class.
4. Play scrimmages against other schools via VP.
5. Choose team based on a combination of scores from screening test, practice attendance, scrimmages, answers to PowerPoints developed by the coach, etc.

2) REGISTER for the Academic Bowl during the registration period (usually mid-September)

3) With the new Screening Test procedures, make sure your team studies the topics specified on the AB screening test study guide to prepare for the screening test in early November.

**During Academic Bowl season** (after the screening test up until the Regional competition)

1) After your team advances to a designated Regional competition, congratulate your team and share the news with your school community!

2) Be sure to complete registration for your team online, pay the registration fee, submit your team’s picture, and submit any other information required by the Youth Programs Office.

3) Schedule practice matches with other schools using contact information provided in the list of coaches/schools looking for practice matches (found on the Coaches’ Resource page online).

4) Set up a practice schedule with your team and set expectations for the players (i.e., amount of study time, homework assignments, etc.).

5) Use *Grindrod’s Study Guide for the Academic Bowl* and other resources listed below to develop study guides, questions, and PowerPoints for the team, OR have the players help develop study materials for the team.

Recommended books for coaches to use to develop questions and PowerPoints:

1. *Campbell’s Constant Quiz Companion: The Middle/High School Book of Lists, Terms, and Questions* <https://www.amazon.com/Campbells-Constant-Quiz-Companion-Questions/dp/0944322395>
2. *World Almanac and Book of Facts* <https://www.amazon.com/World-Almanac-Book-Facts-2019/dp/1600572227/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1542138655&sr=8-2&keywords=world+almanac+and+book+of+facts+2019> (publication date: December 4, 2018)

**Other resources for AB coaches to develop questions and PowerPoints:**

1. Use the new *Grindrod’s Study Guide to the Academic Bowl* (found on our Coaches’ Resources page on the Academic Bowl website at <https://www.gallaudet.edu/youth-programs/academic-bowl>)
2. Practice Match PowerPoints and PowerPoint templates (for Coaches to use when developing their own PowerPoints) also can be found in the Coaches’ Resources page.
3. Review the Rules and Guidelines manual in the Coaches’ Resources page. There is an explanation of each category we use for the Academic Bowl along with information about how matches are played, rules for acceptable answers, etc.