Greetings from Georgia Southern University! We are extremely happy to be hosting our first Division B Regional Science Olympiad, and we are looking forward to seeing each of you on our campus this coming February for a wonderful tournament! This letter will provide you with some general information about the Olympiad that will be held at Georgia Southern University. The information below should be considered tentative, as it may be updated periodically. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Please visit the Georgia Southern University Science Olympiad (GSO) webpage at http://research.georgiasouthern.edu/stem/science-olympiad/ for directions to our campus, maps of the campus and event locations, a tentative schedule of event times, sign-ups for each event, descriptions of the events, and links to other resources. If some of these links are not yet active, they will be soon! Be sure to periodically check the GASO website http://www.spsu.edu/gaso/general_info/index.htm for updated event rules, as well as the GS website for changes to event times and room locations.

Guidelines for the day:
1) Check in will start at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 21, 2015 in the commons area in the Russell Union (see map). Upon arrival, coaches will turn in their official rosters, inquire about any schedule or room changes, receive a registration packet, and arrange impounding of event devices. The first event begins at 10 a.m. so make sure to allow time for parking, registration, familiarity with the campus, and impounds of event devices. Signs will be posted and campus personnel will be available to help with directions.

2) Remember that each team must have its own coach. No team will be allowed to register without its coach being present. Please be sure that the complete name of your school and each student is given during registration. If your school is bringing more than one team, be sure to indicate which student is on which team. Remember, a student must be assigned to ONE school team. A student cannot compete for more than one team. All students and their coach(es) must securely wear their assigned wristbands throughout the tournament. Failure to do so will be grounds for disqualification.
3) Impounded devices must be submitted to a **Science Olympiad Event Official** at the specified impound area during the time frame indicated on the Event Schedule. DO NOT leave your device at the impound site without going through impound submission process. Make sure that impounded devices are clearly labeled with your school name, the team name, the name of the coach, the event name, and the time when you are scheduled to compete. See registration information for a map of the impounding sites.

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**Please Note:** Once a device has been dropped off to an impound site NO ONE OTHER THAN THE EVENT SUPERVISOR will be allowed to inspect it. No team member, coach, or any other person may reclaim the device to re-inspect, modify or in any other way alter the impounded device. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS!!! Please read the guidelines and be sure that your device is complete and proper before it is dropped off.

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4) Please inform us well ahead of time if special accommodations are needed for any student. Our campus is large so please have your students and families prepared to walk! Golf cart transportation will be available for certain events.

5) School teams will be assigned home base rooms upon registration. Please be sure that your students keep the room(s) clean. **Teams should bring garbage bags, paper towels, and cleaning supplies with them.** Teams should also be reminded to clean up after themselves upon completion of an event. The awards ceremony will not begin until the home rooms are cleaned up.

6) There are a number of restaurants within a 5-10 minute drive from campus (several Chinese and Mexican restaurants; Subway, McDonalds, Hardee’s, Burger King, Zaxby’s). The campus Dining Commons is open to Science Olympiad participants and families for a discounted rate of $8.50. This includes unlimited food/drinks with a wide variety of food choices, including vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options.

7) Please remind any parents or friends that accompany the Olympiad competitors of the guidelines for the tournament. Team members must not have any contact with coaches, parents, or other spectators during a competition. **No one other than team participants will be allowed in any competition at any time.** Spectator events (Boomilever, Elastic Launch Glider, Robot Arm, Gravity Vehicle) will be roped off, and viewing areas will be provided for coaches, parents, and other audience members. Cell phone use during a competition by any student (including text messaging, and photography) is not allowed at any time, and will result in immediate disqualification. For some activities, the event supervisors may collect cell phones before the start of the event.

8) Be sure that students come well prepared with items and materials that are allowed and/or required for each event. In particular, many events require either safety glasses or safety goggles of a specific classification, and/or proper dress code. Safety equipment will not be provided to teams that are unprepared. Those teams will be ranked below all other teams in the event that come prepared.

9) For those schools with multiple teams, remember that the teams must stay together and compete in each event at the same time. For certain sign-up device events that include an exam component, teams from the same school need to sign up for consecutive times. If one team changes the time of its event, the
other team must do so also. Non-compliance will result in the disqualification of all but the first team to compete in that event.

10) You can reach Georgia Southern University Campus Security at 912-478-5234. In the event of a medical emergency, please dial 911.

11) The awards ceremony will be held on campus (building TBA). We hope to conclude the awards ceremony by 5:00 p.m. All awards and invitations to state tournaments presented at the awards ceremony are subject to recall. Scores are not official until Monday, February 23 at 5:00 pm.

12) Some events allow for an 8.5” X 11” sheet of paper with notes. Students will be required to show their page(s) to the event supervisors prior to entering the room. Any sheet of paper that is larger than 8.5” X 11” will be required to be “cut down” to 8.5” X 11” – no tabs or folded papers will be allowed.

13) In the event of a scoring problem/concern, please make your concern known to a Tournament Director. The Directors will meet to discuss the concern, and their decision regarding the issue is final.

14) All events will follow the event rules in the 2015 Coaches Manual and Rules for Division B (grades 6-8). Below are a few comments about some of the events. These comments are NOT all-inclusive and failure to come prepared will result in disqualification for the event.

15) Since many of the events will be held at multiple times, sign-up times are available for all events. Teams can sign up for times starting in January by going to our web page at http://research.georgiasouthern.edu/stem/science-olympiad/

Thank you again for your participation in the Georgia Science Olympiad! The Olympiad is a fantastic opportunity for promoting science and mathematics and giving students the chance to express their scientific interest and talents. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us either by e-mail at kagreer@georgiasouthern.edu or by phone at 912-478-2556. Also, be sure to periodically check our webpage and the Georgia Science Olympiad website for postings of any event changes or of new information.

We are looking forward to meeting each and every one of you on February 21!

Sincerely,

Dr. Kania Greer, Ms. Lisa Bridges, Ms. Melissa Rhodes

Tournament Directors
Air Trajectory: **IMPOUND REQUIRED.** All materials will be impounded prior to competition. EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED. This event will take place in Ballroom A. Ceiling height in ballroom is 22’.

Anatomy and Physiology: Teams may bring one 8.5” X 11” sheet of paper and two non-programmable, non-graphing calculators.

Bio-Process Lab: TEAMS MUST HAVE EYE PROTECTION. Z87 chemical splash goggles, non-programmable calculators, and one 8.5” X 11” sheet of paper are permitted.

Bottle Rocket: Teams can have up to two rockets but parts cannot be used interchangeably. EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED. This event will take place on the Pedestrium.

Bridge Building: EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED. This event will take place in Ballroom C.

Can’t Judge a Powder: Kits will be checked upon entry into the room and any unauthorized items will be confiscated and a possible 10% penalty will be assessed. EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED.

Crave the Wave: All reference materials must be in a 3-ring binder. Any type of calculator is permitted.

Crime Busters: Kits will be checked upon entry into the room and any unauthorized items will be confiscated and a possible 10% penalty will be assessed. EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED. STUDENTS MUST WEAR CLOSE-TOED SHOES, PANTS/SKIRTS THAT COME TO THE ANKLE, AND A LONG SLEEVED LAB COAT or a LONG SLEEVE SHIRT THAT REACHES THE SLEEVES AND A LAB APRON. LONG HAIR (SHOULDER LENGTH OR LONGER) MUST BE TIED BACK.

Disease Detectives: Teams may bring one 8.5” X 11” sheets of paper and two non-programmable non-graphing calculators

Dynamic Planet: Teams may bring four 8.5” X 11” sheets of paper that can have information on both sides and any type of calculator.

Elastic Launch Gliders: The dimensions of the ballroom are roughly 53’ x 99’ x 22’ high. Be sure that the team’s device is clearly labeled with the school name and the names of the team members. This event will be held in Ballroom B.

Entomology: Teams may bring one 8.5” X 11” sheet of paper, a commercially published resource guide (which may be annotated and tabbed with a limit of 3 words per tab) and a hand lens.

Experimental Design: EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED. Teams must bring a writing instrument and may bring a timepiece, ruled or any kind of calculator

Fossils: One magnifying glass, one published field guide that is tabbed and written in, and one 3-ring binder will be allowed per team. Materials must be secure in binder and sheet protectors will not be allowed.

Green Generation: Teams may bring one 8.5” X 11” sheet of paper and non-graphing calculators.

Meteorology: Each team may bring two 8.5” X 11” sheets of paper and any kind of calculator.

Picture This: All supplies will be provided.

Road Scholar: Teams should bring a protractor and ruler. They may bring a USGS map symbol sheet, calculator, notes, reference materials, and other measuring devices. NO COMPUTERS.

Robo-Cross: One robot per team built PRIOR to competition. Teams must show the Event Supervisor(s) the labeled voltage at check-in.

Simple Machines: **IMPOUND REQUIRED** – Location for this event TBA.

Solar System: Each team can bring two 8.5” X 11” sheets of paper and any kind of calculator.

Wheeled Vehicle: **IMPOUND REQUIRED**. EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED. This event will take place in the Williams Center.

Write it/Do it: All materials will be provided.