



Old Dominion Association of Church Schools

Important Changes to the ODACS Competition Rules

1. GENERAL RULES

- a. Classes of Competition – Class AA, 61 students or more in grades 9-12; Class A, 60 students or fewer in grades 9-12.
- b. The Bible testing categories will be moved to Area Five: Academics.
- c. A Level III contestant will now be allowed to compete in two categories in Academics. ODACS will incorporate the new policy for all three levels.
- d. A ninth grade student may choose to enter either one Level II Art category or two Level III Art categories.
- e. Language will be added prohibiting worldly fads such as certain body piercings and tattoos. The language for the rule will be modeled after the current language for ODACS athletics.
- f. The official competition edition of the King James Version has changed since the previous edition is no longer available. Competition Bibles may be purchased directly from AACS.

2. BIBLE QUIZZING

- a. AACS has included accommodations for any quizzier who is physically unable to stand. ODACS will incorporate the new policy for all three levels.
- b. When the Kirkman box is used (the “blue box”), quizzers may jump on a toss up question as soon as the amber light comes on.
- c. There are changes to the rules for challenges. ODACS will incorporate the new policy for all three levels.
- d. At the ODACS State Competition, Level III teams will quiz using the rules for AACS National Competition.
- e. Each team will be allowed an additional time out during tie breaker questions. ODACS will incorporate the new policy for all three levels.

3. MUSIC

- a. Memory will no longer be required for instrumental solos, except piano. ODACS will incorporate the new policy for all three levels.
- b. The group categories Sacred Piano Duet and Classical Piano Duet will now be included for Level II and for Level I.
- c. AACS has clarified that String Solo is intended for bowed instruments. The only exception is the harp. ODACS will incorporate the new policy for all three levels.
- d. While AACS has discontinued the Organ Solo and Sacred Piano-Organ Duet categories, ODACS competition will continue to include these categories for Level III.
- e. Percussion ensembles will not be permitted for Small Instrumental Ensemble or for Large Instrumental Ensemble. ODACS will incorporate the new policy for all three levels.
- f. A Handbell Ensemble may no longer be directed.
- g. Handbells are not allowed for percussion solo.
- h. All Level I time limits will be “Within 5 Minutes.”
- i. All Level II time limits will be “Within 8 Minutes.”
- j. ODACS will continue to require that all measures be numbered on the copies of the score provided to the judges.

4. SPEECH

- a. Introductory and transitional material must be included in the script. This policy will apply to all three levels.
- b. The time limit for all group speech categories in Level III will be 5-13 minutes.
- c. Debate contestants will be allowed to have electronic devices during the debate. However, they will not be allowed to be online during the debate. Contestants will be required to sign a statement certifying that they will abide by this policy.

- d. Duet Acting has been discontinued. It will be replaced with new category called Acting, for 2-6 performers. Each actor must portray only one character. ODACS will incorporate this change for both Level III and Level II.
- e. Extemporaneous Speaking contestants will be allowed to have electronic devices during preparation time. However, they will not be allowed to be online during the preparation. Contestants will be required to sign a statement certifying that they will abide by this policy.
- f. Sources permitted for Extemporaneous Speaking will be listed on the AACS web site and may be subject to change.

5. ART

- a. AACS now allows additional pen types for calligraphy. ODACS will incorporate the changes for all three levels.
- b. Aqua board is now allowed for Watercolor. ODACS will incorporate the changes for all three levels.
- c. Scratch art is now allowed for Monochromatic Drawing. ODACS will incorporate the changes for all three levels.
- d. Papier mâché is now allowed for Sculpture in all three levels.
- e. A new category called Garment Construction will be added to all three levels.
- f. Two new categories involving videography are in the works for ODACS competition (not for nationals). New rules will not be ready for the 2016 competition; the goal is to have them ready for the 2017 competition. Probable names for the categories are Live Video and Animation. The plan is to incorporate the new categories for Level III and Level II.
- g. Clarifying language will be added that prohibits the use of copyrighted images in all Art categories, unless written permission is obtained from the copyright owner.
- h. Two-dimensional work must be matted or framed or gallery-wrapped or cradled. ODACS will incorporate the new policy for all three levels.
- i. The name for the category Still Life Photography has been changed to Still Life or Macro Photography. ODACS will incorporate the change for all three levels.
- j. Digital Media contestants must now submit a process document with their entries. ODACS will incorporate the change for all three levels.
- k. For Mixed Media, commercially produced parts are now allowed but may not comprise more than 20% of the project.
- l. String art has been moved from Textiles to Crafts. Also, the following have been moved from Crafts to Textiles: wearable art using applique, paints, batik, or tie-dyed items. ODACS will incorporate these changes for all three levels. (Note: While batik is now categorized as a Textile, non-wearable batik is still permissible in Crafts.)

6. TESTING

- a. ODACS has begun the process of rewriting all of its competition tests. We do not anticipate that the entire project will be complete before the 2016 competition. However, for tests that have been rewritten, students will use scannable answer sheets. All testing for Regional competition will be done at school prior to the competition day.
- b. Graphing calculators will be permitted for Algebra/Geometry and for Advanced Mathematics.
- c. For State Competition, creative writing entries will be completed at school prior to the competition day.
- d. AACS has adopted an entirely new Science Fair Manual. The manual is no longer a separate document but is included in the AACS manual. It will also be included in the ODACS manual.

7. COMPETITION MANUAL

- a. Once it is complete, the ODACS Competition Manual will be available for purchase.
- b. Hard copies of the manual may be purchased for \$50 each.
- c. Digital copies of the manual may be purchased for \$30 each. Each digital copy will include important licensing information.