

COACHING THE ACADEMIC BOWL!

CHEAT SHEET

Before Academic Bowl season starts (pre-season until Ranking Test)

- 1) Hold an information session(s) 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):
 - a) Develop an AB screening test and select players based on their scores.
 - b) Develop a tryouts test for students who are interested. Select the top 6-8 students then continue to practice until right before the Ranking Test period (January 2022). Finally, choose your top 4-6 players for the Ranking Test.
 - c) Establish an Academic Bowl elective course, or an after-school activity, at your school and invite those who are interested to join the class.
 - d) Play scrimmages against other schools via VP.
 - e) Choose your team players 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 (September 15 - 17, 2021)
- 3) Prepare your team for the Ranking Test (explain the procedures, do practice sessions, etc).

During Academic Bowl season (after the Ranking 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 by December 10, 2021.
- 3) Schedule practice matches with other schools, alumni, or current school students/staff.
- 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 *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.