



NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS

 Think Green! Please do not print unless absolutely necessary

2014-2015 Try-Math-A-Lon Rule Book

LAST UPDATED

AUG. 2014



Welcome to the 2014-2015 Try-Math-A-Lon Program!

What an exciting year we have in store for the Try-Math-A-Lon Program. I am truly excited to be able to impact the lives of students in such a unique way. As a reminder, the improvements from last year to the TMAL competition are listed below to serve as a guide for participation in the 2014-2015 TMAL Competition.

I welcome your feedback throughout the upcoming year to better serve the membership and ultimately provide our youth with an amazing opportunity.

- **Team Registration in Eventbrite:** All teams will register for the competition in the Eventbrite registration system.
- **Progress Assessment Test Taken Online Prior to Fall Regional Conference and Annual Convention:** I know we all love to compete in the TMAL Quiz bowl portion of the competition. However, the students are having less and less time to participate in convention activities because of the amount of time the TMAL Competition takes at National Convention and Fall Regional Conference.
- **Two Divisions for Competition:** In order to introduce higher level math skills sets, we have split the competition into two age divisions. The lower division which consist of 9th-10th graders and an upper division which consist of 11th and 12th graders. The competitions for each division will run exactly the same with the exception of the content.

Addition of Points Race via Online Practice Software: The TMAL Points Race Challenge for points towards Annual Convention will start at the start of the program year. Each team will use the Mathletics software to earn points to crown an overall points total champion.

- **No Formal Local Competitions:** By dividing the competition into two divisions, the need for local competitions has been eliminated. The number of teams will now be split between each division. This also allows us to ensure that all competitions are properly administered and sanctioned by NSBE.
- **The Engineering Contest (TEC) changing to ACT questions:** The TEC will still remain focused on more ACT Science Based questions. We will keep some level of physics and calculus on the test, but the primary focus will be preparing students for the ACT in a team atmosphere. Participants are encouraged to use web resources for ACT Science practice questions.
- **Mandatory SAT, ACT, and PSAT Score reporting:** Each team will be required to submit score reports for SAT, ACT, and/or PSAT testing. The purpose of TMAL is to increase the test scores of students who participate in the program. SAT, ACT, and PSAT scores is the way NSBE chooses to define our metrics. (Ninth grade students are not required to submit scores at the start of the program year, but are encouraged to take the PSAT to prepare for upcoming testing.) Scores may be sent directly from the ACT and/or SAT testing entities. Students may also submit a PDF of the original score report.



I would like to conclude with a reminder that Try-Math-A-Lon is supposed to be a fun learning experience for the participating students. While the program culminates in a competition, the most important aspect of the program is the coaching and tutoring that takes place. This is what will make a difference in student progress and achievement. Thank you for your participation and dedication to the academic excellence of the participating students.

Morgan German
National Professional PCI Chairperson
National Society of Black Engineers Professionals



***National Society of Black Engineers
2014-2015 Try-Math-A-Lon Program
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Due to the nature of our programming and the partnerships involved, this rulebook is subject to change at any time. Changes may include but are not limited to rules, implementation, awards criteria/categories and procurements on behalf of the participants. NSBE will remain to be diligent in providing necessary information for our programming and limit any inconveniences that may occur.



THE MISSION OF NSBE

The Mission of NSBE is to increase the number of culturally responsible Black engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community.

THE PURPOSE OF TMAL

The purpose of the TMAL competition is to increase Black students' capabilities when preparing for standardized tests that will allow them to excel academically and succeed in college.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO TMAL

Contributions to TMAL will help us continue to make this an effective NSBE program available to NSBE Jr. students nationwide. NSBE PCI will use contributions for program-wide support to give all NSBE Jr. students the opportunity to participate.

Financial Contributions

To become a TMAL partner, send your financial contributions to:

National Society of Black Engineers
ATTN: NSBE-PCI TMAL Program
205 Daingerfield Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: 703.549.2207

Volunteers

If you would like to become a TMAL volunteer, please contact us at pci@nsbe.org.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS - NSBE CONTRIBUTIONS

Heartfelt gratitude and deepest thanks to the Professional PCI committee for writing competition questions, assisting teams, and running competitions at the regional level:

Katrina Hill, WHQ Programs Coordinator
Elizabeth Gomez, Convention Planning Committee Pre-College Initiative Chair
Noral Walker, National Pre-College Initiative Chair



INTRODUCTION TO NSBE

NSBE

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) was founded in 1975 by six black engineering students at Purdue University nicknamed the Chicago 6. The original aspiration was to establish a student organization to help improve the recruitment and retention of black engineering students. NSBE is now the largest student-managed organization in the United States with more than 25,000 members.

NSBE is comprised of more than 300 chapters on college and university campuses, 75 professional chapters nationwide and 298 NSBE Jr. chapters. These chapters are geographically divided into six regions. The NSBE mission is to increase the number of culturally responsible Black engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community. For more information on NSBE, please visit www.nsbe.org.

In fulfillment of the NSBE objective to “stimulate and develop student interest in the various engineering disciplines”, the various programs and competitions were created for pre-college students.

PCI

The Pre-College Initiative (PCI) Program is the focus of the NSBE effort to promote college, academics, technology, and leadership to pre-college students. Our primary focus is to encourage students in grades 6-12 to develop interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

The mission of PCI is to lead the world in enhancing the pre-college students' academic, technical, and leadership skills in order to maximize their success in life. The vision is to establish PCI as an incubator for our youth, where they can be nurtured and guided in their academic careers.

NSBE Chapters support PCI through the multiple programs.

NSBE Jr.

A vital component of the PCI program is NSBE Jr., which serves as the membership category for pre-college students and institutions that are officially chartered with NSBE. NSBE Jr. members and chapters are at the core of PCI, as they are the primary focus and beneficiaries of PCI programs.

NSBE Jr. focuses on enhancing the education received by African-American and other minority pre-college students, as well as influencing these students to become tomorrow's corporate executives, entrepreneurs, and leaders. In this spirit, NSBE Jr. is the quintessential recruitment, teaching, and preparation device for the NSBE.



INTRODUCTION TO TMAL

TMAL PROGRAM is a COMPETITION

Try-Math-A-Lon is a tutoring program meant to foster good study habits for minority students, help prepare for standardized test exams such as the ACT and SAT, and promote competition and good sportsmanship. The TMAL competition is held between teams composed of high school students in grades 9-12. The purpose of the competition is to help groom TMAL team members for success in STEM courses and prepare them for standardized SAT/ACT testing.

TMAL Goals

TMAL aims to

- Develop a positive attitude for students towards academic excellence
- Develop a positive attitude towards self
- Stimulate enthusiasm about engineering and science
- Utilize NSBE collegiate and professional members as role models

INTRODUCTION TO TMAL RULE BOOK

The TMAL rule book should be used to guide TMAL coaches/advisors in preparation for TMAL teams for regional and national competitions. TMAL coaches/advisors are encouraged to prepare their teams as early as possible, and share TMAL preparatory materials with other math, science, or technology professionals who may be able to assist TMAL teams with competition preparation.

TMAL coaching can begin as early as the summer through March of the next year. The competition season begins with the regional competition in each NSBE zone/region or city.). Regional winning teams go on to compete for the national titles at the National Convention.



TMAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Team Requirements

Every TMAL team must:

- Consist of four members and a mandatory alternate
- Be a combination of students in grades 9-10th grade for lower division, and 11th-12th grade for upper division.
- **TMAL teams can consist of students from the same grade levels! (i.e. 4 Seniors or 4 Sophomores).**
- Be paid NSBE Jr. Members
- Have a current advisor/coach that is a paid NSBE professional member
- Completed Registration in Eventbrite
- Submission of ACT, SAT, or PSAT Testing score reports to WHQ.
- Current Transcripts are submitted to WHQ.

TMAL teams that do not meet all the above criteria will not be allowed to participate in ANY Try-Math-A-Lon competitions.

Cost

There is a cost to participate in the TMAL competition. TMAL teams will pay a \$45.00 registration fee. The fee will be used to cover access to the online math training software.

Eventbrite Registration

Registration on Eventbrite includes providing information in regards to the team's demographics. Student information will be requested via a student data form. This process is to allow teams time to meet and distinguish who the members and alternate will be for the current program year.

IMPORTANT NOTE: A TMAL coach can prepare more than one TMAL team for the regional competition. Winning teams from the regional competition becomes the priority of the TMAL coach who represents the winning team. Coaches of "nonwinning" TMAL teams should continue to tutor the team(s) at his/her own discretion and continue to earn points via the points race.



CRITICAL 2014-2015 DATES

For quick reference, the following target dates are listed to ensure your participation in the TMAL competition. For further information on the upcoming NSBE conferences, please visit www.nsbe.org.

Team Responsibility And Events	Target Timeframe (No later than)												
TMAL Team Registration	Final submission deadline is September 12, 2014 . After this date no further registrations will be accepted for the Try-Math-A-Lon program. All transcripts must be submitted to WHQ by October 3, 2014 !												
TMAL Online Access to Mathletics	Teams will receive login information to the online delivery system on a rolling basis as the registration is complete within Eventbrite.												
TMAL Team Training	Held throughout most of the school year, September 2014 – April 2015												
Regional Competitions	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 919 987 982">Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay, Tampa, FL, – R3</td> <td data-bbox="987 919 1419 982">October 31 - November 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 982 987 1045">Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, OH, – R4</td> <td data-bbox="987 982 1419 1045">November 14-16</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 1045 987 1108">Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA – R5</td> <td data-bbox="987 1045 1419 1108">November 14-16</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 1108 987 1171">DoubleTree Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA – R2</td> <td data-bbox="987 1108 1419 1171">November 15-16</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 1171 987 1234">Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, Burlingame, CA, – R6</td> <td data-bbox="987 1171 1419 1234">November 21-24</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 1234 987 1297">Hyatt Regency Long Island at Wind Watch Golf Club, Hauppauge, NY– R1</td> <td data-bbox="987 1234 1419 1297">November 20-24th</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay, Tampa, FL, – R3	October 31 - November 2	Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, OH, – R4	November 14-16	Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA – R5	November 14-16	DoubleTree Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA – R2	November 15-16	Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, Burlingame, CA, – R6	November 21-24	Hyatt Regency Long Island at Wind Watch Golf Club, Hauppauge, NY– R1	November 20-24th
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TMAL: Points Race	All TMAL teams who do not become winners of the regional TMAL competition automatically qualify to enter the TMAL Points Race. Points race begins September 19, and continues through March 15, 2015.												
National Competition	Held at the NSBE National Conference, Anaheim, CA March 25, 2014 – March 29, 2015												



TMAL COMPETITION

The aim of NSBE is for each TMAL team to compete in a regional competition held at a regional fall regional conference. The winning regional TMAL teams go on to compete for the TMAL national to be held at the NSBE National Convention.

TMAL National Competition

The TMAL Competition exercises the traditional TMAL format during the course of the year. To compete in the TMAL competition, your team must win your regional competition.

All regional winning teams are representatives for their region and compete at the national TMAL competition held at the NSBE national conference, to be held in Anaheim, CA, March 25, 2015 – March 29, 2015.

TMAL Points Race Challenge

The TMAL Points Race Challenge is designed to measure excellence in all TMAL teams whether they won at the regional level or not.

The TMAL Points Race Challenge is an alternate competition created to ensure that all students receive year round tutoring and training. It provides an opportunity for students who are not high achievers to receive the same level of attention and tutoring that the top students receive.

Awards, Trophies, and Scholarships

Awards, trophies, and/or scholarships are given to teams who win at each competition level. Regional winning TMAL teams receive scholarships as travel assistance to compete in the TMAL national competition.

TMAL Points Race Challenge Awards are listed below.

1. Points Total Winner
2. Individual – Highest SAT, ACT, and PSAT Score

NSBE will recognize both winning teams of the TMAL national competition and the TMAL Points Race Challenge winners at the national conference with different awards according to NSBE allocations.

COMPETITION CURRICULUMN

TMAL questions are written with the curricula for grades 9th -10th, and 11th-12 grade in mind. In addition, many problems are designed to challenge and accelerate student learning, and questions become progressively more difficult at each level of the TMAL competition. Math, science, and engineering topics include:



Lower Division - 9th -10th grade Topics

- **Algebra and Functions**
- **Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability**
- **Geometry and Measurements**
- **Numbers and Operations**
- **Pre-Calculus**
- **Problem Solving**
- **Real World Engineering Questions**
- **ACT Science Problems**
- **Black Scientist and Inventors**

Upper Division - 11th – 12th grade Topics

- **Algebra and Functions**
- **Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability**
- **Geometry and Measurements**
- **Calculus**
- **Trigonometry**
- **Numbers and Operations**
- **Problem Solving**
- **Real World Engineering Questions**
- **ACT Science Problems**
- **Black Scientist and Inventors**

Event 1: The Progress Assessment Test (PAT) - Online – 30 minutes

The PAT is a timed test given to assess students' ability in response to various standardized test math questions. The PAT is administered using an online testing system. Questions are randomly selected from a group of approved questions and are automatically scored at submittal. Scores are displayed at the completion of the exam. Each student will be required to sign an online honor system code prior to administration of the PAT Exam.

The Progress Assessment Guidelines & Rules section of this document will define the rules for this test.



PROGRESS ASSESSMENT TEST (PAT) RULES

TEST BASICS

The Mathematics PAT is a 10 to 25 problem test given to each member of each participating team. The test is designed to evaluate the students' abilities and to measure how much they have learned by participating in the Try-Math-A-Lon program. This will give us insight on how effective the coaching process has been in helping these students achieve their goals.

Each student will have **30** minutes to complete the test, after which the test will be scored via online.

FORMAT

The PAT is an individual test and shall be conducted as such. Each student will have to sign an honor code designating that this work is their own work. Contestants must not communicate with anyone other than a contest official during the test. Students will be disqualified if caught cheating or talking during the test. All questions should be directed toward a contest official.

SCORING

The maximum possible score per test is 100 points. Point values are dependent upon the number of questions. Each individual's score will be tabulated based on the number of problems answered correctly. No partial credit will be awarded.

The scores assigned by the online delivery system will be the individual's final score. After each individual is awarded a score, the team's scores shall be computed. Only the four highest team member's scores are recorded for the PAT. The lowest score is not used in the calculation of the total. The team with the highest cumulative score shall be declared the overall PAT winner(s) and their points will be recorded. The scores on the PAT should not be seen by any participants or coaches before the winners are announced. Student will be allowed to view their individual scores after the Fall Regional Conference. **All scores are final.** The maximum score is 400 points.

Event 2: The Engineering Contest (TEC) - On Site – 1 hour

TEC is timed and measures teams' ability to solve a real-world engineering problem. The contest promotes engineering, math, and science skills and encourages teamwork (One calculator is provided to each team). The content of the Engineering Contest will also include ACT based questions. ACT Science Based Questions include biology, chemistry, physics, and the Earth/space sciences (for example, geology, astronomy, and meteorology). Advanced knowledge in these subjects is not required, but background knowledge acquired in general, introductory science courses is needed to answer some of the questions. The test emphasizes scientific reasoning skills over recall of scientific content, skill in mathematics, or reading ability.



Black Scientist and Inventors and NSBE History will be included at the end of the exam.

THE ENGINEERING CONTEST (TEC) GUIDELINES & RULES

CONTEST BASICS

TEC will test the team's ability to work together and use mathematics and science to solve a problem.

Each team will be given the same problem. The teams are given 30-60 minutes set by each region to complete the test. The time will be the same for each region depending on the number of questions on the exam. At the end of the allotted time, each team's work is collected and given to the judges for scoring.

FORMAT

Each team should be separated to maximize privacy. Teammates are strongly encouraged to discuss and work with one another to formulate a solution. Each team must do its work independent of the other teams in the competition.

Scratch paper, pencils and one calculator will be provided to each team. All teams will have the exact same calculator. All work must be shown on either TEC paper or numbered on the scratch paper supplied. Each sheet of scratch paper must be numbered and include the team name. For clarification, all final answers must be circled.

At the end of the allotted time each team will immediately cease work on the problem. All TEC papers, scratch paper and calculators will be collected.

SCORING

The maximum score for TEC is 100 points. Some problems rely on the correct answer to a previous question, thus, partial credit will be given. The scores assigned by the judges are the team's final score in the competition.

Each test is graded by a group of judges. After each team is awarded a score, an overall TEC winner(s) is recorded. **Answers to the test will be released after the final date of the last convention.** Student may be able to view their individual scores at a prearranged time but should not be handed back their copy of the test. **All scores are final.**

SUPPLIES

The following items are needed for TEC:

Pencils	Enough for each student
Erasers	Enough for each student
Answer Keys	One (1) per judge
Red pens	One (1) per judge
Calculators	One (1) per team
Stop Watch	
Stapler	



Event 3: The Quiz Bowl – On Site

The final event, a Quiz Bowl, is predominately a mathematics competition in the style of the television game show Jeopardy, where quick thinking and problem solving skills are tested. Black inventor and scientist knowledge is also quizzed in this event. (No calculators are permitted.)

QUIZ BOWL GUIDELINES & RULES

TEST BASICS

The Quiz Bowl is a *Jeopardy*-style mathematics competition.

There is no time limit on this event. The contestants are not allowed to use calculators.

FORMAT

The contest has a master game board that consists of a grid of squares (as shown below). The size of the grid is 6 rows by 6 columns. The columns of this grid indicate the question category. The rows of this grid indicate the point value of the question. The difficulty of each questions correlates to its point value.

Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5	Team 6
0	0	0	0	0	0
Algebra Functions	Geometry Measure	Numbers Operations	Data Analysis	Problem Solving	Black Scientists
10	10	10	10	10	10
20	20	20	20	20	20
30	30	30	30	30	30
40	40	40	40	40	40
50	50	50	50	50	50
60	60	60	60	60	60

The teams shall be called by their team name to select the category and point value of the contest question. When a selection is made, the contest will proceed according to the rules outlined in the Problem Resolution Section. After a problem is resolved, the choice of problem category and point value will proceed to the next team. The contest is concluded after the master game board has been cleared.

Each team will be asked to select a number from a container. The teams participating in the Quiz Bowl will be ordered by the number selected.



The Quiz Bowl question categories are:

9th and 10th

- **Algebra and Functions**
- **Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability**
- **Geometry and Measurements**
- **Numbers and Operations**
- **Problem Solving**
- **Pre- Calculus**

11th and 12th

- **Algebra II and Functions**
- **Statistics**
- **Geometry**
- **Trigonometry**
- **Problem Solving**
- **Calculus**

The competition question point values are as follows: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 for the first round and for the second round the point values are doubled.

SCORING

If there is a discrepancy in the answer to a given question, the contest judges will discuss the error and the corrective action that will be taken.

Each team shall begin the competition with zero points. A running total of the Quiz Bowl score is displayed during the competition. A team may appeal to the Head Judge if it feels an error has occurred in the score keeping or in an answer. The team captain should alert the Team Judge who will immediately alert the Head Judge. The team making the appeal should be as specific as possible with regard to the alleged scoring or answer mistake. Should such an appeal occur, the Head Judge will confer with the relevant contest officials to determine if an error was made and corrective action will be taken by the judges to resolve the error.

PROBLEM RESOLUTION

After a team chooses a question category and point value, the appropriate question is displayed. The team that selected the problem will be given the first opportunity to answer the question. The point value of the problem shall be equivalent to the number of seconds the teams shall be given to solve the problem. The exception to this rule shall be the 60 point questions for which 90 seconds will be allotted. When the time to solve the problem has elapsed, the Head Judge will call on the team to supply an answer. Each team should be instructed to write its answer to each problem on a piece of paper and circle it. This team will have 5 seconds from the time they are called upon to supply the answer. At the end of 5 seconds, the Moderator shall call "Time!" The last answer given before the 5 seconds expire shall be considered the team's answer. If the Head Judge cannot make a determination with



regard to the last spoken answer, the Team Judge shall ask for it to be repeated at least once. The Team Judge's decision regarding a team's answer shall be final.

In the event multiple answers are given, the Team Judge shall look at the team's paper to determine the team's answer.

A team may answer a question prior to time elapsing; however all other teams may continue to work on the problem until time has elapsed or a correct answer is given.

Upon receiving a correct answer, the team that gave the answer shall be awarded the point value assigned to the question. Once a correct answer is given, the correct solution/answer will be revealed to the teams.

Upon receiving an incorrect answer, the point value of the question shall be halved and rounded up to the nearest denomination of 5. At that time, the team with the lowest score shall be given the opportunity to answer the question. That team must supply their answer within 5 seconds of being acknowledged. If this answer is incorrect, the point value of the problem shall be halved and rounded again and given to the team with the next lowest score. This process repeats until a correct answer is given or until all teams have failed to supply the correct answer. If all teams fail to supply the correct answer, the solution will be revealed.

All Teams shall have the same time allotted to answer each question. When the Moderator calls "Time!" all teams must put their pencils down. During the course of the competition the Moderator has the option of asking a team's judge if the all team members at their table have put their pencils down in time. In the event that the team members did not put their pencils down in time, the team will not be allowed to answer the displayed question. The next team will have the opportunity to answer the question.

Teams may not receive help from the audience. In the event that an answer is given by the crowd the question will be disqualified. The question will be simulated as if all teams have answered the question incorrectly, the answer will be shown, and the contest will resume with the team displayed on the overhead.

QUIZ BOWL OFFICIALS

There will be one **Head Judge** who will determine whether an answer given is correct or incorrect. The team will announce the solution to the problem and the Head Judge will indicate whether the answer is correct or incorrect. The Head Judge will have final ruling in resolving disputes.

There will be one or two optional **Judges** who will work along with the Head Judge. The judges will help the Head Judge determine whether an answer is acceptable and will help to resolve problems.

There will be a Quiz Bowl **Moderator** who will call upon the appropriate teams to select categories, answer questions, regulate disputes with the assistance of the Judges and will



direct the overall flow of the contest. The Moderator also reads the question after a team has made a selection.

There will be one **Selector/Displayer** assigned the task of selecting the questions and answers once a category and point value is chosen.

The **Team/Table Judges'** responsibilities will be to determine which answer is accepted from the assigned team and to ensure that the assigned team competes fairly. The Team/Table Judges will be impartial to the teams to which they are assigned. No judge will be allowed to sit with the team representing his or her area, city or region. Judges are not allowed to assist the teams in question resolution. The team judge will also verify answers on paper for the participants.

NATIONAL CONVENTION JUDGE SELECTION

Each region is responsible for selecting two judges to represent them at the National Convention. All Judge information **MUST** be sent to the National Professional PCI Chair at pebpci@nsbe.org by **February 15, 2015**. If the region does not select a judge a judge will be appointed for that region. Note: The selected judge may or may not be from that region. In addition the National Professional PCI Chair reserves the right to appoint two NSBE members as impartial judges who are responsible for awarding scores to each team. The Professional PCI Chair will appoint the Head Judge.

The judges' decisions are final. The judges may confer with the National Professional PCI Chair, National PCI Chair or the Try-Math-A-Lon Coordinators prior to their final decision.

SUPPLIES

The following items are needed for the Quiz Bowl competition:

Quiz Bowl Software Questions & Answers

Pencils

Enough for each student

Erasers

Enough for students

Scratch Paper

Enough for each student

Projector Screen

Laptop

LCD Projector

Microphone & podium

Post-Test

The post test is administered before the National Convention to all teams who participated in the Try Math-A-Lon program (TMAL World Regional Winners and TMAL Point Race Challenge Participants). It is designed to allow NSBE to access the success of the TMAL tutoring program for participating students.

There will also be a survey in the post test link that is to be completed by the coach.



OVERALL COMPETITION SCORING

Each team is awarded a numerical score in each of the three events. At the end of the competition the total points earned by each team is computed by the following rubric listed below. The team with the highest weighted point total is the winner. There is one winning TMAL team at each local, regional, and national TMAL competition.

The rules for each event of the competition are subject to change. In the event of a change, the Professional PCI Chairperson/Try-Math-A-Lon Coordinator will be responsible for communicating the rule changes to participating NSBE Jr. chapters as well as host NSBE professional chapters.

Event	Total Points	Weighted Point Total
PAT	400 Points	10
TEC	1000 Points	40
Quiz Bowl	Total Points Accumulated During Competition	50

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

Alternates

In the event of an emergency in which a member of a Try-Math-A-Lon competition cannot fulfill his/her obligations to the team then the team sponsor may elect to choose an alternate. The National Professionals PCI Chair and or the National Try-Math-A-Lon Coordinator have the final say in accepting the alternate at National Competitions. **With the approval of the Try-Math-A-Lon Coordinator you may replace the student with an alternate at a local competition.**

If a team does not have an alternate it may proceed with three members. If a team decides to compete with only three students, they will not be awarded any points for the missing team member.

Scoring Penalties

The Try-Math-A-Lon competition is a tutoring program meant to foster good study habits, help prepare for ACT & SAT, and promote competition and good sportsmanship among African-American students. Students competing in the Try-Math-A-Lon should conduct themselves in a professional manner. All cases of disorderly conduct must be presented to the Head Judge and or the National Try-Math-A-Lon Coordinator. At that point, the Head



Judge, the National Try-Math-A-Lon Coordinator, and the Team Judges have ten minutes to listen to the complaint and make a majority ruling. The rulings are as follows:

Condition	Ruling
1st Offense	Verbal Warning
2nd Offense	Deduct 100 Points and/or Eject Offender
3rd Offense	Eject Offender

Should a player be ejected from the competition the Alternate rules will apply.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

If you have any questions about this rulebook or Try-Math-A-Lon in general, please contact pci@nsbe.org.

1. May I have more than one team per grade level?

Yes, more than one team is allowed per grade level. Chapters may have as many teams as they are able to handle and adequately coach as defined by the TMAL team guidelines.

2. The registration form for TMAL states that taking the ACT/SAT is mandatory this year. Will students be required to show proof of registration for either of these exams?

Yes. The purpose of TMAL is to increase the test scores of students who participate. SAT and ACT score reports are the way we choose to define our metrics. Students will be able to participate in TMAL, however, they must register and take the exam this programming year- showing proof of both. Students will be required to send a copy of their scores via College Board (preferred method) or send a copy to WHQ. Proof of registration for the exam is required before students can receive stipends, awards, and or additional access to resources provided by the TMAL program.

3. Will there be a local competition this year?

No. There will not be any local competitions affiliated with the TMAL program this year. Because of the grade level split, the necessity of facilitating a local competition is no longer needed. The loss of the local competition allows us to make sure that competitions are put on fairly and without bias because they are now at a sanctioned NSBE event.

4. Why is there a fee for TMAL this year and what does the fee cover?

This year the students have access to an online learning platform to complete assignments for the points race. The fee covers access to the online learning platform. Each student will receive their o It also helps us cover the cost of paying for the competition material at Fall Regional Conference and National Convention.

5. I registered and I didn't receive access to the online platform. When will I receive this information? Will there be any training?

The competition officially begins September 19, 2014 after the registration deadline. All teams will receive access to the learning platform as they register and the registration deadline approaches Teams should start preparing for the TMAL with learning sessions prior to the date. Training sessions will be made available for the coaches prior to the release of the login information for the teams.