

Scholar Bowl Game Format Survey:

Introduction and Background:

- Scholar Bowl was added to the MSHSAA offerings through a vote of the membership on the 1994 Annual Ballot.
- Scholar Bowl is the newest fully-interscholastic MSHSAA activity with a state series.
- Missouri question categories were originally created to mirror Missouri high school curriculum.
- Minor changes have been made to the format/rules over the past eighteen years, although changes have been discussed and debated over the years.
- The MSHSAA Scholar Bowl Advisory Committee has recommended that all Scholar Bowl schools be surveyed regarding the MSHSAA Scholar Bowl **game format**.

Reasons for Survey:

- First, it is important that the structure of the Missouri Scholar Bowl game meet the desires and needs of the schools participating. Based on Advisory Committee discussion, some coaches desire changing the Missouri format while others desire keeping the current format.
- Second, the game format affects the availability and cost of Question Writing Services. There are a limited number of companies that are able or willing to write questions in the Missouri format, and this has made the purchase of district and state series questions costly and has limited the number of potential providers, and ultimately service proposals. The disinterest of companies to write in the Missouri format also affects the ability of Missouri schools to purchase questions for invitational events and/or conference tournaments, especially questions written by the state provider.

Survey Location, Format & Timeline:

- The survey will be available beginning **Monday, December 9, 2013** and will close **Wednesday, April 30, 2014**.
- The GAME FORMAT Survey will be located on the MSHSAA Website.
- The survey is restricted and available only to the head coach at schools registered for Scholar Bowl. The head coach must be listed on the Coaches Roster for the school in order to have access to the survey.
- You must be logged in to the website with your username and password in order to access the survey.
- You may access the survey two ways:
 - From the “dashboard” at the top of your home page – use the link to open the survey, or
 - Select “Surveys” under “Account Information” and select the survey under “awaiting completion.”
- The survey will consist of a variety of statements concerning the Scholar Bowl game format, and you will be asked to respond to each on a gradient scale – strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree.
- The survey will also gather some general information in regard to interscholastic scholar bowl.
- MSHSAA will send a reminder regarding the survey each month to coaches who have not completed the survey.
- If you have questions regarding the survey, please contact Stacy Schroeder at the MSHSAA office or Bill Luce, State Scholar Bowl Rules Interpreter (contact information is in the Online Rules Review and on the website).

Current Missouri Game Structure:

- Four quarters per game
- 1st and 3rd quarters - 15 toss-up questions
- 2nd and 4th quarters - 10 toss-ups paired with 10 bonus questions
- Length of game needs to remain approximately 40-45 minutes

Current Missouri Question Categories (6):

- MSHSAA format has 6 main categories; subcategories are listed after each.
- **Science:** general science, earth science, biology/physiology/ anatomy, chemistry, physics, astronomy.
- **Mathematics:** general math, geometry/elementary trigonometry, algebra, computers, analytic geometry/advanced trigonometry/ calculus (No more than 2 from the last group of topics).
- **Social Studies:** world history, government, geography, American history, economics/consumer education, psychology, sociology (No more than 2 questions from last three topics).
- **Communication Arts:** world literature (all genres), American literature (all genres), British literature (all genres), mythology, journalism, grammar/usage, spelling, vocabulary, speech.
- **Fine Arts/Performing Arts:** art, music, dance, philosophy, architecture, theater.
- **Miscellaneous:** sports, business education, agriculture, home economics, driver’s education, health/physical fitness, industrial trades/industrial arts, entertainment, foreign language.

Comparison of Category Percentages Per Game: “National” Style versus Missouri Format:

Category Name	“National” Style	MSHSAA
Total Questions (Toss-Up/Bonus)	24 TU / 24 B per game	50 TU / 20 B per game
Literature	17% TU/ 16.7% B	20% TU / 20% B These 3 categories together = “Communication Arts”
Mythology	2.5% TU/ 2.5% B	
Communication Arts 2 categories above plus journalism, spelling, grammar/usage, vocabulary, speech	NA	
Science	17.5% TU / 16.6% B	20% TU / 20% B
Math	5.8% TU / 5.8% B	20% TU / 20% B
Fine Arts	6.7% TU/ 6.2% B	12% TU / 10% B
Theology / Philosophy	1.7% TU / 1.7% B	Philosophy is in “fine arts” for MSHSAA
History	19.6% TU / 18.8% B	20% TU / 20% B These 4 categories together = “Social Studies”
Geography	7.9% TU / 7.9% B	
Social Science	2.5% TU/ 2.9% B	
Current Events	7.5% TU / 7.1% B	
Miscellaneous	4.6% TU / 7.1% B	8% TU / 10% B Sports is in “misc” Entertainment is in “misc”
Pop Culture / Sports	6.7% TU / 6.7% B (total)	
Sports (sub-group)	1.7% TU / 1.7% B	
Pop Culture (sub-group)	5% TU / 5% B	