

Blue Crab Bowl Coaching & Team Participation Policy



Also see NOSB's Coaching Policy & Expectations:

<http://nosb.org/compete/competition-rules/coaching-policy/>

1. An official team consists of: a coach; four players, plus 1 alternate player (total of 5 students). Teams of 3 players may not compete. Guidelines for student eligibility are found in the rules for NOSB national competition. Guidelines for student behavior are outlined in the BCB Competitor Behavior Expectations at <http://web.vims.edu/BCB/PDFteams.html>.
2. Each team must have a single, designated adult coach, the **Coach of Record**. The coach must be a teacher, official or designate of the team's school or an employee, official or designate of an education or science program that is sponsoring a team. The Coach of Record serves as the primary and official contact for the team in all communications with the Blue Crab Bowl/National Ocean Sciences Bowl and accompanies the team to the Bowl. Coach responsibilities include:
 - a) Timely completion of all registration forms and response to BCB Coordinators requests for information regarding Bowl participation.
 - b) Preparation and supervision of team members (and non-team observers), including:
 - * thorough review of all NOSB/BCB competition rules, BCB event guidelines and behavior expectations with the team
 - * preparing the team through review sessions in ocean sciences content and competition skills practice
 - * supervision of team members at all BCB-associated events and venues, assuring that students adhere to guidelines and expectations.
 - c) Maintenance of high ethical and sportsmanship standards, both in preparation of the team and in competition.
 - d) Compliance with policies of the team's affiliated school system or education program, the Blue Crab Bowl and its host sites, and the National Ocean Sciences Bowl.
3. Once competition registration has closed, changes in designated coach can be made only with the prior approval of the Blue Crab Bowl Coordinators. Any substitute coaches will be expected to meet the same eligibility criteria and carry out the same responsibilities as the original coach. Teams arriving on the day of competition without their designated Coach of Record will not be allowed to compete/forfeit their opportunity to compete. The Coach arriving with the team on Bowl day must be the same individual as the Coach of Record on the Team Registration form.
4. Faculty, staff and students from the Institutions sponsoring/hosting the Blue Crab Bowl are not eligible to serve as coaches, but may serve as scientific advisors to teams under the following circumstances:
 - a) Scientific advisors who work with individual teams can have no contact whatsoever in current or past years with question development and review or with game preparation or practice sessions for officials.
 - b) Scientific advisors are expected to demonstrate the highest ethical standards. Should they inadvertently be exposed to "insider" information of any kind (e.g. overhear discussion of questions, conversations about rules, or comments from officials about their perspective on policies and rulings), they are expected to withdraw as team scientific advisors.
 - c) Scientific advisors may not represent the team in communications with Bowl officials.
 - d) Faculty, staff and students who wish to work directly with students are encouraged to do so through equitably available student preparation activities sponsored or endorsed by the Blue Crab Bowl Coordinators.
 - f) Team scientific advisors are not eligible for any coaching-related awards.

5. Any exceptions to the above coaching policies must be approved in advance by the Blue Crab Bowl Coordinators or the NOSB national office. Failure to adhere to policy may result in immediate disqualification of the team from competition.