

Odyssey of the Mind™ TOURNAMENT INFORMATION March 8, 2025

Dear Parents, Grandparents, Teachers, and Other Supporters,

Our Odyssey of the Mind Team has been working hard since the start of the school year to create a creative eight-minute skit that solves a complicated problem. We are excited to perform our solution for you and the judges.

This year's tournament will be at **Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Rd, Vienna, VA 22181**. Our team is solving a problem called _____ . We are in the Division _____ age group and we will compete at _____ in room _____. The full tournament schedule, as well as a map of Oakton HS is available at www.novanorth.org .

You should also know:

- Doors will be closed during the performances to avoid distractions. **No one, *including parents*, may enter a room during a performance.** Please silence cell phones during performances.
- Everyone involved with Odyssey of the Mind is a volunteer. Please be courteous to judges, officials, school custodial staff, other teams, and people in the audience who are trying to watch and hear the performance.
- A basic tenet of Odyssey is that the teams do everything themselves. Our team will be penalized if you help in any way. Please do not cause us to lose points by trying to be helpful – prompting us for lines, putting together or fixing a broken prop/costume, or helping with hair and make-up.
- Souvenirs will be sold. Please do not bring food into performance sites.
- Please wear soft-soled shoes. Shoes with heels are not permitted in some performance sites because of potential damage to the floor.
- Photography: Flash photography is prohibited during performances. Parents and coaches may photograph their own team at any time. Photographing teams *other than your own* is not permitted anywhere or anytime other than during the team's performance.
- Parents and coaches are encouraged to help clear the stage after the performance. Other supporters should meet and congratulate the team in the hallway.
- When parking, please do not block fire lanes, bus lanes or doorways.
- Parents and coaches may not observe the team's spontaneous competition. Team members have been instructed to keep details of their spontaneous challenge a secret. Please do not tempt them to break the rules.

The goal of the Odyssey Program is to teach teamwork, creativity, problem-solving, and sportsmanship which culminates on Tournament Day when we all have fun sharing the teams' solutions. We hope you enjoy the day's event and keep it in perspective as we celebrate our children's hard work and creativity.

Thank you for your support.