

Junior High State Spelling Bee Championship

Grades 7th - 9th

Rules and Procedures

1. Participating schools may use any selection process to choose their student representatives.
2. This is a written test. A note pad and pencil will be available for each contestant to print the spelling word.
3. The spelling master will read the word, use it in a sentence and then read the word again. This will be followed by a pause to make sure the word is clearly understood. The spelling master will then say BEGIN and students may write the pronounced word.
4. A contestant may request that a word be re-pronounced, defined, or used in a sentence before the start signal is given. The spelling master shall grant the request until the judge agrees that the word has been made reasonably clear to the contestant. Students may write the word as many times as needed before the 15-second STOP signal. However, all words except the one to be corrected must be crossed out at that time. When STOP is called, students must immediately raise their pencils.
5. The judge may disqualify any contestant who ignores a request to start or stop the spelling of a word.
6. If, inadvertently, no definition of a homonym is given, the correct spelling of either word shall be accepted as correct. When a speller is given the definition of a homonym, he/she must spell the word as used in the context of the sentence.
7. In competition, proctors will check each word and note whether the word is spelled correctly or not. Words should be printed clearly! The word is marked with a "C" if it is correct; and, if incorrect, marked with an "X" and then spelled correctly by the proctor on the pad.
8. When a speller fails to spell four words correctly on the note pad, he/she must drop out of the contest.
9. In competition, words will be chosen from any source deemed appropriate by the judges, including the official Junior High Word List. Words will not be limited to any specific list; however, all words will be taken from the *Merriam-Webster's Dictionary, New Edition 2016 (Online, Version 3.5)*, the official reference for the competition. If there are multiple pronunciations for any given word, we will use www.dictionary.com as a secondary pronunciation source.
10. The spelling master, proctors and judge will be in complete charge of the contest. Their decision will be final on all questions.

For more information, please contact:

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