

## Spelling Bee Rules

- 1) The Bee will be conducted in rounds, 4-5 teams per round. Each team will consist of 3 members including the captain, who is the designated speller.
- 2) The Enunciator will pronounce the words according to the phonetic indications in <http://merriam-webster.com>. She will then give the definition of the word, use it in a sentence, and pronounce it a final time.
- 3) Team members will have 20 seconds to agree on the spelling of the word, which the team captain will write on an erasable board in large block letters.
- 4) The word will then be projected onto a screen above the teams for the audience to see, while team captains display their spelling to the audience and judges.
- 5) Each team will have one "FreeBee" to use if they misspell a word to stay in for one more round. There are no "FreeBees" in the final round.
- 6) Eliminated teams remain on stage until the end of their round.
- 7) The last team to spell a word correctly in a given round is declared the winner of that round. If all teams spell the word incorrectly, another word will be given.
- 8) Judges may ask team captains to verbally clarify an illegible letter.
- 9) The championship round will consist of the winners of the preliminary rounds and will follow the same rules and procedures.
- 10) All decisions by the judges are final.