ACADEMICS

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Spelling lists for Level I are included in the Addenda at the end of this section. Level II spellers will study a list provided at the beginning of school.

- I. Spelling will be conducted in the traditional spelling bee format in a double elimination contest following these procedures:
 - 1. All contestants shall form a single line facing the Master. Each should be wearing a name tag or number furnished by the Master.
 - 2. Words shall be given contestants from left to right of the Master.
 - 3. A contestant shall be permitted *one* spelling error before elimination.
 - 4. Before spelling a word, the contestant may first write the word. He may also pronounce the word before spelling it, or he may just begin spelling.
 - 5. The contestant may request the Master to re-pronounce the word, define it, or use it in a sentence. The Master shall grant the requests until the Judge agrees that the word has been made clear to the contestant. The Judge may call an error against any contestant who ignores a request to begin spelling.
 - 6. With the approval of the Judge, the Master may give a fuller explanation of the meaning of the word to supplement the definition(s) quoted.
 - 7. The contestant shall have exactly *fifteen* seconds to spell the word. Timing shall begin at the contestant's repeating the word, at his writing the word, or at the commencement of the spelling of the word.
 - 8. Having begun to spell a word, a contestant may stop and begin again, retracing the spelling from the beginning; but there can be no change of letters or their sequence from those first spelled. If the letters or their sequence are changed in the respelling, the speller shall be declared in error. The Judge and Master may refer to the tape of the contest to determine an error in retracing.
 - 9. Upon making a second spelling error, a contestant shall be immediately eliminated from the spelling bee, and the correct spelling shall be announced by the Master. The correct spelling of any incorrectly spelled word shall always be given *except* when only two contestants remain. The next word on the Master's list shall then be given to the next contestant, whether or not the elimination occurs.
 - 10. When the contestants are reduced to two, the elimination procedure changes. At that point, when one contestant misspells a word, the other contestant shall be given an opportunity to spell that same word. If the second contestant spells that word correctly, *plus* the next word on the Master's list; then the second contestant shall be declared champion.
 - 11. If one of the last two spellers misses and the other, after correcting the error, misspells the new word, then the misspelled new word shall be referred to the first speller. If the first speller then succeeds in correcting the error and correctly spells the next word on the Master's list, then he shall be declared champion.

- 12. If both spellers misspell the same word, both shall continue in the contest, and the one who first misspelled the word shall be given a new word to spell after the Master gives the correct spelling. The contest shall continue then under rules 10 and 11.
- 13. Any question relating to the spelling of a word must be referred to the Judge *before* the Master gives a correct spelling, gives a new word, or (when only two spellers remain) before the second speller has begun to spell a word, or if both have missed the same word, before the correct spelling is given. *No* protest shall be entertained after a contested word has been correctly spelled and/or the contest has proceeded.
- 14. The proper protest procedure is for a parent, teacher, or spectator to raise his hand and call out the word, "Question" to the Judge and Master and wait to be recognized.
- 15. If there have been several rounds of words completed and two or more spellers remain without error, in order to hasten the elimination process, the Master has the option of choosing a word from one of the following:
 - A. A previous year's list,
 - B. A list from the next higher level, or
 - C. A totally new backup list of spelling words.
- II. The Judge and Master with the Event Coordinator have complete authority and control. Their decision shall be final in any dispute.
- III. No student may study or check a list to refresh his memory during a break.