



Creative Competitions, Inc.'s

Odyssey of the Mind®

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Spring 2017

Dear Odyssey of the Mind International World Finals Team,

It is with great pleasure that we invite your team to participate in the Odyssey of the Mind 2017 World Finals at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, from May 24 to May 27, 2017. Opening ceremonies will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 and the Awards Ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 27.

Included in this section are the forms for World Finals registration, room and board reservations, transportation information, announcements about special events, the Coaches Competition problem, and other valuable information. You will receive an official schedule of events when you arrive on campus. Your team's competition schedule will be posted on our website the beginning of May at: www.odysseyofthemind.com/wf2017

Please register online through our website at www.odysseyofthemind.com **IMMEDIATELY. NO PAYMENT IS NEEDED AT THIS TIME.** You will need to be on campus starting Wednesday, May 24 through Sunday, May 28. Therefore, Package 1A is the package you should select. We are holding space in the university residence halls for international teams. Please let us know if you need an invitation letter. **Bring the completed Media and Medical Release Forms, as well as the Team Contract with you to Registration.**

All teams should complete the Housing Grant Application offered by Creative Opportunities Unlimited (COU) at www.creativeopportunities.org, or by logging onto our website at www.odysseyofthemind.com and clicking on the link for COU. Only teams that are scheduled to compete at World Finals are eligible to apply for the COU grant. Questions regarding COU Housing Grants should be submitted directly to COU through the above-referenced website.

Your team will be assigned a "buddy" team during World Finals. The Buddy Team is a U.S. team that has volunteered to help you while you are on campus. They are also competing at the World Finals. They will assist your team in getting around campus, obtaining any materials or services you may need, and making you feel welcome. Our representatives have also been working with your international association director to facilitate home stays after the event. Please work with your association director if you wish to participate in a home stay after World Finals.

At Registration, you will be given an opportunity to sign up for emergency insurance. This will not replace your current insurance. We offer this to supplement your current health insurance while you are traveling in the United States for World Finals.

There will be a meeting for all International (non-English speaking) teams with the International Problem Captains at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 24. It is important that your coaches, team members and interpreters attend this meeting.

Please note that team members cannot practice on the actual competition site. Any team observed by an official doing so will be given an unsportsmanlike penalty. Practice facilities will not be provided.

Since competition takes place over three days, it is difficult for team members to keep the spontaneous problems secret. However, please remember that any competitor overheard revealing the spontaneous problem given in competition will subject his/her team to penalty or disqualification. In addition, should a competitor hear the problem before competing, adjustments may be made in scores or scores may be eliminated to overcome this advanced knowledge.

We hope you are looking forward to your participation. We are looking forward to hosting you.

Sincerely,

Samuel W. Micklus
Program Director