

## CLUB CONSTITUTION

- I. National Science Bowl (NSB)
- II. Statement of Purpose
  - A. The purpose of our club is to educate others about and open up opportunities in the STEM field by studying and ultimately attending the National Science Bowl competition under the name of Henry M. Gunn High School. The competition will hopefully serve as a catalyst for exploration, allowing members and participants to gain experience and insight into scientific topics like biology, math and physics, chemistry, and Earth and space science, as well as personal qualities like teamwork, determination, and creativity.
  - B. We will host weekly club meetings that will focus on a different topic each time, in a rotational manner (the topics being biology, math, physics, chemistry, and Earth and space science). We will likely host a secondary club meeting outside of Gunn that will focus on going over different practice tests from past years. At the weekly meetings, a different officer (biology lead, astrophysics lead, chemistry and energy lead, math lead, Earth and space science lead) will do a quick lecture to help the team with their personal Specialty. After that, our team will analyze the practice test from the week before.
  - C. This club aims to teach its members about different STEM topics, while fostering a team environment that will compete in Science Bowls together. In the heart of Silicon Valley, STEM knowledge is invaluable, whether one chooses to pursue a career directly related to science or not. The club will also allow its members to meet other students from different schools, districts, and states with similar interests.
- III. Affiliates
  - A. [National Science Bowl](#): we will be registering for their regional and national competitions.
  - B. We may be able to partner with the National Science Olympiad club to share prep, or discuss general science. However, as we are geared towards the National Science Bowl, we have a different purpose, and will therefore mostly function alone.
- IV. Team Membership Clause
  - A. High schools in Santa Clara County are allowed 2 teams to go to regionals. As such, we plan to have two competition teams, varsity and JV, unless circumstances force us to act otherwise. Each team will consist of four members and one alternate.
  - B. All club members who wish to be considered for membership of a competition team will be given identical written tests, centered on information that would actually be asked in the Science Bowl. For the purposes of this constitution, this

test will be called the qualifying test. The test taker to score the highest on the test will be the varsity captain, and the following 3 ranks will be the other varsity members. Similarly, the test taker to score 5th highest will be JV captain, and the following 3 ranks will be the other members. Ranks 9 and 10 will be the varsity alternate and JV alternate, respectively. Those ranked directly below the captains will serve as co-captains for their teams, and will step in as captain should anything happen to the captain(s).

- C. In the event of a tie, the two (or more) candidates will go into a short buzzer round to break the tie, where the first one to get two questions right wins the position.
- D. Team members will be given forms with more detailed dates, logistics, and rules upon making the team. They must sign and agree to the details laid out on the forms to be considered an official team member.
- E. Void Team Membership
  - a. Team members can void their membership at any time by notifying the club's co-Presidents or the club's advisor. In doing so, they understand that they will no longer be in consideration for getting back on the team until the following year.
  - b. A team member's membership will be void under any of the following circumstances:
    - a) The member has 5 or more uninformed absences.
    - b) The member displays academic dishonesty in any class or setting.
    - c) The member voluntarily leaves the team.
- F. Alternates
  - a. Alternates will act as a substitutes and join the team should anything happen to one of its members. They are still expected to come to meetings and practices, and will be held to the same standard as those on the team.
  - b. If an incident should arise that an alternate joins a team, a new test will be administered to determine a new alternate.

## V. General Membership Clause

- A. Team members must come to all meetings, unless excused or told otherwise, or if membership is void.
- B. Team members are expected to complete the practice tests that were assigned the previous week. While this is not mandatory, we highly recommend club members to do so to be best prepared for meetings
- C. Club members who are not on the team are free to come to as many meetings as they wish to simply learn information and have fun, although the main focus will be on preparing the team members for competition.

VI. Competitions

- A. Team members must be able to attend competitions, whose dates will be provided as soon as possible.
- B. Although attendance is circumstantial, club members must plan on being able to go to nationals, should the opportunity arise.
- C. Registration will be organized by the club's co-Presidents.
- D. If team members discover they have a conflict with a competition, they must notify the club's co-Presidents or advisor as soon as possible. All possible steps will be taken to either allow the member to compete, or substitute in an alternate.

VII. Outreach

- A. Club Fair, Flyers, Pamphlets, Social Media

VIII. Practices/Meetings

- A. Club meetings, which will also serve as practices, will be weekly at lunch on Thursdays.
- B. Practices will be held consistently and weekly on Thursdays, unless circumstances dictate otherwise. If necessary, team members may organize additional practices outside of school hours.

IX. Club Officers

- A. (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Officer) hold positions for 1 year. The Presidents will register the club for the upcoming year, create slides for each week, and manage the question bank for each week. Presidents are also expected to decide which practice tests to take, and lead club meetings. The Vice-President will lead and communicate with the Specialty Leads about upcoming meetings, lectures, and competitions. They will also help to prepare the questions and lead the meetings when Presidents are absent. The Secretary takes attendance, records the minutes, and takes notes for each lecture that can be sent out to club members that were not able to attend. The treasurer will organize fundraising activities, as well as assist the secretary in general meeting notes. The treasurer will help with the logistics of competitions and funding. The Publicity Officer is responsible for managing all social media, flyers, and outreach. All positions are able to be held by multiple people.
- B. Club officers are elected at the end of each year for the following year. All club members are able to run and vote. Qualifications for officers are based on experience, leadership, responsibility, and commitment. Candidates will make a short speech to the club members to explain their qualifications, well as a 60 second elevator pitch. Then club members will write their vote on a slip of paper and votes will be counted.
- C. Team Positions and Specialty Leads

- a. Team Leaders (Varsity captain, Varsity co-captain, JV captain, JV co-captain, vice-captain) and Specialty Leads (biology, chemistry and energy, physics—astro and classic, mathematics) will take the same qualifying test as the rest of the team candidates. The test will have 5 sections, with each section corresponding to one of the five Specialties. Each member of the varsity team will be a Specialty Lead in addition to their team position, including the varsity alternate, and who leads which Specialty will be determined by how members do on each section.
  - b. If a varsity member scores highest on multiple sections, they will be able to choose which Specialty they wish to lead. The remaining Specialties will then be offered to the members that scored the highest on their corresponding sections, until all Specialities have Leads.
- X. No funds needed.
- XI. All club members can bring up a change with an officer, and we will hold a vote. Majority rules.