

CTOM Coach Training B – January 11, 2020

Breakout Session Options

In total, you will take three (3) classes, and each breakout session will last 60 minutes. **All new coaches who did not attend the October training must take “Odyssey 101.”** Aside from this, you have the choice as to which classes you will attend. In selecting your workshops, consider what skills you need to help make your team as successful as possible.

Odyssey 101 (Mandatory for NEW coaches who did not attend the October training)

What is Odyssey of the Mind? In this class, coaches will be given a broad overview of Odyssey. We will discuss the components of the program (long term, style, and spontaneous), the goals of participation (e.g. problem solving, creativity, team work), and what to expect throughout the year.

Coaching VERBAL Spontaneous

Though it is worth half as much as the long-term solution, spontaneous, time and time again, plays a major role in teams’ final placement at competition. This workshop will focus exclusively on verbal problems. Coaches will learn how these problems work, identify strategies for success, and participate in a number of practice problems. In addition, coaches will reflect on these practice problems and, in doing so, think about verbal spontaneous problems from the perspective of team members and judges.

Coaching HANDS-ON Spontaneous

While the spontaneous problem itself is never known until competition time, teams should practice the various types of problems throughout the year. This workshop, which focuses on hands-on problems, will help coaches (and thus team members) develop the skills and knowledge needed to do exactly that. Coaches will learn strategies that their teams can implement when solving hands-on problems. They will also have multiple opportunities to participate in these types of problems, discuss various solutions, and evaluate how they would be scored.

It's All About Style

What exactly is style, and how does my team score highly in it? In this class, coaches will learn the do’s and don’ts for style. We will discuss ways to make the team’s solution more unique, how to select the best items for scoring, and strategies for most effectively filling out the style form. Since every point counts, you don’t want to miss this one!

Think Like a Judge

We will start this session by reviewing an old long-term problem and discussing strategies for *how* to read it most effectively. Coaches will learn about different Odyssey terminology (e.g. “the team **MUST**” vs. “the team **MAY**”). Afterwards, we will view a solution to the aforementioned problem and discuss how we would score it. By thinking like judges, we will work collaboratively to understand how the long-term problem is scored.

There’s No “I” in Team

One of the most important factors behind any team’s success is how well the members can collaborate. Working together is easier said than done, of course, as a number of factors can impact group dynamics. What should you do when team members disagree? How do you resolve conflicts? What happens when you have a team member who has very specific needs? We will address these questions and more in this workshop. If you want to learn about fostering effective teamwork, this session is for you!

Experienced Coach Panel

No matter how thorough any training session is, there is a very distinct possibility that you still will have a number of lingering questions. This breakout session is your opportunity to ask anything about Odyssey that you have on your mind. We will have a panel of coaches with extensive experience available to address any and all questions or concerns that you have. Come ready to engage in a dialogue with other coaches.