

CTOM Coach Training B - January 8, 2022

Breakout Session Options

**Training will be conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams*

New coaches will start their day with “Odyssey 101,” and returning coaches will begin with a welcome/reminders session. Afterwards, you will attend two breakout sessions. Your options for this training date are below. In selecting your workshops, consider what skills you need to help make your team as successful as possible.

Odyssey 101 (Mandatory for NEW coaches)

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.

There’s No “I” in Team – *(Breakout Session 1, 10:05am-11:05am)*

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 – *(Breakout Session 1, 10:05am-11:05am)*

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.

Coaching VERBAL Spontaneous – *(Breakout Session 2, 11:10am-12:10pm)*

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.

Think Like a Judge – *(Breakout Session 2, 11:10am-12:10pm)*

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.