

# 2025-26 Rickards Science Olympiad Invitational UPDATES

*This page can be accessed through [rsoi.org/updates](https://rsoi.org/updates) and [rsoi.org/announcements](https://rsoi.org/announcements)*

Sep. 13 - [Update #1](#) - TLDR: Released event mods (not finished), added the trial events Fermi Questions B/C, Fossils B/C, Ornithology B/C, Protein Modeling C, Brainrot B/C, Clash Royale Royale B/C, Pokemon B/C, Anything Goes B/C

Sep 23 - [Update #2](#) - TLDR: Event mods finalized except for Hovercraft B/C, Fermi Questions B/C, and Pokemon B/C).

## Update #2 (Sep 23)

Hello Coaches,

I would like to provide the second update.

**Important:** If you sent a payment through e-funds on September 16th, please let me know by providing the last four digits of the number of the card that was used to complete the payment so that we can confirm what school it was from and properly mark it down in Scilympiad.

If you haven't already, please register your school with teams as soon as possible on our [Scilympiad website](#). More information on how to register can be found [here](#).

**Asynchronous Tournament:** Our tournament is asynchronous meaning that teams can do their events anytime between Nov. 1st and Nov. 8th. Schools aren't required to do all their events in one day. Coaches, you may spread out the events over the course of the week and only the students actively taking tests need to be present and supervised.

**Event Modifications:** Our [event modifications](#) are very close to being finalized. We are still waiting on a few events and the trial events which are expected to be done within the next few days. All events will contain the materials students can use for each event as well as any changes the event may have. **Please tell your students to go read the general policies as well as the event-specific modifications for each of their events.** If there are any more changes to the event modifications from now on, it will be included in these updates, including materials needed for EXPD and WIDI.

Important things in event modifications:

- Builds must be recorded by an adult and can be conducted in remote locations. **Students must state the codeword and zoom into the codeword on Scilympiad when recording.**
- Since students can see the time out of browser, for events that require notes to be printed out, we will only be allowing up to 30 seconds of out of browser time before the students get disqualified.

**Events:** All of the trial events (outside of builds) that we plan on running can be found [here](#). Rules are still being updated for some but will be finished within the next few days.

**Team Numbers:** I will assign team numbers in the middle of October. I will send another update to all coaches when that has happened. You will then be able to assign students to teams and events.

**Updates:** All previous updates can be accessed through [rsoi.org/updates](https://rsoi.org/updates) or [rsoi.org/announcements](https://rsoi.org/announcements). If you did not receive any of the previous updates through email, please make sure to read all the previous updates through those links.

**Registration:** Please check [here](#) to make sure your school and teams are registered. In order to participate, your teams must also be paid for. Registration for each team costs \$85, but Title 1 schools can register for free. If the actual check has not arrived by Oct. 30, we will only require a picture of the check to be sent to [director@rsoi.org](mailto:director@rsoi.org) for your teams to be eligible to compete. The actual check needs to be sent following the instructions below:

Make checks payable to the School District of Leon County. Envelope Title: "Rickards Science Olympiad Invitational (for Dr. Hall). Rickards Science Olympiad can be abbreviated as 'SO'. Address: 3013 Jim Lee Rd Tallahassee, FL 32301.

[Here](#) are the instructions to make credit card payments. Keep in mind Efundz will automatically add a convenience fee to the total. If you are paying this way, please send a screenshot of the confirmation and send it to [director@rsoi.org](mailto:director@rsoi.org) to be officially registered.

Thanks,

Rishi Aka

RSOI Director



## Update #1 (Sep 13)

Hello,

With just over a month and a half until the Rickards Invitational, I want to provide my first update/announcement.

If you haven't already, please register your school with teams as soon as possible on our [Scilympiad website](#). More information on how to register can be found [here](#). I will assign team numbers in the second week of October after more schools have registered. Coaches, you will then be able to assign students to teams and events.

**Tournament Format:** Our tournament follows the Satellite format meaning students need to take tests together supervised by a coach. Students can take their tests in any location - their school, a library, or a spaceship in space - as long as students are all together and supervised by a coach. We don't want to discourage anyone from participating, so if your teams cannot find a place that will allow you to follow the Satellite format, please email [director@rsoi.org](mailto:director@rsoi.org) so we can work something out.

As usual, each team may have up to 15 members and a max of 7 can be 12th graders for Division C and a max of 5 can be 9th graders for Division B. Each school may register as many teams as they need.

**Event Modifications:** Our [event modifications document](#) is out. I have made all the general policies, however, we will be updating each event-specific over the next week or two. I will send another update when it is finalized.

**Events:** The full event slate for both divisions can be found [here](#). The event supervisors have decided to add some trial events: Fermi Questions B/C, Fossils B/C, Ornithology B/C, and Protein Modeling B/C. More information will be able to be found in their respective event-specific modifications.

**Build Events:** Since our tournament is so early in the season, all build events will be trial events and the events can be conducted at a remote location. Students will be able to conduct their builds anytime from Nov. 1 to Nov. 8. They must be supervised by an adult (the adult doesn't have to be a coach) and the adult must record the video. More information can be found in the event modifications.

**Registration:** Registration and payment will close for teams on Oct. 30, 2025. If any team needs a W-9, please email [director@rsoi.org](mailto:director@rsoi.org) and we will provide one. Our district only accepts checks, purchase orders, and credit card payments. Registration for each team costs \$85, but Title 1 schools can register for free. If the actual check has not arrived by Oct. 30, we will only require a picture of the check to be sent to [director@rsoi.org](mailto:director@rsoi.org) for your teams to be eligible to compete. The actual check needs to be sent following the instructions below:

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Everyone who sends the check picture or a screenshot of the efunds receipt will have their teams marked as paid [here](#). For Title 1 schools, you will automatically be marked as paid.

**State Registration:** In accordance with Science Olympiad's membership policy, teams competing at the Rickards SO Invitational must be registered members of their state's Science Olympiad program by Oct. 30

**Forms:** The Rickards Invitational won't be requiring any release forms or principal certification. If anyone knows any students, coaches, or parents who want to join our email list, have them fill out our [mailing list](#) form.

Thanks,

Rishi Aka

RSOI Director

