

NHTB Information Packet

Welcome to the 5782 National Hillel Torah Bowl! It will take place on December 4, 2021 at University of Maryland. Please see our [Facebook page](#) for non-logistics-related information.

Contact Us

NHTB is run by a team of orthodox students at University of Maryland. Feel free to reach out to us with any questions:

- Logistics, food, lodging, etc. - Judah Lesser, 915-449-6755, judahlessers@hotmail.com
- Game procedures and question topics - Yair Kosowsky-Sachs, 781-201-9130, y.k.sachs@gmail.com

Team Requirements

Each team shall consist of 2 or 3 people, men and/or women, from the same university. Recent alumni (within the last year) may join a team from their former university. There will be at most 8 teams in the competition and all teams will be placed in a single bracket. Two player teams may go up against three player teams. There can be at most 2 teams per university, until November 10, when a university may register a third team.

Question Topics

- Chumash, nach, halakha, gemara, Jewish history (topics are subject to change)
- The questions will be intentionally drawn from broad categories so that contestants won't have to study for the event. However we will include more Hanukka-themed questions than if NHTB were at some other time of the year. Some example questions:
 1. Which book of Chumash is the shortest?
 - a. Vayikra
 2. Who is the father of Machlah, Tirtzah, Choglah, Milkah, and Noa?
 - a. Tzelafchad
 3. What is the order of putting on and tying one's shoes?
 - a. Put on right then left, then tie left then right.
 4. Who is the Baal Haturim's father?
 - a. The Rosh, Rav Asher Ben Yechiel
 5. What is the bracha on thunder?
 - a. Shekocho ugvurato maleh olam
 6. One Amorah has the status תנא הוא ופליג, he is as good as a tanna so he can argue with them. Who is that?
 - a. Rav (Rabbi Abba)

Game Procedures

Each game will have 30 questions divided by a quick halftime. Two competing teams will stand behind two tables. The questioner will read the questions in a random predetermined order and the first person to klop on the table (as determined by a referee) will get to answer the question. If a contestant hits the table before the question has been fully read, the questioner will not finish the question. Most questions will be worth 1 point, with some challenge questions worth 2 points. If the first team gets the question wrong (as determined by the questioner) the other team will get 10 seconds to confer and answer the question. The team with the most points at the end wins. Score will be kept in a halakhically permissible way. A complete rule document will be released in the coming weeks.

Most of the games will take place on Shabbat. The final round will be after Shabbat.

Schedule

Subject to change

Time	Event
	Arrival, meet hosts
4:27 pm	Candlelighting  , mincha (על הנסים)
5:29 pm	Tzeit hakokhavim
6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat (יעלה ויבוא, על הנסים)
	NHTB dinner
	Rounds 1 and 2 of the competition
7:45 am	Shacharit I (יעלה ויבוא, על הנסים)
	Hashkama kiddush
9:15 am	Shacharit II (יעלה ויבוא, על הנסים)
9:34 am	Latest shema
	Kedma kiddush
	Kedma election speeches (optional)
	NHTB lunch
	Round 3 of the competition
4:10 pm	Mincha (יעלה ויבוא, על הנסים)
	Communal seudah shlisheet
4:45 pm	Shkia
5:29 pm	Arvit (אתה חוננתנו, ותן טל ומטר, יעלה ויבוא, על הנסים)
	Havdala, group picture (mandatory)
	Hanukkah  lighting
6:20 pm	Final round, award presentation
7:00 pm	Kedma Hanukka event

Food and Lodging

NHTB will be arranging free Shabbat meals and lodging for participants. The food will be from the [Maryland Hillel](#) kosher dining hall, certified by the [Vaad of Greater Washington](#). If you have dietary restrictions, please indicate them on the registration form. Lodging will be provided in apartments of shomer-Shabbat students, and we will let you know if you have to bring your own sheets.

If you will be arranging your own food and/or lodging (for example, because you yourself live at UMD or you are staying with one of your friends at UMD), you **MUST** let us know.

Hanukka

You will be able to light in the apartment you are staying at. NHTB can provide a hanukkiah and candles if you want.

Covid Guidelines

Participants must comply with [UMD's covid guidelines](#). As well, masks are currently required in indoor public spaces except when eating.

Transportation

Below are suggestions for transportation to University of Maryland. NHTB is not subsidising transportation except for extenuating circumstances that will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

- **Car** - We will give you information to help organize carpools.
- **Bus** - Several bus routes regularly service the DC area, and tickets can be purchased for [as little as \\$1](#). We're happy to provide advice getting from your bus stop to campus.
- **Train** - When booked in advance, and not for a Friday, [Amtrak trains](#) from New York to DC can be as cheap as \$29 one way. When you arrive at Union Station in DC, go to the nearby [DC Metro](#) stop and travel on a Red line train to Fort Totten, then transfer to a Green or Yellow line train and travel to College Park-U of Md.
- **Plane** - The most easily accessible airport from University of Maryland is DCA. Go to the airport's DC Metro stop and travel on a Yellow line train to College Park-U of Md.