

Format

The bee will be conducted in rounds. Each round, the pronouncer will ask each speller to spell a word. If the speller spells correctly, they will advance to the next round. If the speller spells incorrectly, we will eliminate them from the competition.

If a speller experiences technical difficulties during their turn (connection, device, etc.), we may give them another word.

If each speller in a round spells incorrectly, they will all remain for the next round.

When only one speller remains in the competition, they will be asked to spell another word. If they spell this word correctly, they will be declared the winner. If they spell the word incorrectly, everyone from the previous round will be back in the competition.

Most words in this bee will be selected from Words of the Champions, the official study list for Scripps regional spelling bees

(https://spellingbee.com/sites/default/files/inline-files/Words_of_the_Champions_Printable_FINAL.pdf). If we reach a point in the bee where nobody is eliminated for a long time, we may move to words not on the study list.

Speller's Turn

When the pronouncer says the word, you have exactly two minutes to spell the word.

During this time, the speller may ask for certain information about the word, such as its definition, language of origin, or part of speech.

You are allowed to start over once you begin spelling, but you may not change the way you started spelling the word.

When you finish spelling, a judge will tell you whether your spelling is correct.

Judges' Role

The judge will observe the competition and make sure the rules are being followed.

If you believe that you should not have been eliminated according to the rules, you should let a judge know as soon as possible.

The following are valid reasons for reinstatement:

1. Correctly spelling a homonym of the word without asking for information that would indicate otherwise.
2. Issues with connection or devices

The following are not valid reasons for reinstatement:

1. Mishearing the word
2. Starting over and spelling the word correctly the second time

Integrity

During a speller's turn, they may not use a device or consult any resources.

To ensure that there is no cheating, we will require that all spellers have a camera on with hands visible during their turn.

If judges suspect that a speller is breaking the rules in any way, the speller will receive a warning. On the second warning, the judges may disqualify the speller.