SkillsUSA Nebraska
Middle School Level

QUIZ BOWL

Purpose
To test the knowledge of selected team members on various aspects of general academic knowledge, basic SkillsUSA knowledge, *USA Today* and *Robert’s Rules of Order-Newly Revised* and current events.

Eligibility
Limited to 1 team of 4 people from each school.

Observer Rule
Observers will be allowed to watch the match providing space is available. No talking or gesturing will be permitted. The event chair or moderator may remove observers and/or close the event to observers for cause.

Scope of the Contest
1. The team may perform with four members.
2. The moderator will ask questions, and teams will have five seconds to respond. Responding shall be accomplished by activating the buzzer.
3. Approximately 30 percent of the questions asked will be about professional development issues, 30 percent will be about current events, and 40 percent about general academic knowledge. Points are awarded on the basis of one point awarded for a correct response and one point deducted for an incorrect response.
4. The moderator will read a question and the team that presses the buzzer first will be recognized to answer the question. If a wrong response is given, the team cannot give a second answer and the opposing team(s) will be given an opportunity to buzz in and answer the question. One point will be awarded for a correct answer. One point will be deducted from any team that gives an incorrect answer.
5. A team may buzz in as soon as it feels it knows the answer. However, the moderator will stop reading the question and the team must answer based upon what has been read to that point. Some questions may require multiple answers.
6. Once a team buzzes in, it must wait to be identified by the moderator. Any team that responds to the question before being recognized by the moderator will be scored with an incorrect answer.
7. Once recognized, the team members may confer among themselves but must respond within five seconds. In the event that a team misses an answer, unless another team buzzes before the moderator can begin or finish the question, the moderator will begin rereading the question following the procedure outlined above for the other teams. A question will not be reread during actual play except upon the request of a judge.
8. Only the first answer given will be considered. If it is a wrong response, the team cannot give another answer and another team is to have an opportunity to respond to the question. If the moderator inadvertently gives the answer away, the question is voided.
9. Any team member may give the team’s answer.
10. If the answer is incomplete, the moderator may ask the team member to be more specific. For example, if the correct answer given is Roosevelt, the moderator may ask which one, or for more information.
11. The moderator will give the correct response in the event no team gives the correct answer.
12. Teams may not use notes, reference materials or calculators. Blank paper will be provided by the officials and taken up at the end of each round. Participants will supply their own pens or pencils to use during the round.
13. A panel of judges will make the final ruling on correct or incorrect responses.
14. There will be no true/false or multiple choice questions in the active rounds.
15. Topics for general academic knowledge may include but shall not be limited to: science, math, history, geography, English (including literature), spelling, government, the arts and music.
16. Professional development questions may be drawn from (but not limited to) the following sources: *SkillsUSA Leadership Handbook*
17. The source for current events questions will be *USA Today*. Items will be taken from issues published no more than three months prior to the date of the contest. The sources can be print, media or online versions.
18. In the event that the audience gives away an answer, the moderator may void the question with no penalty for any team.
19. The written test team score will be used as a tiebreaker during the active rounds. No tiebreaker rounds will be conducted.