



1. **DESCRIPTION:** Participants will solve problems and analyze data or diagrams using their knowledge of the basic principles of genetics, molecular genetics and biotechnology.

A TEAM OF UP TO: 2

APPROXIMATE TIME: 50 minutes

2. **EVENT PARAMETERS:**

Each team may bring one 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper, which may be in a sheet protector sealed by tape or laminated, that may contain information on both sides in any form and from any source without any annotations or labels affixed along with two stand-alone non-programmable, non-graphing calculators.

3. **THE COMPETITION:**

- This event may be run as stations and can include observations, inferences, predictions, data analysis, and calculations. Questions and tasks should be distributed equally so that there is not an over-emphasis on a particular area.
- This event will test participants' knowledge of molecular genetics in both bacteria and eukaryotes including the basic principles of genetics as well as the following topics.

Regional and State Tournament Topics		
Mono-, Di-, and Trihybrid crosses	Pedigree construction and analysis	Phylogenetics
Dominant & Recessive Alleles Genotype vs. phenotype	Multiple alleles & Sex-linked traits	DNA fingerprinting and RFLP analysis
Human sex determination	Co-dominance & incomplete dominance	PCR
Gene to protein relationship	Mechanism of gene expression, including roles of enzymes	DNA microarrays
Mitosis, Meiosis and gamete formation	Multifactorial traits and Epistasis	Gene therapy, CRISPR-Cas technology
Human karyotypes analysis	Molecular consequences of mutations	Sanger & Next Generation Sequencing
Prokaryotic and eukaryotic promoter structure	DNA structure & mechanism of replication, repair	Plasmid cloning, selection, isolation & random vs. targeted mutagenesis
Components of a gene	Transcription & Translation	Organelle DNA
National Tournament Topics (Regional & State topics + the following)		
Epigenetics	Genomics & metagenomics in medicine and health	RNA-Seq, Tn-Seq, and their uses
Making mutants in the lab	Post-transcriptional RNA processing and regulation	Nucleic acid vaccines

4. **SAMPLE QUESTIONS:**

- Given a gel electrophoresis set up and running, or photographs showing results of a gel, with the lanes labeled: mother, child, male 1 and male 2.
 - Identify the apparatus or process (gel electrophoresis).
 - According to the results, who is the possible father of the child?
 - Why do the bands of DNA in the photograph end up at different locations within their lanes?
 - What is the size of fragment 3 in Lane 3?
- Given a sequence of coding strand DNA,
 - What is the sequence of the corresponding RNA?
 - Using the genetic code, what would be the sequence of amino acids made from this RNA?
- What would be the consequence of mutating the -10 region of a prokaryotic promoter?

5. **SCORING:**

- Highest number of correct solutions will determine the winner.
- Selected questions may be used as tiebreakers.

Recommended Resources: The Science Olympiad Store (store.soinc.org) carries the Genetics CD and Bio/Earth Science CD; other resources are on the event page at soinc.org.

This event is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience

GENERAL RULES

See General Rules, Eye Protection & other Policies on www.soinc.org as they apply to every event.

GENERAL RULES, CODE OF ETHICS, AND SPIRIT OF THE PROBLEM

The goal of competition is to give one's best effort while displaying honesty, integrity, and good sportsmanship. Everyone is expected to display courtesy and respect - see Science Olympiad Pledges. Teams are expected to make an honest effort to follow the rules and the spirit of the problem (not interpret the rules so they have an unfair advantage). Failure by a participant, coach, or guest to abide by these codes, accepted safety procedures, or rules below, may result in an assessment of penalty points or, in rare cases, disqualification by the tournament director from the event, the tournament, or future tournaments.

1. Actions and items (e.g., tools, notes, resources, supplies, electronics, etc.) are permitted, unless they are explicitly excluded in the rules, are unsafe, or violate the spirit of the problem.
2. While competing in an event, participants may not leave without the event supervisor's approval and must not receive any external assistance. All electronic devices capable of external communication as well as calculator applications on multipurpose devices (e.g., laptop, phone, tablet) are not permitted unless expressly permitted in the event rule or by an event supervisor. Cell phones, if not permitted, must be turned off. At the discretion of the event supervisor, participants may be required to place their cell phones in a designated location.
3. Participants, coaches and other adults are responsible for ensuring that any applicable school or Science Olympiad policy, law, or regulation is not broken. All Science Olympiad content such as policies, requirements, clarifications/changes and FAQs on www.soinc.org must be treated as if it were included in the printed rules.
4. All pre-built devices presented for judging must be constructed, impounded, and operated by one or more of the 15 current team members unless stated otherwise in the rules. If a device has been removed from the event area, appeals related to that device will not be considered.
5. Officials are encouraged to apply the least restrictive penalty for rules infractions - see examples in the Scoring Guidelines. Event supervisors must provide prompt notification of any penalty, disqualification or tier ranking.
6. State and regional tournament directors must notify teams of any site-dependent rule or other rule modification with as much notice as possible, ideally at least 30 days prior to the tournament.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC RULES MODIFICATIONS

The COVID-19 pandemic requires that some general modifications be made to the Event Rules listed in this manual in order to permit Science Olympiad competitions to continue in a way that reflects best public health, disease prevention, and personal safety practices. The modifications listed here will be in effect for all Science Olympiad competitions, regardless of level (e.g., Invitational, Regional, State, National), or type (e.g., In-Person, Satellite SO, mini SO). As the pandemic is evolves, these modifications may be amended or rescinded according to local conditions. If changes are made, the Tournament Director for the affected tournament will make an announcement to all participating teams as soon as possible.

1. **If not already allowed, each individual participant can have a personal set of reference materials (e.g., binders, single sheets of paper), calculator, or other academic resource as specified in the specific event rule for use during the competition to facilitate social distancing, isolation, and to prevent resource sharing. Personal sets of resource materials must meet all the criteria established in the specific event rule. This does not apply to Recommended Lab Equipment for Division B or Division C Chemistry Events or tool kits for Build Events.**
2. **Given local conditions, participants may not be able to be in the same location as their partner during competition. Tournaments will allow designated partners to compete from separate locations and competing teams will only need one device for Build or Hybrid with Build Events.**
3. **At the discretion of the Tournament Director, portions of Hybrid Events containing hands-on activities as well as Build and Lab Events may be dropped from the tournament or be conducted as trial events.**
4. **At the discretion of the Tournament Director and Event Supervisors, completion time may be used as a tiebreaker for Core Knowledge and other events where a written or online test is used.**



For Event Supervisors Only - Do Not Post
CHEMISTRY RECOMMENDED LAB EQUIP.

See General Rules, Eye Protection & other Policies on www.soinc.org as they apply to every event.

Each team may bring any or all of the items listed below for use in Division C Chemistry Events requiring laboratory equipment. Teams not bringing these items will be at a disadvantage as Event Supervisors will not provide Recommended Lab Equipment. A penalty of up to 10% may be given if a team brings prohibited lab equipment to the event.

Item & Expected Use	Likely to be used in:			
	Chemistry Lab	Forensics	Environmental Chemistry	Materials Science
Box - Containing all of the kit materials	X	X	X	X
10 ml Graduated Cylinder - Measuring volumes	X		X	
25 ml Graduated Cylinder - Measuring volumes	X		X	
100 ml Graduated Cylinder - Measuring volumes	X		X	
50 ml Beakers - Doing reactions, developing chromatograms	X	X	X	X
100 ml Beakers - Doing reactions, developing chromatograms	X	X	X	X
250 ml Beakers - Doing reactions, developing chromatograms	X	X	X	X
400 ml Beakers - Doing reactions, developing chromatograms	X	X	X	X
50 ml Erlenmeyer Flasks - Doing reactions	X		X	
125 ml Erlenmeyer Flasks - Doing reactions	X		X	
250 ml Erlenmeyer Flasks - Doing reactions	X		X	
Test Tubes - Mix Chemicals, heat chemicals	X	X	X	X
Test Tube Brush - Clean Test Tubes	X	X	X	X
Test Tube Holder - Holds test tubes for heating	X	X	X	
Test Tube Rack - Hold Test Tubes	X	X	X	X
Spot Plates - For semi-micro scale reactions, testing solubility, pH	X	X	X	
Petri Dishes - Doing reactions, developing chromatograms	X	X	X	X
Slides - To put hairs, crystals, or fibers on for use with a microscope		X		
Cover Slips - To cover & prevent items from coming off slides		X		
Droppers - Add small amounts of liquids to reactions	X	X	X	X
Spatulas or spoons - Getting small amounts of solids out of containers	X	X	X	X
Metal Tongs, Forceps, or Tweezers - Holding & retrieving objects	X	X	X	X
Stirring Rods - Stirring mixtures	X	X	X	X
Thermometer - Determining the temperature of a solution	X	X	X	
pH or Litmus paper - Test acidity or alkalinity of solution	X	X	X	
Hand Lens - Magnification of small items for identification		X		
Flame Loop - For identification of ions in a compound		X		
Cobalt Blue Glass - To filter out any sodium that might contaminate flame test from hands		X		
Filter Paper - Filter solids from liquids	X		X	
Funnel - Hold Filter Paper	X		X	
9V battery - Electrolysis	X		X	X
Alligator Clip Wires - Connecting meters to metals	X		X	X
Nail - Electrolysis	X		X	X
Piece of Cu metal - Electrolysis	X		X	X
Piece of Zn metal - Electrolysis	X		X	X
Multimeter - Measuring current, voltage, and resistivity	X		X	X
9V or less Battery Conductivity Tester - Determining ionic strength of solution	X	X	X	X
Calipers-mechanical, not digital - Measuring lengths very precisely	X			X
Paper Towels - Cleaning	X	X	X	X
Pencil - Writing, Marking Chromatogram		X		
Ruler - Measuring lengths		X		
Magnets - For extraction and identification of iron filings	X	X	X	X



For Event Supervisors Only - Do Not Post CALCULATOR CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

See General Rules, Eye Protection & other Policies on www.soinc.org as they apply to every event.

The following document was prepared to offer some guidance to teams as they select calculators for use in different Science Olympiad events. By no means are the calculators listed here inclusive of all possible calculators; instead they are offered as common examples. The decisions of the event supervisors will be final.

Class I - Stand-alone non-graphing, non-programmable, non-scientific 4-function or 5-function calculators

are the most basic type of calculators and often look like the one shown to the right. These calculators are limited to the four basic mathematics functions and sometimes square roots. These calculators can often be found at dollar stores.

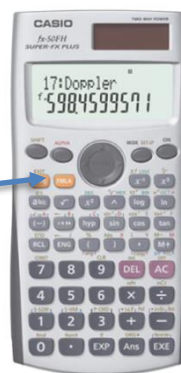


Class II - Stand-alone non-programmable, non-graphing calculators look like the calculator to the right or simpler. There are hundreds of calculators in this category but some common examples include: CASIO FX-260, Sharp EL-501, and TI-30X.



Class III- Stand-alone, programmable, graphing calculators and stand-alone non-graphing, programmable calculators, often look like the calculator shown on the right. Some examples are: Casio 975 0/9850/9860, HP 40/50/PRIME, and TI 83/84/89/NSPIRE/VOYAGE.

To identify a stand-alone non-graphing, programmable calculators Are look for the presence of the 'EXE' button, the 'Prog' button, or a 'file' button. Examples include but are not limited to: Casio Super FXs, numerous older Casio models, and HP 35S. A calculator of this type with the buttons labeled is shown to the right.



PROG Button

EXE Button



Class IV - Calculator applications on multipurpose devices (e.g., laptop, phone, tablet, watch) are not allowed unless expressly permitted in the event rule.



EYE PROTECTION GUIDE

See General Rules, Eye Protection & other Policies on www.soinc.org as they apply to every event.

This resource was created to help teams comply with the Science Olympiad Policy on Eye Protection adopted on July 29, 2015 and posted on the Science Olympiad Website (soinc.org).

Participant/Coach Responsibilities: Participants are responsible for providing their own protective eyewear. Science Olympiad is unable to determine the degree of hazard presented by equipment, materials and devices brought by the teams. Coaches must ensure the eye protection participants bring is adequate for the hazard. All protective eyewear must bear the manufacturer's mark Z87. At a tournament, teams without adequate eye protection will be given a chance to obtain eye protection if their assigned time permits. If required by the event, participants will not be allowed to compete without adequate eye protection. This is **non-negotiable**.

Corresponding Standards: Protective eyewear used in Science Olympiad must be manufactured to meet the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard applicable at its time of manufacture. The current standard is ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2015. Competitors, coaches and event supervisors are not required to acquire a copy of the standard. The information in this document is sufficient to comply with current standards. Water is not a hazardous liquid and its use does not require protective eyewear unless it is under pressure or substances that create a hazard are added.

Compliant Eyewear Categories: If an event requires eye protection, the rules will identify one of these three categories. Compliance is simple as ABC:

CATEGORY A

- Description: Non-impact protection. They provide basic particle protection only
- Corresponding ANSI designation/required marking: Z87
- Examples: Safety glasses; Safety spectacles with side shields; and Particle protection goggles (these seal tightly to the face completely around the eyes and have direct vents around the sides, consisting of several small holes or a screen that can be seen through in a straight line)

CATEGORY B

- Description: Impact protection. They provide protection from a high inertia particle hazard (high mass or velocity)
- Corresponding ANSI designation/required marking: Z87+
- Example: High impact safety goggles

CATEGORY C

- Description: Indirect vent chemical/splash protection goggles. These seal tightly to the face completely around the eyes and have indirect vents constructed so that liquids do not have a direct path into the eye (or no vents at all). If you are able to see through the vent holes from one side to the other, they are NOT indirect vents
- Corresponding ANSI designation/required marking: Z87 (followed by D3 is the most modern designation but, it is not a requirement)
- Example: Indirect vent chemical/splash protection goggles

Examples of Non-Compliant Eyewear:

- Face shields/visors are secondary protective devices and are not approved in lieu of the primary eye protection devices below regardless of the type of vents they have.
- Prescription Glasses containing safety glass should not be confused with safety spectacles. "Safety glass" indicates the glass is made to minimize shattering when it breaks. Unless these glasses bear the Z87 mark they are not approved for use.

Notes:

1. A goggle that bears the Z87+ mark and is an indirect vent chemical/splash protection goggle will qualify for all three Categories A, B & C
2. VisorGogs do not seal completely to the face, but are acceptable as indirect vent chemical/splash protection goggles