

WooHoo!
No Team Registration
Fees Again for 2009!!

September 23, 2009



The Eighteenth Annual KSU High School Programming Contest, sponsored by the Department of Computing & Information Sciences, will be held on Wednesday, November 4, 2009, from 9:30 am to 2:15 pm in the KSU Student Union. We invite all area high schools to select teams and register for this event. We encourage teams to bring their own equipment (hardware and software).

The contest is open to all high school students. Each team will consist of up to four students. In order that beginners as well as more experienced programmers may compete, there will be two divisions: a beginning division consisting of students who have completed at most one semester of programming and have no more than one year programming experience, and an advanced division open to all high school students. Because different schools use different types of machines and different programming languages in their instruction, we are suggesting that teams provide their own computers and software. Any programming language may be used for the contest.

Solutions to the contest problems will require numerical calculations, simple string manipulation, logical decisions, and console I/O, including formatted output. The main difference between the two divisions will be in the complexity of the programming logic required to solve the problems. For example, more use of nested loops will be required to solve the advanced division problems. Also, doubly dimensioned arrays may be needed to solve the advanced problems, whereas singly dimensioned arrays should be sufficient to solve the beginning problems. Some problems from previous years are available at www.cis.ksu.edu/news/HSPC.

The contest will consist of five rounds. During rounds one through four, teams will have 25 minutes to solve a given programming problem. During round five, teams will have 40 minutes to solve two programming problems. Teams correctly solving the problem within the allotted time will receive 20 points. Furthermore, a team that correctly solves the problem before the time has elapsed will receive an additional point for each remaining minute. No points will be given for incorrect solutions. The contest, therefore, encourages teams to find correct solutions quickly. Teams may resubmit once after an incorrect submission. The points for a correct answer on the second submission will be 10 points plus the time remaining. For more details on the administration of the contest, please see the enclosed rules. Please make sure that you have reviewed the rules for this year.

An awards ceremony will follow the last round. Certificates for participation and medals for the top three teams in each division will be presented.

Enclosed is a complete schedule of activities, along with the contest rules, and a registration form. This information is also available online at www.cis.ksu.edu/news/HSPC. Please photocopy the registration form for each team entering, up to a total of three teams per school. **There is a limited amount of space available, so entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until October 16, 2009.** Receipt of registration will be acknowledged prior to the contest. Lunch will be provided for all team members and faculty sponsors. Parking has been reserved for the contest, and permits will be mailed with your confirmation. If your school teams are planning to bring a bus, please contact us at office@cis.ksu.edu for additional parking information.

If you have any questions about the contest, please feel free to contact either Dr. Rodney Howell or Dr. David Gustafson at (785)532-6350.

Sincerely,



Dr. David Gustafson



Dr. Rodney Howell

Enclosures