

# US History Bee, USGO Quiz Bowl & National History Bee Nationals Preliminaries Rules Sheet

Thank you for participating in today's USHB / USGO / National History Bee National Championships! This document is intended as **an outline of the rules for the preliminary rounds of the competition**. If you have specific questions regarding more detailed aspects of the rules, please ask a tournament official.

The History Bees/USGO are played in two sections – Preliminaries and Finals. During the Preliminary Section, you will be playing against other students in an individual, buzzer-based competition in a race to answer up to 8 points out of a set of **35 questions**. Each correct tossup answer will earn you one point. Once you reach 8 points, you will earn bonus points based on how quickly you reach the 8<sup>th</sup> point. There are 6 preliminary rounds, so 210 total preliminary questions in both the National and US History Bees and 3 preliminary rounds, so 105 preliminary total questions in the US Geography Olympiad.

**The bonus structure is as follows:**

**If you reach 8 points on...                      You get this many Bonus Pts.                      For a total score for the round of**

<b>Question 8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Question 9-10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Question 11-12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Question 13-15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Question 16-20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Question 21-25</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Question 26-30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Question 31-35</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>

To prevent matches from going on too long, three incorrect answers will end the opportunity to answer a particular tossup for all students. **If the reader is still reading the question, and you give the third incorrect answer, you will be deducted one point. So you can answer more than 8 tossups correct in a round if you have negative point(s) to your name.** If the reader has finished reading the question, there is no penalty. There is no penalty for giving either the first or the second incorrect answer.

The reader will wait three seconds after he or she has finished reading the question before calling it dead and moving on to the next. If someone rings in during this time, and is incorrect, then the three

second count begins again. The reader will also allow you three seconds after you have buzzed in to give your answer. You need not be recognized before you give your answer, although it is advisable to wait. Timing decisions are not protestable. **If you wish to protest, you must bring it to the reader's attention immediately (i.e. before the reader gets more than a few words into the next question, otherwise you cannot protest) then fill out a protest form at the end of the round. You can only protest answers you have given, not the moderator's call on if another student's answer is correct or incorrect (with the sole exception being if the rules were not applied correctly).**

If the reader botches a question, then there are makeup questions included with each round that can be used. If you speak out of turn, you do not lose a point, but you are disqualified for the question. The question is still alive for everyone else.

The top 32 Varsity and 32 JV students will make the afternoon playoffs in the National History Bee. The top 24 Varsity and 24 JV students will make the playoffs in the US Geography Olympiad and the US History Bee– the rules for which are explained on the Playoff Rules Sheet. Ties for the last spot ONLY will be played off on buzzers (sudden death) if need be. Otherwise, highest overall round score, followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> highest, etc. will be dispositive in determining playoff seeds.

Good luck!