

# International Academic Competitions

## **IAC Championships Individual Event Playoffs Scoring System**

The following scoring system is used in the playoff matches of individual buzzer--based competitions run by International Academic Competitions at championship level events. This does not include regional or state tournaments in the USA or national tournaments outside the USA or Canada, but rather at the US and Canadian National Championships and at the European, Asian, Caribbean, African, and Australian and New Zealand Championships outside the USA, as well as at the International History Olympiad and International Geography Bee World Championships.

Questions in these events are superpowermarked, just as in History Bowl 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter tossups. However, the IAC Championships Individual Event Playoffs Scoring System also includes penalties for incorrect answers; thus, every time a player buzzes in, their score will change.

- A correct answer in superpower range, before the (+) mark, is worth 6 points.
- A correct answer in power range, between the (+) and (\*) marks, is worth 5 points.
- A correct answer after power but before the question is completely read is worth 4 points.
- A correct answer after the question is completely read is worth 3 points.
- Any incorrect answer given while the question is being read incurs a --2 point penalty.
- Any incorrect answer given after the question is completely read incurs a ---1 point penalty.

As in the preliminary rounds, three incorrect answers ends the question; there is no further penalty for being the third incorrect answer. The number of questions in a packet and the points goal for a player may differ from event to event; please check your event's listed rules. If a student does not attend a playoff match, they will be scored as a 0, not disqualified, and if any students in a given playoff round finish with a negative score, they will be ranked below students that did not attend and score 0.

All other rules remain the same as in the preliminary phase, with the exception of this change regarding protests.

Because protest decisions can have such a large impact on the subsequent outcome of the match, when superpowermarked bee tossups are used in the playoffs, protests are resolved immediately (i.e. at the end of the question that is being played).

If the protest is made on the basis of “I should have been prompted and I wasn’t” then if the protest is upheld, the protesting student is granted a point in the preliminary rounds (**because throwing out the question and trying to find all the students who were in the room to do a makeup question would be a logistically very difficult**). In the playoff rounds in this situation, the question is thrown out, and a makeup question is read for any students who were still playing at that point when the protesting student buzzed. Incorrect buzzes and negative points incurred prior to this buzz still stand, but a correct buzz after the student who should have been prompted does not stand and the points do not accrue, because the player who should have been prompted may well have answered with the correct answer.