

**Tempe Prep Academy
Odyssey of the Mind
2009-2010**

What is Odyssey of the Mind?

Odyssey of the Mind is a team problem-solving program that involves regional, state, & international competitions.

Competition Problems:

5 Long Term problem options – Vehicle, Technical, Classics, Structure, & Theatrical (see attached sheet)

Long Term Problem – team has to plan, design, & build a working solution over a 5 month period

Spontaneous Problem - solve a given verbal or hands on problem in 3-10 minutes with limited materials provided

Team Size:

4-7 members to a team 6-8th grade is Division 2 9th – 12th grade is Division 3

Skills used/learned:

classical problem solving processes	building stuff	brainstorming	innovation	set design and fabrication
project budgeting	testing	construction methods	design techniques	script writing
hand tool use	theme development	costume design and fabrication	creativity	teamwork
mechanical design	spontaneous problem solving	failure analysis		long term planning
risk management	solution optimization	scheduling		decision making strategies

Cost:

\$100.00/person participation fee (scholarships available) + 1 Az State Tax Credit*

*In keeping with the new TPA Extra Curricular Policy, it is strongly encouraged that each participant try to submit a Tax Credit along with the mandatory participation fee. The Tax credits will go to help support the teams that travel to the World Finals.

State Competition – small additional fee required when held out of town

World Finals – optional & requires additional fund raising to participate.

Meeting Times:

Determined by each team – commonly set for half day Saturdays, 1 – 3 times a month, starting in October

Important Dates:

OM Kick off meeting - Monday, August 31st 3:15 – 4:00, Zelman Center

Registration Deadline - Friday September 25th - Registration Form, OM Contract, Fee, Tax Credit*.

Regional Tournament - Saturday, March 20th, 2010 at Grand Canyon University, Phx.

State Tournament – Saturday April *TBD*, 2010 in Tucson. (qualifying teams only).

World Finals – May 26th-29th, 2010 at Michigan State University (qualifying teams only).

More Information:

Check the TPA website OM area for more detailed information and all needed forms. Or contact Mr. Dischinger.

Volunteers:

TPA parent volunteers are probably the most essential ingredient to having a great Odyssey of the Mind program for the students. We will be looking for volunteers to be coaches, assistant coaches, serve as judges or volunteers at regional competition, drivers, and a host of smaller jobs. Check the TPA website for a list of volunteer opportunities.

Dave Dischinger - Director – Odyssey of the Mind

480-966-2753 om@tempeprep.org