



Nebraska Future Problem Solving Program  
PO Box 602  
North Bend, NE 68649

<http://www.nebraskafps.org>

March 2020

Congratulations! Your team has been selected to participate at the 2020 Nebraska State Future Problem Solving Bowl. Your scores on the Qualifying Problem, "Gamification," have qualified your team for this competition.

**(Please read ALL INFORMATION carefully.  
Please note the location of each event during the day.)**

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2020  
Place: University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, Nebraska  
Time: Registration is at 7:30 a.m.  
**Copeland Hall entryway**

**Enclosures (available for download)**

Invitation Letter  
Registration Form  
Monitor Letter and Monitor Information Sheet  
Suggested Readings  
List of State Bowl Participants  
Skit Regulations, Materials List, and Scoresheet  
Motel Information  
Map of Campus  
Nebraskan Floor Plan  
Publicity Form Letter  
"Living in Poverty" Research Ideas  
Practice Future Scenes (available on the "Coach Central" portion of the website)

Following is a brief summary of the day's events. A more specific schedule will be available in your registration packet that you will pick up on April 18.

7:30 - 7:45 Registration--**Copeland Hall entryway**  
7:45 - 8:15 Introductory Meeting, **Copeland Hall 142**  
8:15 - 10:15 Team Problem Solving, Alternate Seminar, Coaches Seminar  
10:15 - 12:00 Break/Lunch (lunch at 11:15 a.m. in the Nebraskan)  
12:00 - 1:45 Skit Planning  
2:00 - 4:00 Skit Competition  
Senior -- Room 238 C/D, Nebraskan  
Middle -- Cedar Room, Nebraskan  
Junior -- Room 238, Nebraskan  
4:00 - 5:30 Relaxation Time  
6:00 - Awards at Room 238, Nebraskan

## **Topic – Living in Poverty**

Nearly half of the world's population (more than 3.5 billion people) live in poverty. Of those 3.5 billion people, 1.4 live in extreme poverty, surviving on less than \$US 1.25 per day.

Across the globe, many people struggle to have and sustain basic needs such as food, clean water, basic medical supplies, and adequate shelter. Some people are forced to leave their homes to travel to other places or countries to find menial work to send money home to support their families. Due to poverty, many people are unable to access education. Some adults deliberately suffer from malnutrition so that their children can have the food that is available. Children in severe poverty are often orphaned or they have been sent away because their parents cannot afford to care for them. Healthy food can be very difficult to come by for the poor due to lack of financial and monetary resources, meaning that they depend on cheap, unhealthy foods to sustain their lives.

What can be done globally to assist those suffering from extreme poverty? How can we reverse this trend in order to decrease the adverse impact of poverty on future generations?

The future scene for the State Bowl on the topic of "Living in Poverty" will be a narrowly focused scenario. The future scene is likely to contain some futuristic twists to make the situation appear to be new but some of the information contained in your research will still apply. The students' challenge will be to discover what research information concerning this topic will be applicable to the future scene situation. Good luck to each student and adult that will be preparing for this topic at the State Bowl.

## **Registration**

On the website, please find the link to the State Bowl registration form. Please fill it out and return for each qualified team by **Wednesday, March 18, 2020**. Lunch (\$11 per person) will be served in the UNK Nebraskan. We will use the Commons area. This dining facility offers tasty, well-balanced meals with a wide variety of foods from which to choose, not to mention that the students can eat as much as they want.

## **Monitors At State Bowl**

In order to compete at the State Bowl, each team will need to provide a reliable adult monitor. A form is included with the registration information for the State Bowl that will need to be completed and returned on each monitor **by Wednesday, March 18, 2020**. The monitors will need to attend a meeting at 7:15 the morning of the State Bowl to receive more information about monitor duties (escorting teams to competition room) and to receive competition packets.

## **Team Competition**

### **Regulations**

1. Only 4 team members will be allowed in the problem solving room. Coaches are not allowed in the room.
2. Team members are allowed to take into the room only erasable pens or regular pens, thesaurus, dictionary, calculators, electronic dictionary or thesaurus and scotch tape. (Teams are accountable for putting their booklets back in proper order.) No other items will be allowed in the room.
3. A monitor will be assigned to you who will give you your packet which includes the future scene for each team member, the blank booklet, skit information sheet, and extra paper.
4. You will be allowed a maximum of 2 hours to complete your problem. (Your monitor will let you know when your time is up.)
5. After the completion of the 2-hour limit, your monitor will give you an additional 5-7 minutes to write up the underlying problem and action plan on the skit information sheet. This sheet is to be kept by the team members in order to plan for their skit. This form will then be given to the skit judges immediately before their skit presentation.

The above rules are to be precisely followed. Any infraction will call for an automatic disqualification from the team competition.

### **REMINDER:**

No outside coaching assistance is allowed!

Plenty of blank paper will be included with your future scene to be given to you the day of the State Bowl. Monitors will be available to answer your questions and to keep track of the time element.

### **Skit Presentations (All teams are required to do a skit presentation.)**

All skit presentations will be held in the Nebraskan. A map/floor plan of the Nebraskan will be available on the day of State Bowl which indicates where skits will be held. Signs will also be placed in the Nebraskan to identify the rooms.

Please review the information regarding the skit presentation. All the rules for the skit presentations will be followed for this competition. You may use up to 6 people in your skit. Remember that your skit is created from your UNDERLYING PROBLEM AND ACTION PLAN you arrived at during your problem solving earlier in the day. Be sure to fill out your Underlying Problem and Action Plan on the skit information form provided to you before you leave the problem solving room so that you will have that paper to give to the skit judges later in the day. Teams are to use ONLY the prop items that are on the approved skit list, the two mandatory items, and the mandatory quote.

## **Alternate Seminar**

The Alternates will be grouped with other alternates from different teams within their specific division. Each team of alternates will complete a 10-page booklet that will contain eight challenges and eight solutions rather than the standard sixteen for the team booklet. Each of the other four steps in the booklet are unchanged for this competition. These problems will be evaluated and an award will be given to the first-place team in each division.

## **Local Publicity**

Available online is a sample publicity letter that you may use or adapt as you see fit. It is very important that you pat yourself on the back!! You've worked hard to get where you are!!!

## **Invitation to Parents and Others**

Please let everyone know that they are certainly invited to attend the State Bowl. We feel that attendance from noon on would be the best. We're sure there are many who would enjoy watching the skits, and, of course, attending the awards ceremony! (The students are very busy in the morning; therefore, it is best if they are not distracted.)

## **Awards Ceremony**

The awards ceremony is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Nebraskan.

## **International Conference**

The Affiliate Directors at the 2001 International Conference passed a motion that all affiliates with 75 registered teams (based on the previous year's registration) will be eligible for one additional team in the team problem solving competition at the International Conference. This year, our second place Middle Division team at the State Bowl will receive an invitation to attend this year's International Conference at University of Massachusetts at Amherst on June 3-7, 2020.

## **Additional Information**

Please note the format of the day. Skit presentations will be followed by a period of "kick-back". This is a result of numerous suggestions that "everyone" needs some time to relax after a very intense morning and early afternoon.

Congratulations again and plan to have a good time April 18!!

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