



Wellesley Education Foundation



Wellesley Spelling Bee Rules

1. Each team will consist of three members including the Captain, who is the designated speller.
2. Words used in the preliminary rounds of the Bee will be selected from the Scripps 2011 National Spelling Bee study guide. A copy of the guide will be provided to each team member.
3. Words will be pronounced according to the diacritical markings in the American Heritage Dictionary: Fourth College Edition and Webster's Third New International Dictionary and its Addenda Section, the official Bee dictionaries.
4. The Master of Ceremonies will pronounce the word, give the definition of the word, use it in a sentence, and pronounce the word once more.
5. Team members may ask for one additional pronunciation for the word, but no more.
6. Team members may collaborate on the spelling of the word. Each team will print the word legibly on the slate provided. All teams will complete the writing of the word within 25 seconds and will be instructed to put down all writing implements.
7. All teams will then display their slates simultaneously as directed, and if asked by the Master of Ceremonies, the Captain will spell the word as written. If there is a discrepancy in the written and oral spelling, the written spelling will prevail.
8. Upon misspelling a word, the team will be eliminated. If all remaining teams spell the word incorrectly, no team will be eliminated, and a new word will be given.
9. The last team to spell a word correctly in a particular round is declared the winner of that round.
10. Winners of each round shall be recalled for a playoff round, and the same rules will apply.
11. The judges will make the final decision on all questions.

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