

2009 PSO NATIONAL FINALS – GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. The National Finals will be conducted on September 26, 2009 (Saturday) at the Nido Fortified Science Discovery Center (former SM Discovery Center), SM Mall of Asia.
2. The participants shall shoulder their board and lodging expenses and transportation expenses. However, the organizers shall provide solicitation letters to aid the financial expenses of the participants if requested by the school.
3. Each national finalist team shall be composed of the three (3) original team members and one (1) chaperone-coach teacher. In case a contestant cannot attend, the team may still opt to join the finals, but SUBSTITUTION IS NOT ALLOWED.
4. The National Finals will have a preliminary elimination round consisting of both Theoretical and Practical Exams, which will be performed as a team.
5. The distribution of the questions and challenges will be based on the following categories:

Bracket I

- Earth and Space Science
- Life Science
- Physical Science
- Health
- Basic Information Technology

Bracket II

- Earth Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Information Technology

6. The Practical Exam will be composed of five (5) stations corresponding to the categories. Teams will be given fifteen (15) minutes to perform experiments and answer questions in each station. This part of the preliminary eliminations will have a total duration of 75 minutes.
7. The Theoretical Exam will be divided into the five (5) categories. Teams will be given fifteen (15) minutes to work on questions in each category, which will challenge their knowledge in the subject area. This part of the preliminary eliminations will have a total duration of 75 minutes.
8. The final grade in the preliminary eliminations shall be composed of 50% from the team's grade in the Practical Exam and 50% in the Theory Exam.
9. The top 10 schools with the highest grades will proceed to the Final Round.

10. The Final Round will be composed of 30 questions from the five categories: 10 easy (1 point for each correct answer), 10 average (3 points for each correct answer) and 10 difficult (5 points for each correct answer).
11. In the Final Round, “Killer Questions” will be asked randomly wherein the team has the option to answer or not. If the team will choose to answer and get it correctly, they will be awarded with double points (2 points for easy, 6 points for average and 10 points for difficult). But if they get it wrong, they will attain deductions in their score (1 point for easy, 3 points for average and 5 points for difficult). There will also be a “Judge’s Question” in the duration of the final round wherein a member of the organization will randomly pick out a name and the question will come directly from the judge.
12. Teams will be given whiteboards and markers for them to write their answers.
13. The three (3) highest scoring teams will be declared as Champion, First Runner Up, and Second Runner Up, respectively.
14. National winners will receive:
 - Champion - Php40,000 worth of prizes: certificates of recognition, plaque for the school, gold medallions for each team member, ten thousand pesos (Php10,000) cash for the team and 100% discount for the NYSTESC or CSIW for the participants and the coach.
 - 1st Runner Up - Php25,000 worth of prizes: certificates of recognition, plaque for the school, silver medallions for each team member, seven thousand pesos (Php7,000) cash for the team and 50% discount for the NYSTESC or CSIW for the participants and the coach.
 - 2nd Runner Up - Php15,000 worth of prizes: certificates of recognition, plaque for the school, gold medallions for each team member, five thousand pesos (Php5,000) cash for the team and 25% discount for the NYSTESC or CSIW for the participants and the coach.
15. In case of a tie, three clincher questions will be asked. If the tie still persists, a “sudden death” question will be asked and the first team who gets the right answer will be declared as winner
16. Questions and clarifications will be entertained at the end of each question ONLY. The Board of Judges will decide upon the matter and their decision is FINAL and IRREVOCABLE.