A high-angle, wide shot of a large stadium filled with a dense crowd of people. In the center of the stadium, there is a large, dark structure with a bright orange rectangular panel on its front. Above this structure, the word "SPARTANS" is visible in white capital letters. The stadium seating is visible on both sides, and the overall atmosphere is that of a major event.

new jersey

**ODYSSEY** OF THE **MIND**  
*since 1978*

# **How to Register for your Regional Tournament**

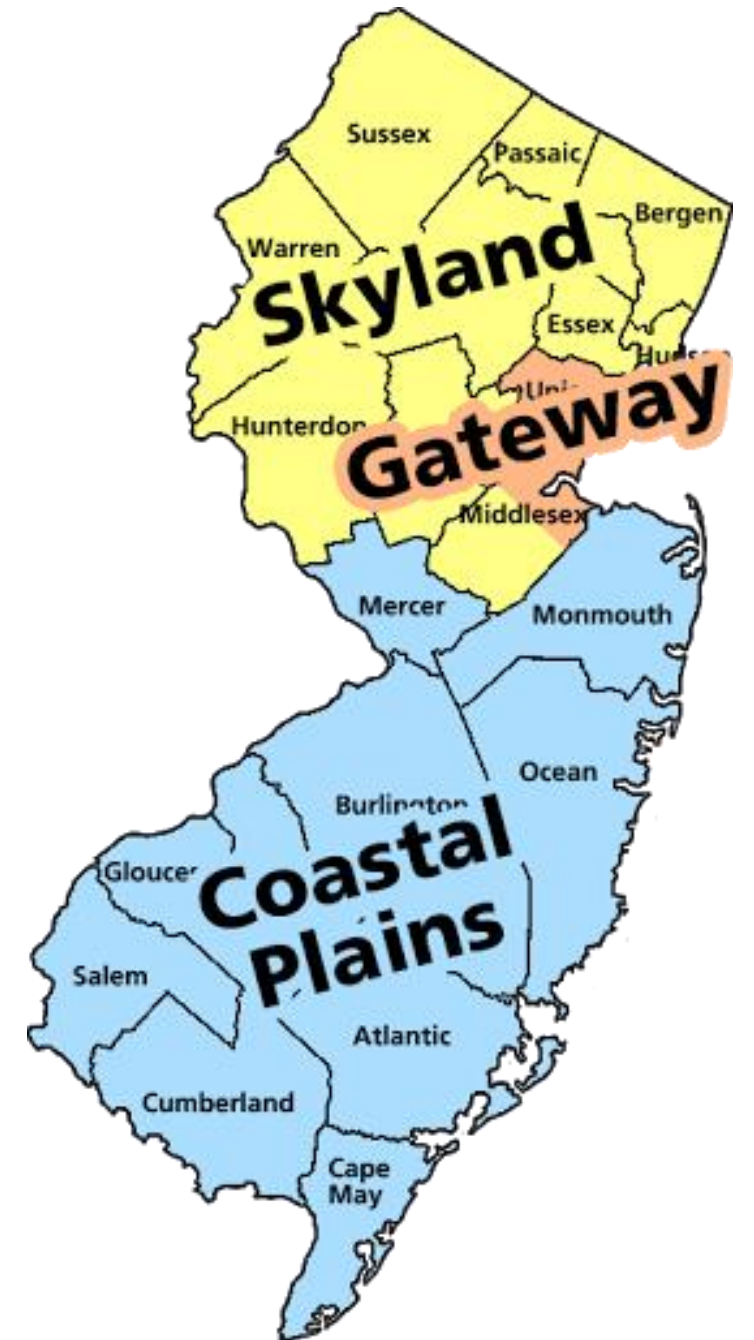
**2024 – 2025 Tournament Season**



# What's My Region?



- **NJ OotM has 3 regions**
  - Skylands
  - Gateway
  - Coastal Plains
- **Middlesex County is split between two regions:**
  - If you are **south** of Route 18, you are in the **Skylands** Region
  - If you are **north** of Route 18, you are in the **Gateway** Region





# 6 Key Steps to Registering for your Regional Tournament

- 1. Purchase your membership through Odyssey HQ/CCI**
- 2. Register your team with Odyssey HQ – Members Area**
- 3. Register your team for the tournament - NJ OotM website**
- 4. Register your judge (trained) – NJ OotM website**
  - one per team
- 5. Register your volunteer (non-trained) – NJ OotM website**
  - one per membership
- 6. Pay your tournament fee to NJ OotM**



# Important Deadlines & Dates

- **January 10:** Registration deadline for Teams
  - \$75 per team
  - *No late enrollments are possible*
- **January 10:** Registration deadline for Judges
  - *Penalties will be issued for late registrations.*
- **February 1:** Registration deadline for Volunteers
- **February 1:** Judges Training (*Online*)
- **February 15:** Tournament fees due to Treasurer
- **February:** Pre-tournament meetings
  - *Note: Teams who withdraw after this date are ineligible for refunds of tournament fees.*






**Have you  
purchased  
your  
Membership  
yet?**

- **An active Membership from CCI/Odyssey HQ is required to register your Team and enroll your team for the Regional Tournament.**
- ***Please do not wait to purchase your Membership! - Purchase your Membership no later than Friday, December 20th to ensure Odyssey HQ has enough time to process the Membership before the registration deadline.***
  - We expect Odyssey HQ to be closed Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> through to at least Wednesday, January 1st.
- **One team per problem, per division is allowed on a membership. If you need an additional membership, please purchase it as well before December 20th!**

# Important Dates

- ***Skylands Regional*** – March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Hillsborough Middle School, Hillsborough
- ***Coastal Plains Regional*** – March 8<sup>th</sup>  
Woodstown-Pilesgrove Schools, Woodstown
- ***Gateway Regional*** – March 15<sup>th</sup>  
*Sayreville War Memorial High School, Sayreville*
- ***State Finals*** – April 5<sup>th</sup>  
J.P. Stevens High School, Edison
- ***World Finals*** – May 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI





# How To Add a Coach and Create your Team with Odyssey HQ



# How To Add a Coach and Create your Team with CCI



- Before you begin registration for the Regional Tournament, please visit [www.odysseyofthemind.com](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com) and make sure you have a log-in with Odyssey HQ's new system.

How-to: <https://odysseyofthemind.com/kb/add-a-coach-to-your-membership-as-a-school-contact/>

*(If you yourself purchased your Membership, you already have your log-in.)*

- Then register your Team with Odyssey HQ by visiting [www.odysseyofthemind.com](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com) and navigating to Teams -> Competition Home and logging in.

How-to: <https://odysseyofthemind.com/kb/how-to-create-your-team-by-problem-and-division/>

*If you need help with any of the above, please reach out to Odyssey HQ directly at [info@odysseyofthemind.com](mailto:info@odysseyofthemind.com) or (856) 256-2797*



A large crowd of people at night, illuminated by red lights. Many people are holding up sticks or poles, creating a dense field of vertical lines. The scene is dark, with the red lights providing the primary illumination. The crowd appears to be gathered for a significant event or performance.

**How to Register your Team with NJ OotM**

# Tournament Registration: What you Need



Before you go to [www.njootm.org](http://www.njootm.org) to Register for the Tournament gather the following information *for each of you teams you will be registering:*

- Membership name
- Problem and division
- Names and grades of all team members
- Names and contact information of any assistant or co-coaches
- Any disabilities or pertinent medical conditions of any team member or coach
- Any scheduling conflicts on competition day

*If your district's email server blocks njootm's emails please use your personal email address.*



# Team Registration



- If your membership name does not exist on page 3 and you have previously purchased your membership, please email [questions@njootm.org](mailto:questions@njootm.org) to be added before continuing.
- You will receive an automated Google form email confirmation once your registration has been processed.
- You can go back and make changes to your registration up until January 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The bottom of the email includes detailed information on how to pay the tournament fees for your team(s).
- If you do not receive an email confirmation, please reach out to your Regional Director who can confirm your registration.



**Note about  
Judges and  
Volunteers  
registration**

***Please note:* Judges and Volunteers registration is also being done via Google Forms. Judges and Volunteers will receive an automated Google form email confirmation once their registration has been processed but Coaches will not receive a copy.**

**Please reach out to your Officials Coordinator to confirm registrations of your Judges and Volunteers.**





# State Finals

- There is no team registration for State Finals, but there is an additional \$75 registration fee
- Your team does not have to compete if they choose not to
- If your team advances, your trained Judge must judge at State Finals
- If your team advances, you also must still supply a Volunteer

# Advancing to States



## ***NJ OotM has changed how we advance teams from Regionals to State Finals to allow more teams to advance!***

- **Starting in 2024, we moved from our “top 2 places in each problem division” criteria to a formula-based model that targets approx. 90 teams at State Finals (18 per problem)**
  - Methodology:
    - We will send at least 1 team per problem/division where there is at least 1 team competing – if every prob/div has teams, this is 9 slots. If a prob/div does not have any teams competing, those slots are added to the pool.
    - Remaining slots are divided up based on proportion of total teams in each problem, across all regions.
    - This means some problem/divisions may have only 1 team advance or as many as 3 or 4 – it will fully depend on how many teams are in that problem in each region.
  - Our overall goal of this change is to have more teams be able to advance to State Finals, which will further increase the number of teams with a chance to advance to World Finals!
  - Both ties and advancement from winning a *Rantra Fusca Creativity Award* are not be affected and will still advance as in previous years.
- **After team registration closes in January, a chart of how many teams are competing in each problem/division and what slots will advance will be published on the NJ OotM website**
  - *Note: once this chart is published, it will not be adjusted, even if teams withdraw after the publication date.*



# Questions?

## Questions about Tournaments or Registering?

### *Send us an Email!*



*For us to respond in a timely fashion we need:*

- your full name
- your membership
  - **PLEASE...** No abbreviations!
- problem and division

# Questions?

Skylands Regional	<b>Joy Stephenson</b>	skylands@njootm.org
Gateway Regional	<b>Ariana Kerchner</b>	gateway@njootm.org
Coastal Plains Regional	<b>Beth Nelting</b>	coastalplains@njootm.org
State Finals	<b>Sarah Pankiewicz</b>	statefinals@njootm.org
Officials – Coastal Plains and Skylands	<b>Trish Jamison</b>	coastalofficials@njootm.org skylandsofficials@njootm.org
Officials – Gateway	<b>Michele Rattigan</b>	gatewayofficials@njootm.org



# A Reminder on Clarifications

- **Please do NOT ask questions about your problem to anyone!**
  - We can't answer definitively – only the Clarifications team can
- **Submit all Clarifications on the International Website @ [www.odysseyofthemind.com/clarifications/](http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/clarifications/)**
  - Cutoff for submitting requests is February 15
  - General Clarifications are posted on the Odyssey website – check regularly!
  - All clarification submissions are kept **private** unless it's a “negative” response everyone should know (e.g., a lot of teams have asked)
  - The new system for clarifications uses forums to organize questions and answers, **ONLY YOU** will be able to see clarifications you submit. Team clarifications remain completely confidential.
  - NJOotM will **not** enforce General Clarifications published less than two weeks before a tournament