

Scholastic Visions

The Newsletter of the Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association

Vol. 29 No. 4

Editor: Kristin Strey <strey.k.a@gmail.com>

June 2024

Barrington High School Wins HSNCT and NSC for Second Straight Year

Read about Illinois teams at national championship tournaments in this issue

In This Issue

Middle School News

MS Tournament Results.....	2
IESA State Championship.....	3
Middle School Nationals.....	7
MSQBRank National Rankings.....	12
2024-25 MS Tournament Calendar..	11

HS National Championships

Individual Player Nationals.....	4
IAC History Bowl Nationals.....	5
Small School Nationals.....	6
NAQT High School Nationals.....	8
PACE High School Nationals.....	9
Team Illinois at NASAT.....	10

IHSSBCA News

Moderator List.....	2
End-of-Season Groger Ranks.....	12
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes.....	13
2024-25 HS Tournament Calendar..	14
Who's In Charge?.....	15

Congratulations to this year's Coaches of the Year, Hall of Fame coaches, Friend of Scholastic Bowl, and All-State Teams!

Check out this issue's Awards Banquet Insert for recognition of our 2024 award winners and their speeches at the April 2024 banquet.

2024-25 Important Dates

Tournament Dates are listed in the Tournament Calendar

Deadline	Date
(MS/HS) SchoBowlFest Coaches' Conference Annual coaches' conference open to the public. Register at <ihssbca.org/schobowlfest>	Saturday, September 28, 2024
(HS) All-Sectional/All-State Nominations Open Nominate up to three of your players at <ihssbca.org/awards/all-sectional>	Monday, January 6, 2025 - Friday, January 31, 2025
(HS) IHSA Record Reporting Deadline Report your high school team's win-loss record at <center.ihsa.org>	Monday, February 7, 2025
(MS) IESA Season Opens Schools may begin playing matches in IESA format	Monday, January 27, 2025
(HS) IHSA Sectional Seeding Meetings Online Vote to determine seeding and hosting privileges in your Sectional at <center.ihsa.org>	Tuesday, February 11, 2025 - Wednesday, February 12, 2025
(HS) All-Sectional Voting Open Vote for the top players in your Sectional at <ihssbca.org/awards/all-sectional>	Monday, February 10, 2025 - Friday, February 21, 2025
(MS) IESA Season Schedule Reporting Deadline Report your team's IESA-format schedule at <iesa.org>	Wednesday, February 26, 2025
(MS/HS) IHSSBCA Awards Banquet The Awards Banquet recognizes student, team, coach, and community award winners annually	[May 3 or 4 2025]
(MS) IESA Roster and Record Reporting Deadline Report your middle school team's win-loss record at <iesa.org>	Monday, April 21, 2025
(MS/HS) Moderator Certification Turnover Deadline Make sure tournament hosts and coaches have reviewed your moderating to renew your certification	Sunday, June 1, 2025

This issue goes out to over 200 current and former IHSSBCA members, including high school and middle school coaches, players, tournament directors, moderators, and friends of scholastic bowl.

Certified Moderators

ihssbca.org/moderators

Recommend moderators who have done an excellent job at tournaments you've hosted with this link:



Rate moderators who have read for your team at tournaments you've attended with this link:



<u>Moderator</u>	<u>Home City</u>	
Carolyn Aiken +	Morrison	HR 2024-25
Chris Appuhn +	East Moline	
Sister John Baricevic +	Belleville	
Colby Burnett +	Oak Park	
Ulysses Capistran +	Wood Dale	
Dan Caveglia +	St Peters, MO	
Andrew Cheun	Champaign	HR 2024-25
Brad Fischer	Rockford	
Elizabeth Furness +	Carlinville	
Linda Greene +	Rockford	
Matt Hasquin +	Medora	
Mike Laudermith +	Bensenville	
Sharon Lorinskas +	Carbondale	
Abby Mueller +	Brighton	
Marshall Mullins +	Glen Carbon	
Ali Nagib +	Chicago	
Clark Reamer +	Dwight	
Brad Savage +	Chicago	
Elaine Seevers +	Cordova	HR 2024-25
Jacob Simmons +	Edwardsville	
Mike Soric +	Champaign	HR 2023-24
Kristin Strey	Rockford	
Mark Taylor +	St Charles	
Stuart Teso-Warner +	Rockford	
Brad Tutterow +	O'Fallon	
Brian Tutterow +	Brighton	
Joy Tutterow +	O'Fallon	
Luke Wigtil +	Rockford	

Key

+	Recommended by tournament hosts
++	Highly Recommended by tournament hosts
HR	Highly Rated by coaches and players; rating is valid through indicated season

Middle School Tournament Results

Wednesday, 4/24: IESA Regionals statewide

Class A Regional Champions by Sectional

Sectional A: Cissna Park, Quest (Palatine), Seneca, St Mary's (Pontiac)

Sectional B: AlWood (Woodhull), Amboy, Midland (Sparland), Wallace (Ottawa)

Sectional C: Bismarck-Henning, Metcalf (Normal), Roanoke-Benson, Zion (Mt Pulaski)

Sectional D: Concordia (Peoria), Limestone Walters (Peoria), Monroe (Bartonville), Riverview (Spring Bay)

Sectional E: Bushnell-Prairie City, Carthage, Elmwood, Virginia

Sectional F: Atwood-Hammond, Casey-Westfield, Heritage (Homer), Next Generation (Champaign)

Sectional G: Nokomis, Sangamon Valley (Illioopolis), St Agnes (Springfield), Waverly

Sectional H: ICS (Columbia), Lutheran (Altamont), New Hope (Fairfield), Sacred Heart (Effingham)

Class AA Regional Champions by Sectional

Sectional A: Palombi (Lake Villa), Sycamore, Twin Groves (Buffalo Grove), Wright (Lincolnshire)

Sectional B: Barrington Station, Liberty (New Lenox), Westview Hills (Willowbrook), Walker (Tinley Park)

Sectional C: Addams (Bolingbrook), Coal City, Reagan (Dixon), Washington (Joliet)

Sectional D: Central (Washington), Dunlap Valley, Ingersoll (Canton), Mercer County (Aledo)

Sectional E: Bourbonnais, Central (Bradley), Hart (Homewood), Hoopeston Area

Sectional F: Dee-Mack (Mackinaw), Franklin (Champaign), Mahomet-Seymour, Mt Zion

Sectional G: Franklin (Springfield), Jacksonville, Lincoln (Springfield), Taylorville

Sectional H: Greenville, Henson (Flora), Liberty (Edwardsville), Teutopolis

Monday, 4/29: IESA Sectionals statewide

Class A Sectional Champions

Sectional A: Quest (Palatine)

Sectional B: Wallace (Ottawa)

Sectional C: Metcalf (Normal)

Sectional D: Concordia (Peoria)

Sectional E: Elmwood

Sectional F: Next Generation (Champaign)

Sectional G: St Agnes (Springfield)

Sectional H: ICS (Columbia)

Class AA Sectional Champions

Sectional A: Twin Groves (Buffalo Grove)

Sectional B: Barrington Station

Sectional C: Coal City

Sectional D: Central (Washington)

Sectional E: Central (Bradley)

Sectional F: Franklin (Champaign)

Sectional G: Franklin (Springfield)

Sectional H: Greenville

IESA State Finals

May 3, 2024

Peoria Civic Center

Class A

The IESA State Championships were held on May 3, 2024 at the Peoria Civic Center, where the sixteen Sectional champion teams in two classes met to battle it out for the title. The scores on this page may look a little strange to readers familiar with standard high school formats. This is because the IESA plays an unusual format in which teams hear up to twenty-four ten-point tossups and up to twenty twenty-point bonuses for a maximum of 600 points per match, and they use a "mercy rule" that stops the game when a team earns or exceeds 300 points and has mathematically won the game.

The eight Class A teams started the day in two pools. Pool A's teams were Elmwood, Metcalf (Normal), Saint Agnes (Springfield), and Wallace (Ottawa). Metcalf swept through the pool, triggering the mercy rule against Wallace in a 300-85 win and against Saint Agnes 300-110 before defeating Elmwood in a closer 270-215 match. Elmwood entered that third round game with a record of 2 wins - 0 losses, having defeated Saint Agnes 220-150 and Wallace 235-165. They ended the preliminary rounds with a record of 2-1. Wallace beat Saint Agnes 235-200 to finish at 1-2, with Saint Agnes in fourth in the preliminary pool at 0-3. Metcalf advanced to the championship match and Elmwood advanced to the third place match.

In Pool B, Concordia (Peoria), Immaculate Conception School "ICS" (Columbia), Next Generation (Champaign), and Quest (Palatine) faced off against each other. Next Generation won three straight mercy rule games in the prelims, defeating Concordia 310-90, ICS 305-160, and Quest 305-195. That third round loss was Quest's only defeat, coming on the tail of a 285-90 win over ICS and a 305-70 victory over Concordia. Next Generation advanced to the championship with a record of 3-0 and Quest went on to the third place match at 2-1, with ICS finishing 1-2 and Concordia ending the prelims 0-3 after their 240-60 third-round match.

Pool B's teams dominated the two final Class A matches. Quest handily defeated Elmwood 310-145 to claim third place and leave Elmwood in fourth. Next Generation finished 325-230, claiming the championship while Metcalf finished in second.

Team	Win/Loss	Points For	Points Against
Pool A			
Metcalf	3-0	870	410
Elmwood	2-1	670	585
Wallace	1-2	485	735
Saint Agnes	0-3	460	755
Pool B			
Next Generation	3-0	920	445
Quest	2-1	785	465
ICS	1-2	490	650
Concordia	0-3	220	855
First Place Match			
Next Generation		325	
Metcalf		230	
Third Place Match			
Quest		310	
Elmwood		145	

IHSA State Finals

May 3, 2024

Peoria Civic Center

Class AA

In Class AA, Central (Bradley), Coal City, Franklin (Springfield), and Greenville met in the preliminary rounds in Pool A. Franklin dominated the pool, playing to mercy rule in all three games against Bradley Central (315-60), Coal City (315-95), and Greenville (305-165) to advance to the championship match. They were followed by 2-1 Greenville, who defeated Coal City in a narrow 210-200 game and beat Bradley Central 254-125 to advance to the third place match. Coal City eked out a 205-200 win over Bradley Central to finish with a record of 1-2 to Central's 0-3.

Class AA's Pool B was more complicated. This pool was made up of Barrington Station, Central (Washington), Franklin (Champaign), and Twin Groves (Buffalo Grove). Twin Groves had a strong first round, defeating Central 310-55, followed by a slim 255-245 victory over Barrington Station. They finished up with a 310-60 victory over Franklin to advance to the championship undefeated. The remaining teams were less fortunate.

All three remaining Pool B teams took a loss to Twin Groves. Franklin defeated Barrington Station 260-100 in round one and lost a narrow game to Central 205-210 in round two. Central's schedule finished out with a 225-185 loss to Barrington Station. This left all three teams with a record of 1-2 after the prelims. Barrington Station's total points over the three preliminary rounds, which was 570 compared to Franklin's 525 and Central's 450, carried them into the third place match.

The third place match ended in a 235-180 victory for Greenville, who finished in third ahead of fourth place Barrington Station. The championship match was very close, with Twin Groves pulling out a 280-265 victory over second place Springfield Franklin to take the title.

Congratulations to all IESA State Tournament competitors! Best of luck to all returning middle school players, and to eighth graders matriculating to high school competition next season!

Team	Win/Loss	Points For	Points Against
Pool A			
Springfield Franklin	3-0	935	320
Greenville	2-1	620	630
Bradley Central	1-2	500	725
Coal City	0-3	385	765
Pool B			
Twin Groves	3-0	875	360
Barrington Station	1-2	570	700
Champaign Franklin	1-2	525	620
Washington Central	1-2	450	740
First Place Match			
Twin Groves		280	
Springfield Franklin		265	
Third Place Match			
Greenville		235	
Barrington Station		180	

NAQT Individual Player National Championship Tournament

April 7, 2024

Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, IL

More than 260 players went head-to-head without their teams in the Individual Player National Championship Tournament (IPNCT) hosted by NAQT at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Rosemont, IL on April 7, 2024. Although several top Illinois players chose not to compete this year, the state still fielded 43 of the players, making up over 16% of the field and more than doubling the number of players fielded by the second-most-represented state, Missouri (18 players).

Each player faced off against nine other competitors in each round and played up to 72 powermarked tossups in each round. In each round after the first, players who reached or exceeded 90 points in a game (60 in round one) "buzzed out." A player who buzzed out stopped playing, having cemented their ranking in that room for that round. The first player to buzz out finished in first, the second finished second, and so on. At the end of the round, the remaining players were ranked by points.

When all players had played six rounds, the top nine players in the tournament advanced to a final match (results in column right). No Illinois players made the final round, but the wonders of automatic statistics analysis mean that NAQT posts a ranking of the players in each question category. Many Illinois players show up in the tops of those rankings including:

Omkar Marathe, Fremd (Palatine), 1st place in literature;
Matt Mokrzycki, Sandburg (Orland Park),
1st place in pop culture/sports;
Vikram Narasimhan, Waubonsie Valley (Aurora),
1st place in current events and 2nd place in history;
John Augustyn, Benet (Lisle), 2nd place in geography and
10th place in current events;
Anvith Vanukuri, Fremd (Palatine), 5th place in science;
Winnie Nutkowitz, Northside (Chicago),
7th place in literature;
Tucker Gehrig, Alton, 9th place in pop culture/sports;
Soren Gjesfeld, Bloomington, 9th place in social science;
David Bertolasi, Belvidere, 10th place in social science; and
Grant Koh, Parker (Chicago), 10th place in history.

Several of these players (Omkar, Vikram, John, Winnie, Soren, and Grant) had a chance to demonstrate their category mastery again when they went on to represent Illinois as part of Team Illinois. Read more on page 10.

Apart from Illinois and Missouri, IPNCT players represented Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington state, Washington D.C., West Virginia, Wisconsin, and South Korea.

Congratulations to all Illinois competitors at IPNCT!

Illinois Players at IPNCT

10T. Vikram Narasimhan, Waubonsie Valley (Aurora)
13T. John Augustyn, Benet (Lisle)
16T. Soren Gjesfeld, Bloomington
31T. Dwij Bhatt, Fremd (Palatine)
34T. Winnie Nutkowitz, Northside (Chicago)
39T. Omkar Marathe, Fremd (Palatine)
39T. Matt Mokrzycki, Sandburg (Orland Park)
44T. Grant Koh, Parker (Chicago)
44T. Sriram Koritala, Lisle
49T. Addison Baker, Payton (Chicago)
49T. Abigail AuYeung, Hinsdale Central
54T. Tucker Gehrig, Alton
64T. David Bertolasi, Belvidere
64T. Pranav Aiyar, Fremd (Palatine)
69T. Wyatt Curry, Mascoutah
74T. James Carsello, Naperville North
78T. Vedanth Srihari, Fremd (Palatine)
102. Sai Mihir Kovour, Fremd (Palatine)
110. Marshall Gallaher, Brown County (Mount Sterling)
114. Nathan Bargmann, University (Normal)
124. Samarth Mohan, Metea Valley (Aurora)
133. Ian Diez, Northridge (Niles)
139. Anvith Vanukuri, Fremd (Palatine)
145. Anna Grigorescu, Evanston
157. Brandon Torres, Sandburg (Orland Park)
160. Xavier Gonzalez, DePaul (Chicago)
165. Tyler Thurman, Macomb
166. Aanya Sahu, Woodlands (Lake Forest)
172. Eeshan Gudapati, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
173. Pranav Singh, Metea Valley (Aurora)
179. Aaron Hossain, Galesburg JHS
189. Vasanth Visweswaran, Evanston
207. Abigail Visser, Oak Forest
217. Duke Anderson, Central (Burlington)
223. Margaret Glunz, Woodlands (Lake Forest)
225. Ryne Vervack, Bolingbrook
236T. Tyler Fairchild, Monticello
239T. Tejas Patnaik, Bolingbrook
242T. Lincoln Wheeler, Mattoon
245T. Zoe Pileggi, DePaul (Chicago)
251T. Brett Gillespie, North Mac (Virden)
257T. Brandon Ning, Truman (Chicago)
260. Soham Barot, Waubonsie Valley (Aurora)

IPNCT Championship Match

		Points	Powers	Gets	Negs	TUH
1	Ali Hamzeh	240	10	12	6	80
2	Johnny Zheng	200	5	14	3	80
3	Ryan Fang	95	4	5	3	72
4	Tanay Bodducherla	90	6	2	4	64
5	Deven Hagen	80	2	6	2	56
6	Manu Sankaran	50	1	4	1	48
7	Cole Hartung	20	1	2	3	40
8	Yaj Jhahria	5	1	0	2	32
9	Aatreya Bhattacharyya	5	0	1	1	24

IAC National History Bee and Bowl Championship

April 25-28, 2024
Arlington, VA

International Academic Competitions, the parent organization for the National History Bee and Bowl, hosted their Varsity and Junior Varsity National Championships in Arlington, Virginia. The event offered a slew of competitions. In addition to team-based "bowl" competitions in history and science and individual player-based "bee" competitions in history, science, U.S. history, geography, and a general "academic bee," IAC offered a series of multiple-choice exams in European history, ancient history, military history, recent history, women's history, maps and flags, historical geography, American geography, business and economics, psychology, chemistry, environmental science, biology, and art history.

Homewood-Flossmoor, Stevenson (Lincolnshire), and Waubonsie Valley (Aurora) competed in the varsity division. Barrington, Edwardsville, Homewood-Flossmoor, Mahomet-Seymour, Stevenson (Lincolnshire), and Whitney Young (Chicago) fielded junior varsity teams.

In the Varsity History Bowl, Waubonsie Valley took fourth overall, falling in the semifinals to Thomas Jefferson (Alexandria, VA). Stevenson's JV A team claimed the championship, marking a massive jump from their twelfth-place finish in 2023. John Augustyn, Jack Biemer, Bryce Henderson, and Jack Piros all placed first in bees and written exam events.

Top performing Illinois teams listed below are in **bold**

Varsity History Bowl (84 teams)

1. Livingston (NJ)
 2. Richard Montgomery (MD)
 3. Thomas Jefferson (VA)
 4. **Waubonsie Valley (Aurora, IL)**
- Small School Champion: Mountain Lakes (NJ)
Solo Team Champion: Friendswood (TX)

Other Illinois Varsity Bowl Teams

27. Homewood-Flossmoor
29. Stevenson (Lincolnshire)

JV History Bowl (60 teams)

1. **Stevenson (Lincolnshire, IL) A**
 2. Thomas Jefferson (VA)
 3. Caddo Magnet (LA)
 4. Eastchester (NY)
- Small School Champion: Eastchester (NY)
Solo Team Champion: Mahomet Seymour
Middle School Champion: Princeton (NJ)

Other Illinois JV Bowl Teams

- 20 (Small School #2, Solo Team #1). Mahomet Seymour
31. Homewood-Flossmoor
33. Stevenson (Lincolnshire) B
36. Barrington
- 45 (Solo Team #3). Edwardsville

Varsity History Bee (105 players)

1. Robert Wang, Livingston (NJ)
2. Shrihith Talapaneni, George (PA)
3. Evan Schleck, Hunter College (NY)

Illinois Varsity Bee Players

- 17T. Bryce Henderson, Waubonsie Valley (Aurora)
- 17T. Jack Piros, Homewood-Flossmoor
- 20T. John Augustyn, Benet (Lisle)
27. Vikram Narasimhan, Waubonsie Valley (Aurora)
- 36T. Stone Yan, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 41T. Haricharan Veginati, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 49T. Ryan Barua, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 84T. Lyndon Shi, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 90T. Everett Van Til, Homewood-Flossmoor
- 98T. Vedant Rathi, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 104T. Ishaan Aggarwal, Waubonsie Valley (Aurora)

JV History Bee (148 players)

1. Pranavkrishna Bharanidharan, Bella Vista (CA)
2. **Spencer Manning, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)**
3. Padraig Finan, Hazen (WA)

Illinois JV Bee Players

- 25T. William Bao, Mahomet-Seymour
- 31T. Alexander Engel, Waubonsie Valley (Aurora)
37. Shreecharan Shreekumar, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
40. Ethan Wang, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
51. Monit Karmakar, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 52T. Felix Sacks, Lincoln-Way East (Frankfort)
- 54T. Anirudh Srinivasan, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
63. Daniel Rahsman, Edwardsville
- 73T. Colin Starnes, Barrington
- 85T. Arinav Kuty, Whitney Young (Chicago)
- 91T. Luke DeBruin, Homewood-Flossmoor;
- 91T. Yuqi Qian, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 91T. Kosta Vatianou, Whitney Young (Chicago)
- 102T. William Hoffman, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 102T. Eliot Wheat, Homewood-Flossmoor
- 109T. Shreyan Sahoo, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 114T. Chris Wang, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 120T. Eeshan Gudapati, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 130T. Ronak Balchandani, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)
- 130T. Varad Bhawe, Stevenson (Lincolnshire)

Illinois Varsity Champions in Other Events

- National Political Science Bee: Jack Piros,
Homewood-Flossmoor
- National European History Exam: Jack Biemer,
Fenwick (Oak Park)
- National Ancient History Exam: Bryce Henderson,
Waubonsie Valley (Aurora)
- National Military History Exam: Jack Biemer,
Fenwick (Oak Park)
- National Women's History Exam: John Augustyn, Benet (Lisle)

NAQT Small School National Championship Tournament

April 26-28, 2024
Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, IL

NAQT's Small School National Championship Tournament (SSNCT) was held April 26-28 at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Rosemont, Illinois, with a field of 143 teams in two divisions.

NAQT uses three definitions of small schools when qualifying teams for SSNCT. The Traditional Public Schools Division (TPS) is open to four-year, public high schools with 500 or fewer students in grades 10-12 that do not limit enrollment or contain a selective magnet program. Schools that qualify as TPS may also be Very Small Schools (VSS), meaning that their enrollment in grades 10-12 is 200 or fewer. Open Division teams do not fit the TPS restrictions, possibly because they are private schools or host a magnet program, but have 350 or fewer students enrolled in grades 10-12.

Eighty-eight TPS teams and 55 Open Division teams were divided into pools of eleven and played ten games in a round robin in the preliminary rounds. Teams that emerged with a winning record advanced to the playoff phase on the second day of the tournament. Forty-four TPS teams and 26 Open teams advanced to their respective double elimination playoffs and were eliminated in groups.

Unusually for national tournaments, especially those hosted in Illinois, two states exceeded our registrations at SSNCT: Missouri with 17 and Ohio with 15. Illinois fielded twelve teams between the two divisions, and seven of them made the playoff phase in their divisions: Macomb, Oakwood (Fithian), Westmont, New Berlin, Winnebago, and Southwestern (Piasa) in TPS and Francis Parker (Chicago) A in Open.

Macomb was the highest-placing TPS team, taking a 390-235 loss to Morris (Oklahoma) A and a 295-180 loss to Indian Hill (Cincinnati, Ohio) to finish tied for thirteenth place. Parker made it all the way to fifth place in the Open Division, getting eliminated in round 20 in a 365-360 squeaker loss to Saint Mark's School of Texas B. The highest VSS team from Illinois was New Berlin, finishing seventh among VSS schools and tied for twenty-first in the TPS Division.



Winnebago's T-21 team at SSNCT

Traditional Public Schools Division (88 teams, including 31 VSS teams)

1. Hastings (Hastings-on-Hudson, NY)
2. West Point (Cullman, AL)
3. Hallsville (MO)
4. West Iron County (Iron River, MI) (VSS #1)

Top player: Rachel Fanous, West Iron County (Iron River, MI),
133.79 points per 20 tossups heard

Illinois Teams in the TPS Division

- 13T. Macomb
- 13T. Oakwood (Fithian)
- 13T. Westmont
- 21T. New Berlin (VSS #7)
- 21T. Winnebago
- 33T. Southwestern (Piasa)
50. Triopia (Concord) (VSS #15)

Top Illinois player: 4. Tyler Thurman, Macomb,
95.9 points per 20 tossups heard

Open Division (55 teams)

1. Saint Mark's (Dallas, TX) A
2. Alabama Cyber Tech (Huntsville, AL)
3. Saint Mark's (Dallas, TX) B
4. University (Nashville, TN)

Top player: Tate Osborn, Alabama Cyber Tech
(Huntsville, AL) A, 131.36 points per 20 tossups heard

Illinois Teams in the Open Division

- 5T. Parker (Chicago) A
29. Parker (Chicago) C
36. Keith Country Day (Rockford)
45. Parker (Chicago) B
47. Woodlands (Lake Forest)

Top Illinois player: 7. Grant Koh, Parker (Chicago) A,
68.83 points per 20 tossups heard

NAQT Middle School National Championship Tournament

May 10-12, 2024
Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, IL



Marshall (Rockford)'s T-49 team at MSNCT

The Middle School National Championship Tournament (MSNCT) was held at the Hyatt REgency O'Hare in Rosemont, Illinois from May 10-12. Of the 160 teams in attendance, 13 were from Illinois, the third most of any polity represented behind only Texas (20 teams) and California (16).

Teams advanced through the preliminary rounds via a power-matching card system, in which teams followed changing schedules that paired them every round with teams that had the same win-loss record as they did. After eight prelim games, the fifty-eight teams with a winning record advanced to a double-elimination playoff bracket.

Four Illinois teams made it through to the playoffs, including Quest (Palatine) with a record of 6-2 and Franklin (Springfield), Keith Country Day (Rockford), and Marshall (Rockford), each with a record of 5-3. Marshall and Quest were knocked out of the tournament tied for 49th while Franklin and Keith made it to the next playoff tier, finishing tied for 33rd.

Illinois players put up strong individual performances, as well. Seven Illinois players finished in the top hundred of the tournament:

- 16. Vedant Sedhurasan, seventh grader from Quest;
- 19. Aatman Shah, eighth grader from Keith;
- 30. Jimmy Fischer, eighth grader from Marshall;
- 41. Nina DeBrass, seventh grader from Saint Benedict;
- 81. Noah Schulman, seventh grader from Quest;
- 91. Daniel Ortman, eighth grader from Saint Norbert; and
- 99T. Anvi Agarwal, seventh grader from Franklin.

In recognition of their extraordinary performance, these players will be ineligible to play IHSSBCA Novice tournaments, but they and their teammates all have bright futures in high school scholastic bowl!

Overall Results

1. River Trail (Johns Creek, GA)
2. Sycamore (Indianapolis, IN)
3. Hopkins (Fremont, CA)
4. Churchill (Carmichael, CA)

Top player: Malcolm McFarland,
Roxboro (Cleveland Heights, OH),
88.77 points per 20 tossups heard

Playoff Teams from Illinois

- 33T. Keith Country Day (Rockford)
- 33T. Franklin (Springfield) A
- 49T. Marshall (Rockford)
- 49T. Quest (Palatine)

Also Attending from Illinois

- 77. Next Generation (Champaign)
- 96. Immaculate Conception Saint Joseph (Chicago) A
- 140. Franklin (Springfield) B
- 142. Saint Benedict (Chicago)
- 150. Saint Josaphat (Chicago)
- 151. Franklin (Springfield) C
- 154. Saint Norbert (Northbrook)
- 156. Immaculate Conception Saint Joseph (Chicago) B
- 158. Pope John XXIII (Evanston)

Top Illinois player: 16. Vedant Sedhurasan,
Quest (Palatine), 64.33 points per 20 tossups heard



Playoff bracket posted at MSNCT

NAQT High School National Championship Tournament

May 24-26, 2024

Atlanta Marriot Marquis and Hilton Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

The High School National Championship Tournament (HSNCT) was held May 24-26 in several connected hotels in Atlanta, Georgia, hosting qualifying 320 high school teams from 38 states, the District of Columbia, and China. Eighteen of those teams, representing fourteen schools, were from Illinois, making the state the fifth-most represented in the tournament.

In the first phase of the tournament, the teams worked their way through ten preliminary games played over 20 rounds. One hundred twenty-two teams advanced to the playoff phase with a winning record in the prelims. New Trier (Winnetka) and Fremd (Palatine) C barely missed the playoffs, coming out of the tournament with records of 5 wins-5 losses, with Northside (Chicago) and Barrington B close behind at 4-6.

The remaining Illinois teams went on to a double-elimination playoffs, with Carbondale and Hinsdale Central falling out of the tournament tied for 97th and Naperville North, Parker (Chicago), Springfield, and Stevenson (Lincolnshire) A following, tied for 65th. Fremd A and University Lab (Urbana) tied for 49th place. Evanston, Fremd B, and Stevenson B lost in the next round to finish tied for 33rd, and the Illinois Math and Science Academy (Aurora) made it all the way to T-21st, losing in round 25 with an overall record of 9-5.

Two Illinois teams were in the running for the championship. Barrington, composed of seniors Kaushik Gollamudi, Rohan Kher, and Charles Young and sophomore William Yao, had started the tournament 10-0 in the prelims and they swept through their playoff rounds, defeating East Chapel Hill (NC) 595-175, Kinkaid (TX) 530-295, Mira Loma (CA) A 615-195, Richard Montgomery (MD) A 410-280, and Saint Mark's School of Texas 390-350. Having made it to the "Super Seven" with no losses, they took a bye round before coming up against the other remaining Illinois team, Buffalo Grove, for the second time in the tournament.

Buffalo Grove's team was seniors Nishchal Aradhya, Rohan Ganeshan, and Jack Omansky and juniors Alexandra Kolodnikov, Daniel Potapo, and Anthony Safonov. They had already met Barrington in the prelims, losing in the 16th round 340-455 to take their only prelim loss. In the playoffs, they took down Winston Churchill (MD) 520-160, lost to Livingston (NJ) A in a narrow 340-360 game, and beat Maggie Walker (VA) A 555-180, Thomas Jefferson (VA) A 490-250, and Montgomery Blair (MD) A 490-140. They joined Barrington in the "Super Seven," where they knocked out Richard Montgomery (MD) A in a decisive 530-210 game to enter the "Final Four."

Livingston (NJ) A and Saint Mark's (TX) joined Barrington and Buffalo Grove at the apex of the tournament. Barrington and Buffalo Grove faced off in a rematch of their round 16 game. Barrington pulled out to a quick lead, pushing the score to 150-80 in the first six questions, but Buffalo Grove fought back, overcoming their deficit to end the first half 240-200 with eleven questions remaining. Over the second half, the lead volleyballed between the two teams until, with one question left, Buffalo Grove was up 395-355. With both powers and negs in play, Barrington would have to power the tossup and thirty the bonus to win; Buffalo Grove, meanwhile, had to avoid a neg at all costs. Barrington converted on the opportunity. Rohan Kher powered tossup 24 and his team thirtied the bonus to claim a 400-395 victory. Barrington advanced to the finals against Saint

Mark's while Buffalo Grove joined Livingston in the third-place match.

For Buffalo Grove, the third place game was a tragic repeat of their last round against Barrington, down to the final point totals. Up 235-180 at the half, they kept a near-constant lead on Livingston through the second half, only to lose on the last question when Livingston power-thirtied to go up 400-395. Buffalo Grove finished in fourth by the narrowest of margins. Team captain, Rohan Ganeshan, a strong contender for the greatest high school player Illinois has ever seen, dominated the individual rankings for the tournament, putting up 137.55 points per 20 tossups heard in the prelims, ahead of the second-place Vidyut Arvind (HSMSE CCNY, New York, NY) by 22 PP20TUH.

Barrington entered an advantaged final against Saint Mark's with the advantage, meaning that Barrington could seal their championship with one win while Saint Mark's needed to beat Barrington twice. Saint Mark's entered game one of the final remembering Barrington's playoff win over them (390-350), and they came out swinging, dominating the first half and refusing to let up, ending the match 460-315 and forcing a final match for the championship.

Barrington regrouped. Despite some early stumbles, they jumped out to lead, with Charles Young and Rohan Kher picking up seven of the first thirteen tossups to finish the half at 240-185. Saint Mark's started the second half with a neg and never recovered; by question 20, when Saint Mark's took their timeout, Barrington had stormed ahead to 405-270. They finished the round 445-325 and won the tournament for the second year in a row.

Top teams

1. Barrington A (IL)
2. St Mark's (Dallas, TX)
3. Livingston (NJ) A
4. Buffalo Grove (IL)

Top player: Rohan Ganeshan, Buffalo Grove,
137.55 points per 20 tossups heard

Playoff teams from Illinois

- 21T. IMSA (Aurora)
- 33T. Evanston
- 33T. Fremd (Palatine) B
- 33T. Stevenson (Lincolnshire) B
- 49T. Fremd (Palatine) A
- 49T. University (Urbana)
- 65T. Naperville North
- 65T. Parker (Chicago)
- 65T. Springfield
- 65T. Stevenson (Lincolnshire) A
- 97T. Carbondale
- 97T. Hinsdale Central

Also attending from Illinois

- 130. New Trier (Winnetka)
- 167. Fremd (Palatine) C
- 203. Northside (Chicago)
- 206. Barrington B

PACE National Scholastic Championship

June 8-9, 2024

Hyatt Regency Reston, VA

Seventy-two teams, including eleven from Illinois, attended PACE's National Scholastic Championship (NSC) on June 8-9 in Reston, Virginia. Coming off their repeat victory at HSNCT, Barrington was looking to defend their NSC championship as well. They were joined by Bloomington, Carbondale, Fremd (Palatine), Walter Payton (Chicago) A and B, Carl Sandburg (Orland Park), Adlai Stevenson (Lincolnshire) A and B, University Lab (Urbana), and DuPage County Academic Team.

The Saturday morning prelim rounds were a frustrating experience for most of our teams. Fremd took an unexpected one-question loss to Johns Creek B, dropping them out of championship contention. Payton A lost to North Carolina Science and Math by 10 points, keeping them out of a tie for championship contention. After two strong wins, Bloomington's morning turned sour with a loss to Northmont B, forcing them into a half-packet tiebreaker and, the bottom playoff division. Stevenson A lost their first two games by a combined 40 points, dropping them to the bottom division. Carbondale delivered one of those losses to Stevenson, but a one-question loss to Lightridge put them in the bottom division as well. University Lab enjoyed a 4-0 start to the morning, including three one-question victories, but ended the prelims with a 730-80 loss to Johns Creek A, one of the title contenders. Most surprising of all, Barrington trailed Beaver Creek 310-290 with two tossups to go; both tossups went dead, requiring Barrington to win a half-packet tiebreaker rematch just to make the top division.

The individual rankings are calculated at the end of the preliminary rounds. In total, 303 students competed at NSC this year, with four Illinois students in the top 25 of the rankings: Fremd's Omkar Marathe, Bloomington's Soren Gjesfeld, and Barrington's Rohan Kher and Charles Young. In the overall rankings, another four Illinois students finished in the top 50: Payton's Addison Baker, Stevenson's Kevin Yang, DuPage County's Abigail AuYeung, and University Lab's Shawn Syed.

The PACE NSC experience is one of dynamic goal-setting, particularly on Saturday afternoon. If your goal is making the top 24 out of 72, then your tournament is essentially a success or failure before lunch on day 1. A team **must** be prepared to start the tournament with a variety of goals, some easy and some challenging, and adjust as the tournament progresses. If you exceeded your goal in the morning, you're likely to run into a stiff challenge in the afternoon; if your morning was below expectations, you have an opportunity to recover and dominate after lunch. After a relatively disappointing morning, Illinois' contingent did just that. Seven of our teams finished in the top positions of their Saturday afternoon pools, including undefeated afternoons by Carbondale, Bloomington, and Fremd. Walter Payton A went 4-1 to join Fremd in the top of the middle division, while Stevenson A went 4-1 to join Carbondale and Bloomington in the top of the bottom division. In the top division, University Lab and Barrington each went 4-1 and qualified for the top superplayoffs bracket on Sunday, in very different fashions - Uni took three clutch, one-question wins in the afternoon to punch their superplayoff ticket cleanly, while Barrington had four dominant victories but suffered a 150 point loss to Thomas Jefferson A, requiring Barrington to sweat out another half-packet tiebreaker.

In contrast with Saturday morning's struggles, Sunday morning at NSC 2024 was a celebration of Illinois' strength. In the

bottom division, Walter Payton B finished the tournament with five superplayoff wins to take second in their superplayoff division and 58th overall. Bloomington, Carbondale, and Stevenson A avenged their Saturday mornings by going a combined 28-5 in the playoffs and superplayoffs, finishing first, second, and fourth in the division respectively for 49th, 50th, and 52nd overall. In the middle division, DuPage County went 5-2 in the superplayoffs to finish second in their final playoff pool and 42nd overall, Payton A reached 28th overall, and Fremd finished undefeated in the playoffs to win the middle division and finish 25th overall. In the top-8 bracket, University Lab played valiantly on Sunday and had two last-question losses, ultimately finishing in an outstanding 8th place.

In the end, Barrington's Saturday struggles were firmly in the past, and it was everyone else's turn to struggle. They swept their Sunday bracket and, thanks to upsets elsewhere, cleared the field by two wins over second place Richard Montgomery A, giving Barrington their second consecutive PACE NSC title, this time without the need for a championship game. In what seemed an impossibly optimistic outcome on Saturday, the Broncos enjoyed their Sunday lunch completely stress-free. Seniors Rohan Kher and Charles Young leave Barrington with three HSNCT titles, two NSC national titles, and a claim to the honor of most successful team in Illinois history.

Top teams**1. Barrington (IL)**

2. Richard Montgomery (Rockville, MD) A
3. St Mark's (Dallas, TX)
4. Hastings (Hastings-on-Hudson, NY)
5. Johns Creek (GA) A
6. Hunter (New York, NY) A
7. Livingston (NJ) A
8. University (Urbana, IL)

Top player: Camden Williams, Mexico (MO),
130 points per game

Small School Teams

1. Hastings (Hastings-on-Hudson, NY)
2. Mexico (MO)
3. West Point (Cullman, AL)
4. St Thomas (Houston, TX)

JV Teams

1. Thomas Jefferson (Alexandria, VA) D
2. Winston Churchill (Potomac, MD) B
3. Detroit Catholic Central (Novi, MI) C
4. Choat Rosemary Hall (Wallingford, CT)

Also attending from Illinois

25. Fremd (Palatine)
28. Payton (Chicago) A
49. Bloomington
50. Carbondale
52. Stevenson (Lincolnshire) A
58. Payton (Chicago) B
70. Sandburg (Orland Park)
72. Stevenson (Lincolnshire) B

Top Illinois player: 10. Rohan Kher, Barrington,
88 points per game

IQBT National All-Star Academic Tournament

June 15-16, 2024

Online



Team Illinois meeting to play at Maine South HS
Back row: Grant Koh, Winnie Nutkowitz, Lynda Ma, Sam Kemeny,
Akshath Sivachidhambaram, and Soren Gjesfeld
Front row: John Augustyn, Matias Roa, Vikram Narasimhan,
Omkar Marathe, Addison Baker, Brielle Rach, and Kayla Drappuch

Tournament Results

1. Missouri A
2. Maryland
- 3. Illinois Cyan**
4. Missouri B
5. Kentucky
- 6. Illinois Cobalt**
7. Oklahoma Crimson
8. Virginia A
- 9. Illinois Cerulean**
10. Asia
11. Indiana
12. Oklahoma Orange
13. Virginia B
14. Liberia
15. Minnesota

Top player: Yrwin Batan, Missouri B,
70.36 points per game

Fifteen teams representing eight U.S. states, the continent of Asia, and the nation of Liberia met to play the online IQBT National All-Star Academic Tournament over the weekend of June 15-16. The fifteen rounds of round-robin play were spread over weekend, with playoff rounds to separate the top five teams played out at the end of Sunday.

Historically, although Team Illinois coaches have avoided giving "A" and "B" designations to their teams, "Illinois Blue" has been presumed to be the equivalent of an "A" team, the best team that the state can field that year. This year, with three well-balanced teams, the players selected three shades of blue that all began with "C" to signify their comparative strength.

Illinois Cerulean was made up of junior John Augustyn of Benet (Lisle) and seniors Kayla Drappuch of Evanston, Soren Gjesfeld of Bloomington, and Brielle Rach of Auburn (Rockford). John and Soren had each been on Team Illinois in the past, and they bolstered their history expertise with science and literature from Brielle and Kayla. Cerulean had a strong start, putting up wins against Indiana, Virginia A, Asia, and Illinois Cobalt before taking a loss to Missouri B. They went on to defeat Oklahoma Orange, Minnesota, Virginia B, and Liberia and lose to Kentucky, Illinois Cyan, Oklahoma Crimson, Maryland, and Missouri to finish with a record of 8 wins-6 losses at 9th place.

Illinois Cobalt had a similar history bias, covering the category with junior Sam Kemeny of Evanston and senior Grant Koh of Francis Parker (Chicago). Senior Matias Roa of Walter Payton (Chicago) joined with fine arts mastery, and a returning Team Illinois player, sophomore Winnie Nutkowitz of Northside (Chicago), brought strong literature skill to the team. Cobalt had a hard start to the tournament, taking early losses to Illinois Cyan and Cerulean, Virginia A, and Missouri A alongside wins against Asia and Liberia. Their schedule eased up afterwards, however, with one further loss to Kentucky the only black spot among a flurry of wins. Maryland, Virginia B, Minnesota, Indiana, Oklahoma Crimson, Missouri B, and Oklahoma Orange all fell before Cobalt, who finished the tournament at 9-5 in 6th place and pushed Illinois Cyan into a strong playoff position.

Illinois Cyan's history players were senior Addison Baker of Walter Payton (Chicago) and junior Vikram Narasimhan of Waubonsie Valley (Aurora). They were joined by Vikram's teammate, science specialist junior Akshath Sivachidhambaram and fine arts specialist sophomore Lynda Ma of Barrington. Returning Team Illinois player, literature dynamo junior Omkar Marathe of Fremd (Palatine) rounded out the team. Cyan entered the tournament with a win over Illinois Cobalt and a loss to Kentucky before recovering to run through the field with ruthless efficiency, taking their only other two losses to Missouri B and Oklahoma Crimson to end the round robin 11-3. Thanks to Illinois Cobalt's victories over Maryland and Missouri B, that 11-3 record placed Illinois behind only Missouri A (12-2) and tied in record with Maryland, Missouri B, and Kentucky.

The four 11-3 teams were seeded by points into an elimination playoff structure to give one of them the chance to challenge Missouri A for the championship. In the first round, Maryland defeated Kentucky 285-185 while Illinois Cyan faced off against Missouri B. In their round 7 game against Missouri B, Illinois Cyan had lost 110-360, but that was before Illinois Cobalt took Missouri down 215-185 in round 14. Clearly shaken by the loss, Missouri folded against Illinois Cyan, who advanced to the next round with a score of 325-150. Unfortunately, Maryland was not so shaken, and Cyan fell 80-380 in the second elimination round to end the tournament in 3rd. Maryland went on to beat Missouri A in the first game of an advantaged final, but ultimately took 2nd to Missouri A's 1st.

This was the tenth consecutive top-three finish for the top placing Team Illinois team. Three Illinois players made the top ten at the tournament: Omkar at sixth with 44.44 points per game, Sam at eighth with 42.50 PPG, and Soren Gjesfeld at ninth with 39.29 PPG. The competition was fierce and the questions were challenging, but all players persevered and represented Illinois with sportsmanship, dignity, and strong competitive spirit. Congratulations to Team Illinois and to coaches Brad Fischer, Mark Taylor, and Kristin Strey.

IHSSBCA.ORG

2024-25 Middle School Tournament Calendar as of June 4, 2024

Send complete tournament results to Kristin Strey <strey.k.a@gmail.com>

Events in **bold** are new or changed since May; events in *italics* are tentative

All dates are Saturdays unless otherwise noted

See our website <ihssbca.org> for further information about listed tournaments

Visit <order.reinsteinquizbowl.com/packetAssignments> to find information on IESA-format matches

(IESA Week) Date	Northeast IESA Div A,C,D	Northwest IESA Div B, E, F	Southeast IESA Div G, K, L, N	Southwest IESA Div H, I, J, M, O
(12) 9/28	<u>SchoBowlFest</u> Online. Annual coaches' conference open to the public. Visit < ihssbca.org/schobowlfest >			
(18) 11/9	<u>Loyola MS</u> Loyola (Wilmette)			
(27) 1/11		<u>Knights' Challenge MS</u> Auburn (Rockford)		
(30) 1/27 Monday	<u>IESA Season Begins</u> Teams may begin playing matches using IESA rules.			
(34) 2/26 Wednesday	<u>IESA Season Schedule Due Online</u> Go to < iesa.org/login > to submit your season schedule of matches using IESA rules			
(42) 4/21 Monday	<u>IESA Record Reporting Deadline</u> Go to < iesa.org/login > to submit your season's win-loss record and your team's roster for the IESA State Tournament series.			
(43) 4/30 Wednesday	<u>IESA Regionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IESA Regionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IESA Regionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IESA Regionals</u> Multiple Sites
(44) 5/5 Monday	<u>IESA Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IESA Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IESA Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IESA Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites
(44) 5/9 Friday	<u>IESA State</u> Peoria Civic Center			

Middle School National Tournaments

April 6
May 9-11
May 22-26

Rosemont, IL
Rosemont, IL

NAQT Individual Player National Championship
NAQT Middle School National Championship
IAC Middle and Elementary School Nationals

naqt.com/ipnct
www.naqt.com/msnct
iacompetitions.com

Groger Ranks 2024 End-of-Season Rankings

To close out the 2023-2024 season, Groger Ranks has statistically ranked the top 500 teams in quiz bowl. As is tradition, Illinois has the most teams on the list from any state or non-U.S. country, with Barrington A, Buffalo Grove A, and Fremd (Palatine) A finishing the season in places 1, 3, and 12. All in all, Illinois makes up 10.6% of the teams with 53 on the list. California (41 teams), Texas (40), Georgia (31), and Virginia (26) are the second- through fifth-most-represented states. International teams hail from Ontario (2) and Alberta (1) as well as from Singapore (3), South Korea (3), and Hong Kong (1).

Groger Ranks will return next season, using points per bonus records from varsity tournaments during the regular season. You can help the analysts by keeping full statistics with YellowFruit and by posting your full tournament results at hsquizbowl.org/db.

Ranked Illinois Teams

1. Barrington A
3. Buffalo Grove
12. Fremd (Palatine) A
31. University (Urbana)
37. Stevenson (Lincolnshire) A
52. Waubonsie Valley (Aurora)
56. IMSA (Aurora)
59. Bloomington
65. Payton (Chicago) A
77. Parker (Chicago)
84. Evanston
92. Wheaton Academy
94. Stevenson (Lincolnshire) B
95. Fremd (Palatine) B
120. Lisle
121. Springfield
124. Hinsdale Central
130. Auburn (Rockford)
135. Carbondale
137. Sandburg (Orland Park)
140. Fenwick (Oak Park)
154. Timothy Christian (Elmhurst)
161. Payton (Chicago) B
175. Belvidere
194. Naperville North A
206. Glenbard North (Carol Stream)
225. Northside (Chicago)
227. Metro-East Lutheran (Edwardsville)
229. New Trier (Winnetka)

239. Benet (Lisle)
245. Barrington B
256. Centennial (Champaign)
261. Johnston City
265. Homewood-Flossmoor
269. Fremd (Palatine) C
280. Northridge (Niles)
294. Latin (Chicago)
308. DePaul (Chicago)
318. Maine East (Park Ridge)
319. Macomb
328. Loyola (Wilmette)
349. Mascoutah
353. Lincoln-Way East (Frankfort)
369. Carmel Catholic (Mundelein)
379. Metea Valley (Aurora)
396. O'Fallon
427. Glenwood (Chatham)
447. Galesburg
459. Plainfield North
467. Alton
470. Wheaton Warrenville South
477. Naperville North B
479. St Teresa (Decatur)

The full 2024 end-of-season list is posted at grogerranks.com/2024/06/23/2024-end-of-season-rankings.

The ranking's methodology is linked from grogerranks.com/about.

Illinois Middle School Teams Are Nationally Ranked

Seven Illinois teams are ranked on this year's end-of-season MSQBRank. MSQBRank is a middle school ranking that applies the methodology of Groger Ranks to identify the top middle school teams in the world.

After MSNCT, the top five ranked teams were:

1. Burleigh Manor (Ellicott City, MD) A
2. Middlesex (Darien, CT) A
3. Challenger-Strawberry Park (San Jose, CA) A
4. River Trail (Johns Creek, GA) A
5. Sycamore (Indianapolis, IN) A

Ranked Illinois teams were:

19. Franklin (Springfield)
21. Quest (Palatine)
62. Keith Country Day (Rockford)
91. Marshall (Rockford)
122. Next Generation (Champaign)
130. Immaculate Conception Saint Joseph (Chicago)
150. Saint Raymond (Mount Prospect)

Illinois is ranked sixth among states on this list by number of teams, following Texas, California, Georgia, New Jersey, and Virginia. This stands in stark contrast to Groger Ranks, where Illinois teams regularly make up well over 10% of ranked teams, and is likely due in part to the fact that most middle school scholastic bowl played in Illinois is not recorded publicly.

If you would like your team to find a place on next year's MSQBRank, consider using questions from NAQT or another highly reputable vendor; playing tournaments in national format (using three-part, thirty-point bonuses); and posting full statistics online after your tournaments. Tournament hosts who aren't used to posting statistics can contact the IHSSBCA for a walkthrough, and there are several tournament statisticians in Illinois who are willing to put together and post statistics files from tournament scoresheets.

Read the full ranking at bit.ly/msqb24.

Minutes of the IHSSBCA Annual Meeting, February 2024

Submitted by Linda J. Greene, IHSSBCA Secretary

The combined quarterly meeting of the Steering Committee and Annual Meeting was held online on Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024, from 10 AM to 1:50 PM. There were 23 participants: Brad Fischer, Kristin Strey, Linda Greene, Neva Abel, Michael Sacks, Mike Laudermith, Sharon Lorinskas, David Reinstein, Matt Hasquin, Kris Adams, Colleen Sullivan, Susan Corbus, Sandra Bronson, Tom DeMay, Joshua Bartels, Laura Stites, Marshall Mullins, Mark Taylor, Hunter Fast, Chas Sloan, Jaime Pamatot, Erin Limestall, Jace Kost.

Reports:

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

The ombudsman had nothing to report.

Hunter reported that the web site domain registration was renewed. He is researching options re streamlining the banquet registration process, and will check with Sharon and Jaime to be sure that the requirements have not changed.

Sharon reported that the awards banquet is set for Apr. 20 at ISU's Bone Center. Jaime will help with check in and dinner forms. If anyone has suggestions re the banquet, they can email Sharon.

Mike Laudermith reported that due to bad weather most of the Turnabouts were canceled, and some were rescheduled. All went well at those that were conducted.

Kristin said that All-Sectional Team nominations are complete. Some coaches were late again in submitting their nominations.

Brad is identifying panelists to vote for the All-State Team, and needs a representative from the Champaign area sectional – send any recommendations to him.

Other Business:

Officer Election: Brad Fischer and Linda Greene were elected to continue as committee chairperson and secretary respectively.

Coach of the Year: The committee (Sharon, Linda, and Michael Sacks) will be meeting soon to discuss the nominees and make the selections.

Hall of Fame: This year's inductees were announced. They are Sharon Lorinskas from Carbondale, Yousef Matariyeh from Lisle, and David Reinstein from New Trier.

Rob Grierson Friend of Scholastic Bowl Award: Nominations were made and discussed, followed by voting. This year's awardee is Mike Laudermith of Fenton H.S.

Masonic Bowl: There was some discussion re Masonic Bowl, noting that there is variable attendance of Masons at the different sites, that dissemination of information ahead of time varied from one site to another, and that it was nice to see a revised, shorter version of the rules this year. David R. will ask the Masons to put the information on their site ahead of time.

Team Illinois: Linda is stepping down as the team's head coach this year, but will help with tryouts and help in other ways as needed. Brad thanked and congratulated Linda on the years of outstanding success the team has had, and announced that he is

the new head coach and will reach out to others to coach – let him know if you are interested. At this point, NASAT is set for June 15-16 in-person, rather than online. It is not known yet what the entry fee and other costs will be. The group voted that if the situation changes and it is held online, the association will pay for registration and travel stipends for gas for players who drive to a site so they can play together. Tryouts will be held online in April, and more than one team will be selected.

NAQT State: Brad reported that one more team is needed to make it 32, and he is looking for a few more staffers. Matt Hasquin will order the awards and medals from the same source as last year and bring them to the event. Brad asked for help with staff coordination – Mike L. offered to run the staff meeting, Jaime P. will handle lunch for staff, Kristin will handle buzzer systems, and Mike L. will meet via zoom with new moderators to check their reading skills.

IHSA Questions for 2024-25: Due to son Jimmy's playing quiz bowl in high school next year, Brad is stepping down as chair/editor of the question writing for IHSA for a few years. He is recommending Adam Silverman, who has worked with him on IHSA questions for several years, as well as working on many other sets of questions over the years. The group voted to thank Brad for his service doing this, and to send a letter of support for Adam to IHSA.

IHSA Seeding: Some concerns were shared regarding this – many coaches still don't vote (although it is easy to do so online), some who vote do not take into account all of the factors they are supposed to, the top four seeds don't always get asked to host a regional (some have to drive a long time – two hours on a school night). An idea – try to organize ad hoc/optional section zoom meetings to exchange information. Kristin will add IHSA instructions to our web sites. The group voted to ask IHSA to remove winning percentage from the voting page and to add the weighted winning percentage (Brad will ask Craig Garber when that was dropped).

Novice Eligibility: Kristin suggested a change to this, which was approved. She will post it on the web site. The contract between SCOP and IHSSBCA will be changed to allow an open division (for weak juniors and seniors), which can be at the same site as the regular novice, or at a different site if it is near a novice site and would not take needed staff away from the novice site. The host can decide what teams to allow/accept for the open division.

The next meeting will be online Sunday, May 19, at 10 AM.



IHSSBCA.ORG

2024-25 High School Tournament Calendar as of June 5, 2024

Send tournament listings and results to Kristin Strey <strey.k.a@gmail.com>

Events in **bold** are new or changed since May; events in *italics* are tentative

All dates are Saturdays unless otherwise noted

See our website <ihssbca.org> for further information about listed tournaments

Date	Northeast (IHSA Dist 1-3)	Northwest (IHSA Dist 4)	Southeast (IHSA Dist 5, 7)	Southwest (IHSA Dist 6, 7)
9/28	<u>SchoBowlFest</u> Online. Annual coaches' conference open to the public. Visit < ihssbca.org/schobowlfest >			
10/5 SAT Date	<u>HVAC</u> Hinsdale Central			
10/26 ACT Date				
11/2 SAT Date	<u>IHSSBCA Novice</u> Lincoln-Way East (Frankfort)	<u>IHSSBCA Novice</u> Limestone (Peoria)	<u>IHSSBCA Novice</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSSBCA Novice</u> Multiple Sites
11/9	<u>Scobol Solo</u> Sandburg (Orland Park)			
11/16	<u>History Bowl Regional</u> Homewood-Flossmoor	<u>Butterfield Memorial JV</u> Moline		
11/23	<u>IHSSBCA Riley Kickoff</u> Homewood-Flossmoor	<u>IHSSBCA Riley Kickoff</u> Auburn (Rockford)	<u>IHSSBCA Riley Kickoff</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSSBCA Riley Kickoff</u> Multiple Sites
	Kickoff Tournaments have honored the memory of David L. Riley (Loyola) since 2016.			
			<u>Hendricks Memorial</u> Blue Ridge (Farmer City)	
12/7 ACT/SAT Date	<u>History Bowl Winter</u> Sandburg (Orland Park)			
12/14	<u>Reinstein Varsity</u> Barrington	<u>RB Rocket JV</u> Richmond-Burton		
1/11	<u>IHSSBCA Turnabout</u> Homewood-Flossmoor	<u>IHSSBCA Turnabout</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSSBCA Turnabout</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSSBCA Turnabout</u> Multiple Sites
		<u>Knights' Challenge F/S</u> Auburn (Rockford)		
1/18	<u>Loyola Ultima</u> Loyola (Wilmette)			
2/1		<u>Winnebago Invitational</u> Winnebago		
2/7 Friday	<u>IHSA Record Reports Due Online</u> Go to < center.ihsa.org > to submit your season's win-loss record for the IHSA Sectional Seeding Meetings			
2/12 Wednesday	<u>IHSA Sectional Seeding Meetings Online</u> Go to < center.ihsa.org > to vote on the top teams in your IHSA Sectional			
2/15	<u>History Bowl Champs</u> Stevenson (Lincolnshire)			
2/22	<u>Masonic Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>Masonic Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>Masonic Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>Masonic Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites
3/1	<u>NAQT State Finals</u> Centennial (Champaign)			

IHSSBCA.ORG

Date	Northeast (IHSA Dist 1-3)	Northwest (IHSA Dist 4)	Southeast (IHSA Dist 5, 7)	Southwest (IHSA Dist 6, 7)
3/8 SAT Date	<u>Masonic State Finals</u> Bloomington			
3/10 Monday	<u>IHSA Regionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSA Regionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSA Regionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSA Regionals</u> Multiple Sites
3/15	<u>IHSA Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSA Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSA Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites	<u>IHSA Sectionals</u> Multiple Sites
3/22	<u>IHSA State Finals</u> Heartland College (Normal)			
4/11 ACT Date				
5/3 SAT Date				

National Tournaments

April 6	Rosemont, IL	NAQT Individual Player National Championship	naqt.com/ipnct
April 24-27	Arlington, VA	IAC National Championships (History Bee and Bowl)	iacompetitions.com
April 25-27	Rosemont, IL	NAQT Small School National Championship	naqt.com/ssnct
May 23-25	Atlanta, GA	NAQT High School National Championship	naqt.com/hsnct
June 7-8	Reston, VA	PACE National Scholastics Championship	pace-nsc.org
June 14-15	Online	IQBT National All-Star Academic Tournament	

Who's In Charge?

Contact information for scholastic bowl organizations

IHSSBCA - Illinois High School Coaches Association			
Brad Fischer	IHSSBCA Chair	<brad.a.fischer@gmail.com>	<ihssbca.org>
Masonic Academic Bowl			
Herman Albers	Masonic Tournament Director	<albers@htc.net>	<masonicbowl.org>
IHSA - Illinois High School Association			
Kraig Garber	IHSA Scholastic Bowl Administrator	<kgarber@ihsa.org>	<ihsa.org>
IESA - Illinois Elementary School Association			
Craig Frasco	IESA Scholastic Bowl Administrator	<craig@iesa.org>	<iesa.org>
PACE - Partnership for Academic Competition Excellence			
Mia McGill	PACE President	<president@pace-nsc.org>	<pace-nsc.org>
NAQT - National Academic Quiz Tournaments			
Seth Teitler	NAQT President	<naqt@naqt.com>	<naqt.com>
NHBB - National History Bee and Bowl			
David Madden	NHBB Director	<director@historybowl.com>	<historybowl.com>
Qwiz Cams			
Eric Huff	Qwiz Director	<hello@qwizbowl.com>	<qwizbowl.com>

HAS THIS NEWSLETTER BEEN MISDELIVERED?
PLEASE PASS IT ALONG TO YOUR SCHOOL'S SCHOLASTIC BOWL COACH OR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR.

IHSSBCA.ORG

Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association

Visit our Facebook page
facebook.com/ihssbca

Follow us on Twitter
[@IHSSBCA](https://twitter.com/IHSSBCA)

**The Next Issue Will Be Posted
For IHSSBCA Members
Summer 2024**

IHSSBCA Steering Committee

Elected Members

Chair: Brad Fischer, Keith Country Day (Rockford), ret.
Secretary: Linda Greene, Auburn (Rockford)
Treasurer: Nevagay Abel, Auburn (Rockford)
Ombudsperson: Erin Limestall, Olympia (Stanford)

Appointed Members

All-Sectional: Kristin Strey, Winnebago
All-State: Brad Fischer, Keith Country Day (Rockford), ret.
Banquet: Sharon Lorinkas, Carbondale
Hall of Fame: David Reinstein, New Trier (Winnetka), ret.
Kickoff Tournaments: Erin Limestall, Olympia (Stanford)
Members Poll: Mark Taylor, Payton (Chicago)
Moderator Certification: Andrew Cheun, Centennial (Champaign)
NAQT State: Brad Fischer, Keith Country Day (Rockford), ret.
Newsletter: Kristin Strey, Winnebago
Novice Tournaments: Kristin Strey, Winnebago
Publicity: David Reinstein, New Trier (Winnetka), ret.
Team Illinois: Brad Fischer, Keith Country Day (Rockford), ret.
Tournament Calendar: Kristin Strey, Winnebago
Turnabout Tournaments: Mike Laudermitth, Fenton (Bensenville)
Webmaster: Hunter Fast
At-Large Members: David Edwards, Mount Vernon;
Jonathan Legendre, Latin (Chicago);
Erin Limestall, New Berlin;
Jaime Pamatot, Granite City;
Michael Sacks, Homewood-Flossmoor;
Jorge Sanchez, Elgin Academy;
Chad Sloan, Warrensburg-Latham;
Laura Stites, Belvidere North;
Scott Timmermann, Mater Dei (Breese)

Our Purpose

The purpose of the IHSSBCA is to increase awareness and support of the public, school leaders, and parents for high school Scholastic Bowl competition in Illinois; to provide opportunities for Scholastic Bowl coaches to meet and cooperate in the development and communication of coaching techniques, tournament formats, and other ways of improving the quality of competition with integrity and the highest possible standards; and to promote recognition of participants, coaches, and programs.

Our Mission Statement

The IHSSBCA exists to improve the quality of Scholastic Bowl competition and foster greater opportunities for collaboration, participation, and recognition.