

FLOMA State Qualifying Packet

IMPORTANT 2026 UPDATES:

No Hallway Seating

We've received notice from the OCCC and the Fire Marshal that sitting or gathering in hallways **will not be allowed**, unless you are waiting to perform, waiting to watch, or getting food. This is to ensure all walkways remain clear in case of an emergency. While some alcoves may appear acceptable for practicing or gathering, these areas are also considered unsafe and cannot be used. We understand competition days are long, so the Exhibit Hall WB1 on Level II will be available throughout the day for teams, parents, and coaches to relax, practice, and spend downtime together.

Please note:

- Outside food is not permitted.
- The Orange County Convention Center is a cashless venue. Please bring credit or debit cards for purchasing lunch, snacks, and beverages.

Plan Parking Ahead

Please plan your parking in advance. Last year, many teams, parents, and coaches experienced parking challenges that impacted their competition day. Parking is first come, first served, and many arrive early to secure closer spots. Once the West Concourse parking is full, parking is available in the North or South Concourse lots. Please allow extra time, as parking in alternate lots may require additional walking inside the Convention Center. If you are within walking distance, such as a nearby hotel, and you are able, walking may be recommended.

Shared Space Courtesy

Like last year, we will be sharing the West Concourse with other events. Please remember this may also be an important competition day for other teams and organizations. We ask all FLOMA teams, parents, and coaches to be respectful and considerate when sharing common areas, including bathrooms, food locations, hallways, and parking.

Prop Storage

There will be no supervision after Friday evening prop drop-off. FLOMA is not responsible for damaged or lost props at any time. All props must be removed from WB1 no later than 4pm Saturday, no exceptions. Props not removed at 4pm Saturday risk being disposed of.



February, 2026

Dear State Qualifying Odyssey of the Mind Team,

Congratulations! Your team has qualified to compete at the Florida State Odyssey of the Mind Tournament on April 4, 2026, in Orlando at the Orange County Convention Center. This is a big accomplishment, and the Florida Odyssey of the Mind State Board is proud of the creativity, teamwork, and dedication that brought you here. We're excited to see you at State!

As you prepare, take time to review your regional scores, keep practicing, and—most importantly—remember to keep the FUN in Odyssey of the Mind.

Reaching the state tournament is an achievement worth celebrating. No matter what happens next, you should be proud of what you've accomplished. If your team qualifies for the World Finals, a brief "Going to World" meeting will be held after the awards ceremony. At least one representative per membership is required to attend. Teams that are close to qualifying should hold on to props, costumes, and sets for 2 weeks after the State Tournament in case additional spots become available.

The FLOMA Coach's Talent Competition is back this year and will take place before the awards ceremony, with a \$300 prize for first place. Coaches can sign up by emailing talent@floma.org. FLOMA is holding its 3rd Annual Silent Auction, details coming soon.

Award ceremony seating is pre-assigned for up to 10 per team, i.e. up to 7 team members and 3 coaches/adults. Wrist bands for the seating will be provided to the coach at registration for each of the teams that intend to stay for the awards ceremony.

Thank you to all the coaches, parents, and supporters who helped make this journey possible. We can't wait to see you at the Orange County Convention Center, West Concourse, on April 4th for a fun and creative day of problem-solving. Best of luck!

Regards,

Anna Long

Florida Odyssey of the Mind

Anna Long, State Association Director

Email: associationdirector@floma.org

Address: FLOMA Association Director

7825 Lithia Pinecrest Road

P.O. Box 232

Lithia FL 33547-9998



February 2026

Dear Parent,

Congratulations on your child's team advancing to the 2026 Florida Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament! I know that a lot of hard work went into this, and I commend you for supporting your child's efforts.

The coach of your child's team has received a packet of information that should be shared with you. There is a lot of important information, but a few highlights you need to be aware of are:

1. The Team Conduct Contract – This must be signed by every team member and a parent/ guardian before the coach can receive the registration packet on the day of the tournament. Please be sure to review the rules with your child before they sign the form.
2. There will be no celebration items allowed in the West Concourse Valencia Ballroom (Level IV) during the Awards Ceremony. This includes SillyString®, toilet paper, balloons, bubble machines, and beach balls. If any of these items are brought in, they will be confiscated, and a penalty may be assessed against the team.
3. OMER's Souvenir Sales will be open in the West Concourse (Level II), in the Exhibit Hall WB1, Friday evening and on the day of the tournament until 5pm. We encourage you to stop by and take a peek!
4. We'll be having Phil Fest (interactive activities and Pin Trading) located in the WB1 Exhibit Hall as well.

If you have any questions or concerns before the tournament, please feel free to e-mail me at associationdirector@floma.org. If you have any concerns on the day of the tournament you can direct them to any State Board member on campus.

We hope this will be an enjoyable experience for you, your child and your family, and again, congratulations!

Regards,

Anna Long

Florida Odyssey of the Mind

Anna Long, State Association Director

Email: associationdirector@floma.org

Address: FLOMA Association Director

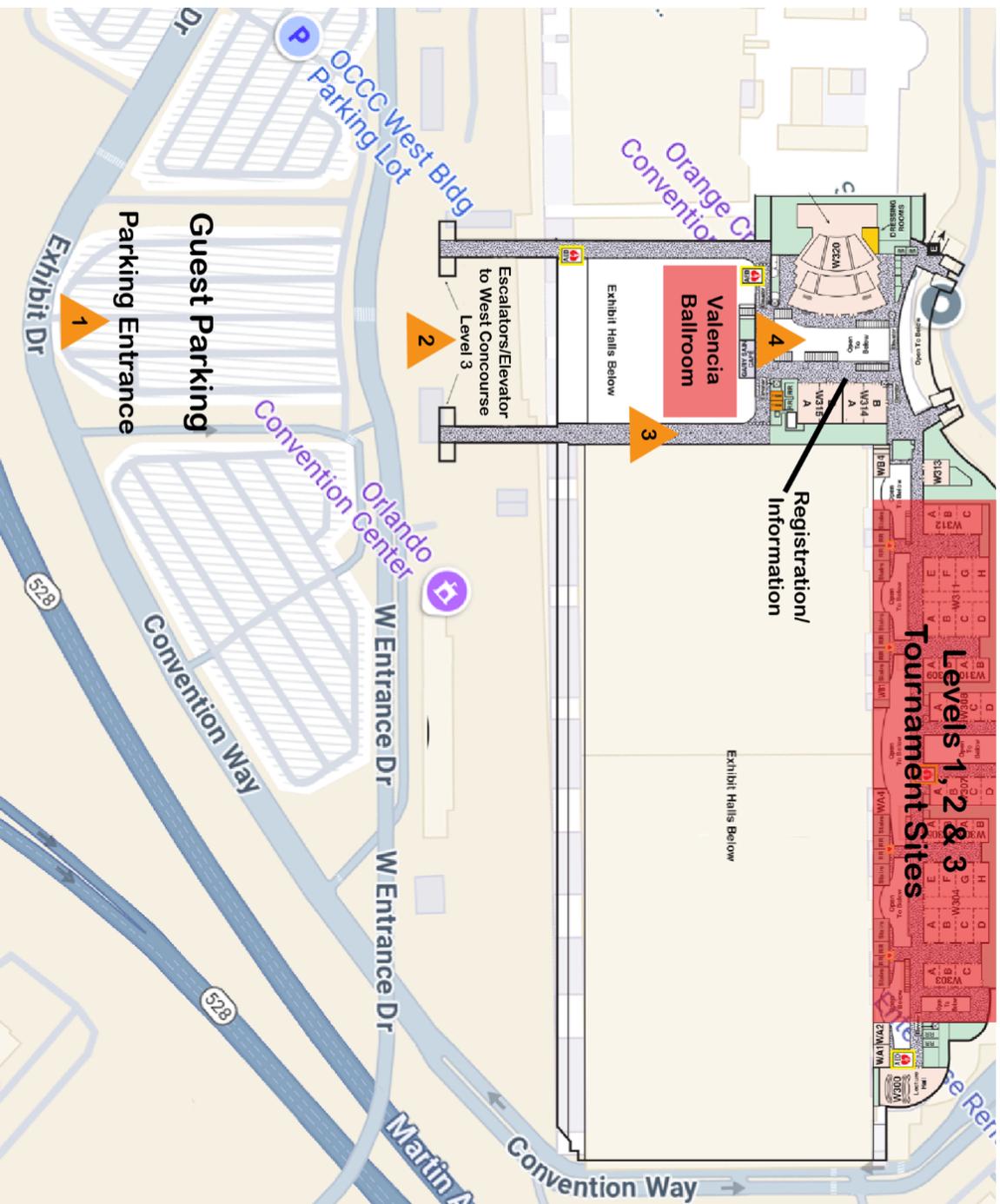
7825 Lithia Pincrest Road

P.O. Box 232

Lithia FL 33547-9998

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

1. **Orange County Convention Center (West Concourse):**
 - a. Please review and make sure you understand the Florida Odyssey of the Mind Team Conduct Contract.
 - b. OSCC Floor Plans: <https://www.oscc.net/Planner-Interactive-Floor-Plans>
2. **Parking** is in the rear and departures from the Concourse must be made in a timely manner.
 - a. All vehicles must park in the rear of the West Concourse building and not at prop drop-off. Overflow parking will be in the North/South OSCC parking lots. There are no shuttles from the North/South lots, so allow for adequate walking time.
 - b. Parking for tournament attendees has been arranged at the discounted rate of \$10 plus tax per vehicle.
 - c. Any vehicle that is left in front of the Concourse will be towed.
 - d. Here is the link to the OSCC West Concourse parking information:
[OSCC.net/attendee-parking](https://www.oscc.net/attendee-parking).
3. **Auction:** We will be sending out additional information on our silent auction items (example: VIP parking, staycations, attraction tickets) and how to access the online portal to bid.
4. **Prop Drop Off, Storage and Pick Up:** See attached information regarding the new location. All teams will have to remove all items from this room by 4pm Saturday. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
5. OSCC is cashless, so credit cards and debit cards are only for all refreshment and food purchases. Outside food is NOT permitted at OSCC. Please know that FLOMA and our Alumni Association will still accept cash for merchandise and donations. There is no ATM on site.
6. World Finals (WF) Meeting: Immediately following the State Tournament awards ceremony, there will be a meeting with Anna Long and some of our State Board to discuss advancement to World Finals. A coach from each membership is required to attend.
 - a. Returning WF coach - Room W414 C
 - b. New WF Coach - Room W414 D
7. Check our FLOMA website homepage and Facebook page for updates as it relates to the State Tournament & convention center.
8. For information on hotels in close proximity of the Orlando County Convention Center (West Concourse), please visit: [https:// www.visitorlando.com/places-to-stay/](https://www.visitorlando.com/places-to-stay/)



Directions from the Parking Lot to the West Concourse

1. Park in the lot designated for the West Concourse.
2. Enter the building and take the escalators/elevator up to Level 3 of the concourse.
3. Walk along the hallway that overlooks the Exhibit Halls below.
4. Once inside the main concourse area, Registration and Information will be located near rooms W314 and W315.
 - Continue along that hallway and turn right for performance sites on the 3rd floor.
 - Take the escalators/elevators down to the 2nd floor and turn right for Team/Spectator Activity Center, Sales, Phil Fest, and performance sites on the 2nd floor.
 - Take the escalators/elevators down to the 1st floor for Worker Check-In and Spontaneous.
 - Take the escalators/elevators up to the 4th floor for the Valencia Ballroom and the Coaches Talent Show and Awards Ceremony.



Florida State Tournament Overnight Prop Storage Room Contract

(Please print all information except signature.)

REGION: _____
 Membership Name: _____
 Problem & Division: _____
 Long Term Time: _____
 Coach Name: _____
 Coach CELL Phone: _____

Contact	Time
1st Attempt	
2nd Attempt	
RD Contact	
Penalty Assessed	

Friday: Prop Drop Off Loop is Open: 4 pm - 8pm*

Above for FLOMA use only.

*Prop Storage Room Doors Lock at 8:30 pm

Saturday: Storage Room Pick Up Hours: 6:30 am - 4:00 pm.

The prop storage room is for overnight storage. This area is provided for DROP-OFF, STORAGE, and PICK-UP, NOTHING MORE. To that end, these rules are established to minimize activity in the prop storage room.

1. Teams and helpers may only enter the storage room on Friday to drop off props.
2. There will be no repair of props resulting in damage to OCCC property.
3. All items must be removed from any of the OCCC site locations by 4 PM on Saturday. Teams and/or spectators leaving any items past that time may be assessed an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty, and items left will be disposed of by the end of the day.
4. An unsportsmanlike conduct penalty will be assessed if teams touch, damage, move, or take anything that does not belong to them.
5. This form must be presented to the official at prop storage prior to entering the room.

Important Reminders:

- This year the West AB doors will be used both Friday and Saturday if entering through the front of the West Concourse for prop drop off or prop loading. You may also enter through the Westwood Lobby from the back, via the parking lot.
- Outside assistance of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to prop assembly, prop repair, hair/makeup application, stage direction, etc.
- No work that can damage the OCCC property such as painting is allowed at the Convention Center at any time. Teams will be financially responsible for damage.

By signing below I affirm that I have shared this information with the team and all parties.

Coach Signature: _____ Planned Prop Pick Up Time: _____

This form must be attached to your props and visible when in storage.



HOW TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM FOR STATE

Using the link below, register your team on-line for the State Tournament. You must register your team and make the required payment within two-weeks of your regional tournament. Late registration and late payment can result in your team forfeiting the opportunity to participate at the State Tournament.

Before accessing the online registration portal make sure you have the following information:

- Membership Name*
- Coach's First and Last Name
- Team ID Number (4 digits, unique to each TEAM)
- Long Term Problem Number for the Advancing Team
- Division of the Advancing Team

*NOTE – Please confirm that your team's Membership Name includes a LETTER at the end - this year, all memberships have one! This is important to make sure your team details transfer correctly to the State Tournament. For example, your team might be the only team from Everytown High School, but your membership name would still be "Everytown High School - A".

Please also have available:

- Workers First and Last Name
- Worker's email address
- Worker's cell phone number
- Relationship of the Worker to the Team (including whether or not the Worker has a child performing at the State Tournament)
- If the Worker has a child performing at the State Tournament, the Long-Term Problem Number, The Division, the Coach's name and the Team ID number
- Worker's job preferences (they will be listed on the form)

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://www.floridaodysseyofthemind.com/stateregistration>

Region:	Team Registration Due Date:
Buccaneer Bay	March 7, 2026
Emerald Coast	March 14, 2026
Gulf Coast	March 14, 2026
Magic Center	February 21, 2026
Manatee	March 7, 2026
Nature Coast	February 21, 2026
Palms	March 14, 2026
Space Coast	March 14, 2026
Sun	March 14, 2026



Florida Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament
West Concourse, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando
Saturday, April 4, 2026

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(Event locations & times are subject to change.)

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION (West Concourse)
6:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Prop Storage	Level II, WB1 Exhibit Hall
7:00 a.m.	Structure Weigh-In Opens	Level II, Room W208A
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Team Registration	Level III (Entrance through back parking) in front of W315
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Worker Check-in	WAB Entry
7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Information	Level III in front of W315 & WAB Entry
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Odyssey Souvenir Sales	Level II, WB1 Exhibit Hall
8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Team Performances & Spontaneous	Level I & II (various locations throughout West Concourse)
12:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Phil Fest & Pin Trading	Level II, WB1 Exhibit Hall
5:00 – 6:00 p.m. (Check-in at 4:30 p.m.)	Coach's Talent Competition	Level IV, Valencia Ballroom
6:30 – 6:45 p.m.	Seating for Awards Ceremony Opens (coaches/team first)	Level IV, Valencia Ballroom
7:00 p.m. (approximately)	Awards Ceremony	Level IV, Valencia Ballroom
Immediately following the Awards Ceremony	Going to World Coaches Meeting Going to World Parents & Team Members Meeting	Returning coaches: W414 C New WF coaches: W414 D Parents & team: Valencia

FRIDAY NIGHT COACH MEETING INFORMATION

Each Problem Captain for the Long-Term Problems holds a brief meeting for team coaches on Friday, April 3, 2026 at 7:00 PM. Groups will meet at the designated locations in the West Concourse of the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC).

Attendance by a COACH is STRONGLY suggested, but not mandatory.

Problem	Location for Coach Meeting
Problem 1 Off the Rails	W204BC
Problem 2 Lost in OMERland	W307BCD
Problem 3 Classics...The Epic Quest	W304AB
Problem 4 Life's a Ball	W207AB
Problem 5 Taller Tails of John Jivery	W311GH
Primary Clowning Around with Science	W314A



TENTATIVE Tournament Sites

Prop Storage: All Problems - Exhibit Hall WB1 (Level II) NOTE: Friday night only and pickup Saturday by 4PM.

Registration/Information/Worker Check In: Registration Level III in front of W315. Worker check in WAB Entry. Information at both.

Souvenir Sales: WB1 (Exhibit Hall)

Phil Fest and Pin Trading: WB1 (Exhibit Hall)

Problem #1: Off the Rails

State PC: Kayla Gutierrez **Assistant State PC:** Tammy Gutierrez

Division I	Performance: W204BC*	Staging: W204A
Division II	Performance: W203AB	Staging: W203C
Division III/IV	Performance: W205AB	Staging: W205C

Problem #2: Lost in OMERland

State PC: Jen Stamey **Assistant State PC:** Mark Mai

Division I	Performance: W307BCD*	Staging: W307A
Division II	Performance: W312BC	Staging: W312A
Division III	Performance: W305AB	Staging: W306A

Problem #3: Classics...The Epic Quest

State PC: Renee Hawkins **Assistant State PC:** Becky Spreitzer

Division I	Performance: W304AB*	Staging: W304CD
Division II	Performance: W304GH	Staging: W304CD
Division III	Performance: W304EF	Staging: W304CD

Problem #4: Life's a Ball

State PC: Robin Kranz **Assistant State PC:** Taylor Garrett

Division I	Performance: W207AB*	Staging: W207C
Division II	Performance: W208BC	Staging: W209A
Division III	Performance: W209BC	Staging: W209A

Weigh-in for all: W208A

Problem #5: Taller Tales of John Jivery

State PC: Jamy Dinkins **Assistant State PC:** Kristin Weller

Division I	Performance: W311GH*	Staging: W311CD
Division II	Performance: W311AB	Staging: W311CD
Division III	Performance: W311EF	Staging: W311CD

Primary Problem: It's a Wonderful World

State PC: Lydia Barefield **Assistant State PC:** Amira Olowu

K-2nd grade	Performance: W314A*	Staging: W314B
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Spontaneous:

State PC: Katie Ottinger **Assistant State PCs:** Kate Owen, Callie Schlabach, & Amy Spurr

All problems and divisions	Level I	(*) Friday night coach meeting location
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2026 FLOMA State Tournament Prohibited Items

- Helium and any/all lighter-than-air balloons.
- Confetti
- Streamers
- Stickers not used for props
- Stickers can not be adhered to any OCCC surface
- Silly String
- Bubbles and/or Bubble Making devices of any kind.
- Paint, **painting of any kind is prohibited by the OCCC.**
- Permanent markers of any kind.
- Toy/team made weapons of any kind, unless prior approval has been given by the AD & SPC/Tournament Manager. Request for approval must include picture(s) of the weapon(s). Approval must be from **both** the FLOMA AD AssociationDirector@FLOMA.org), and the FLOMA SPD/Tournament Manager (StateProblemDirector@floma.org). **Submitted picture(s) will be compared to actual items presented in Staging at the State Tournament.**
- Drones
- Items that are excessively hot or cold, including dry ice.
- Any items that leave a residue.
- Internal combustion engines.
- Flammable fuels.
- Smoke bombs or similar items.
- Fires in any form, including lighted candles and sparklers.
- Liquids that can stain or cause other floor damage.
- Emergency response alerts, i.e. fire/smoke alarm.
- Hoverboards, skateboards, rolling shoes, or skates of any kind.
- E-cigarettes/Vape Pens
- Capacitors for Batteries
- Teams may use strobe lights in their performance, but they must ***first*** inform the Staging Area Judge and/or Timekeeper. The Timekeeper will announce this to the audience and give anyone who would have a problem with them an opportunity to leave the room.



Florida
Odyssey of the Mind
Association

2026
STATE
QUALIFYING
PACKET

Odyssey Team Coach Advancing to the State Tournament:

Please carefully review **each page** in this packet. Complete and submit the necessary forms, share information with the team and team supporters when requested, and keep this packet for reference.

Some items involve **deadlines** – Do not delay in reviewing this packet!

Please **confirm times and locations** listed in this packet at Tournament Registration and with the official Tournament Program. Congratulations on qualifying for the State Finals!



TOURNAMENT RULES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Registration

Registration will open up from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Friday evening and at 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning. A coach is required to check in at the Registration table to turn in their Team Behavior Contracts, pick up their programs, coach ribbons, and to **confirm the number of team members and coaches attending the award ceremony**, etc.

2. Teams Unable to Attend

Teams competing at the State Tournament, but are unable to attend World Finals for whatever reason are asked to notify the Association Director (associationdirector@floma.org) at the earliest possible time prior to the tournament. This will NOT affect the team's score or placement in any way.

3. Sportsmanship

Teams and Odyssey supporters are expected to respect each other and their property. Any violations may result in unsportsmanlike penalties, expulsion from the competition and/or from all future competitions. Decisions will be determined by the official State Odyssey Tribunal and decisions will be final.

4. Integrity of Spontaneous Problems

It is vital that all teams maintain the integrity of the Spontaneous Problem by NOT DISCUSSING IT IN ANY WAY until after ALL tournament competition is completed. Team coaches and other Odyssey supporters are asked to help teams keep the secret by not questioning them until after competitions are finished.

5. Outside Assistance

NO OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE WILL BE PERMITTED at any time by any one! This includes, but is not limited to, assistance during the day of the tournament. Non-team members may assist in moving, lifting, transporting props, vehicles or other large/heavy items. Non-team members may NOT assemble, repair, apply make-up or costumes or in any other way become involved with the materials of the team's solution/performance.

If an Outside Assistance offense is observed by ANY tournament official, that official will report the offense to the head judge or Problem Captain for that team's problem. One warning will be issued. The second offense will result in an Outside Assistance penalty. Teams may NOT file reports against other teams.

6. Security

Neither the Convention Center nor the Florida Odyssey of the Mind Association accepts responsibility for the security of props, equipment, or other items teams bring. Responsibility for the safety of such items rests solely with team members and their coach. When a team has completed its performance, team members must remove their belongings and place the items in their vehicle or a waste receptacle. Props must be removed no later than 4pm, NO EXCEPTIONS.

7. Supervision of Students

Children under the age of 18 must be properly supervised at all times during the tournament. Team coaches and adult supporters are expected to know where the team members are at all times and should expect appropriate behavior. Teams or supporters involving themselves in any type of disorderly conduct, including defacement of property, will be disqualified. Such a determination will be made by the State Association Director and State Tournament Manager, with input from the Regional Director of the specific team.

8. Team Promptness for Performances

Tournament officials will strive to stay on schedule throughout the day. In order for the tournament to stay on schedule and for all teams to receive the attention of the judging team that they deserve, the tournament performance schedule will be strictly followed. Teams must make every effort to be prompt for their performance and spontaneous times. In the event of an emergency or other verifiable extenuating circumstance, a team may be rescheduled for a later time (if this is possible). Depending on the circumstances, the team may be assessed a 25-point penalty for failing to appear at the designated performance time.

9. Confirm Performance Times

Due to last minute changes, it may be necessary for a team's performance time to shift. It is important for all coaches to confirm the official/final performance time for the team by consulting the official State Tournament Program at the time of registration at the tournament.

10. Students with Special Needs

If a team has a member with a special need that tournament officials should be aware of, the coach or designee should send written notification of the condition with the student's name and team information to the tournament director with registration paperwork.

11. Primary Teams at State

Representative Primary Teams will share their solutions at the State Tournament. Primary teams are typically made up of students from grades K-2, and their Long-Term Problem is non competitive. Normally Primary Teams only present their problem solutions at the Regional Tournament. However, each region within the state is invited to select two Primary teams at random to represent the region at the State Tournament.

12: Problem #4 (Structure) Teams at State

Weights are available in each division for the structure problem. The tentative breakdown of weights per division are as follows:

Weight	D1	D2	D3
5 lb.	10	8	6
10 lb.	15	14	14
25 lb.	14	16	15
35 lb.	10	16	16
45 lb.	10	12	14

13. Tournament Officials

All tournament officials have attended a training session and are certified. Anyone wearing a green Odyssey Officials t-shirt or a blue State Board shirt is a tournament official and is an authority figure. All tournament officials should be accorded the respect associated with their position. Keep in mind that like team coaches, all officials are volunteers and are vital to a successful tournament.

14. Tournament Workers

Each team at the state tournament is required to provide a worker to volunteer at the tournament unless otherwise notified by their Regional Director or the State tournament director. If a team fails to provide a worker volunteer by the published deadlines, or if the assigned worker does not report for duty, that team may be assessed a fine and “**Spirit of the Problem**” penalty. The tournament director will advise the appropriate Problem Captain that the penalty has been assessed to the team. For additional clarification, refer to the page titled “Procedures for Odyssey Team Worker Volunteers” in this packet.

15. Coach Cell Phone Number

In the event a tournament official or Head Judge needs to locate a particular team coach to resolve a question or discuss the team’s score, the coach’s cell phone will be used. Please ensure your cell phone number is correct with registration and answer any unknown numbers the day of the tournament.

16. Long-Term Score Pick-Up & Protest Procedure

- a) Following the team's performance, the Head Judge for the Long-Term Problem will inform the coach (or designee) when the team's Long-Term scores can be picked up.
- b) The Head Judge will review the score sheet with the coach or designee ONLY!
- c) The coach or designee will be identified by the ID ribbon they received at registration.
- d) The coach will sign the score sheet indicating the scores have been received. This time will be noted on the score sheet.
- e) The coach then has thirty (30) minutes to register any protests (rule interpretation) with the head judge, as the same may relate to an "objective" problem element.
- f) No protests will be accepted after the 30-minute time period. Teams MAY NOT protest about other teams!
- g) If the judges deny the protest, the coach may then appeal to the Problem Captain.
- h) Should the Problem Captain not be able to make a ruling, ONLY they will then refer the question to the official State Odyssey Tribunal, whose decision **IS FINAL**.
- i) All protests must be in writing. Forms are available during the tournament from your Problem Captain.

In the event a specific team coach is needed for some type of scoring issue involving the team after the raw scores have been sent to the score room, the coach will receive a text message, and the team name/problem/division will be posted on the Coach Bulletin Board near the Information Table area.

18. Phil Fest and Pin Trading

This year at Phil Fest, we will have a lot of interactive activities and pin trading, a DJ with music, and Phil. Come and meet our FLOMA mascot, Phil the Flamingo and get a picture with him!

19. Coach's Talent Competition

After Phil Fest and before the Awards Ceremony there will be a coach's talent competition. Please email talent@floma.org to submit an interest form. Microphones are provided, any additional materials (such as amps, instruments, etc.) will need to be provided by the talent. There is a 1st place prize of \$300!

20. Phone Calls to the Convention Center

Odyssey of the Mind participants/supporters are asked NOT to place phone calls to the main operator at the Convention Center. No one is available to take messages or to page individuals. Questions should be directed to your Regional Director in advance of the tournament. Pass this information on to the parents of the team members too!

21. Food Service

Outside food is not permitted in the Convention Center. Food service vendors will be located in and around the West concourse. The Convention Center is “cashless” and only accepts credit cards and debit cards. Additionally, there are several restaurants within walking distance of the Center. Please plan accordingly.

22. OMER’s Award Nominations

Nominations from coaches or tournament supporters for the OMER’s Award MUST be submitted to the Odyssey Information Table **NO LATER THAN 3:00 p.m.** on the day of the tournament. Nominations should be made only after careful consideration. Nominations DO NOT automatically mean the award will be given. A committee of Odyssey officials will meet prior to the Awards Ceremony to determine OMER’s Awards to be presented. Forms submitted must be legible to be considered.

23. Clean Up and Departure

Wherever team members and team supporters go within and outside of the Convention Center, they MUST clean up after themselves. Trash receptacles will be strategically located near performance sites for immediate clean up. When a group leaves an area, everyone should check the site for cleanliness and for any belongings left behind.

24. Lost & Found

Lost and found will be located at the designated Odyssey Information Tables. Items will be kept approximately one week after the tournament and then will be donated to charity as appropriate.

25. Floor Damage

In order to avoid damage to competition floor surfaces, all participants are requested to wear soft-soled shoes. All vehicles built as part of a Long-term Problem solution must be designed so as not to damage any floor surfaces at the tournament site. Any damage to the venue site caused by the team and/or team spectators will be the responsibility of that team. (Refer to the Program Guide Rules).

26. Final Score Pick Up

The final scores will be posted to the Florida Odyssey of the Mind website and Facebook Page within 24 hours of the tournament.



27. World Finalist Team Meeting for Coaches

Immediately following the Awards Ceremony, a meeting will be held in a location listed on the Schedule of Events for all coaches of World Finalist teams. At least one adult representative from each membership is REQUIRED to attend to receive important information about the World Finals tournament. This meeting will be open to coaches ONLY. A separate meeting for team members and parents/guardians advancing to World Finals will be held in the Valencia Ballroom directly after the Awards Ceremony. All team members and parents are encouraged to attend.

28. Pre-Tournament Coach Meetings

Pre-Tournament Coach Meetings will be held at the Convention Center on Friday Evening (April 3, 2026) beginning at 7:00 PM. Refer to the Coach Meeting location list earlier in this packet.

FLOMA + ZEFFY =



**To our friends
at Zeffy and all
those who
support us...
THANK YOU!**

Zeffy is a 100% free platform for nonprofits, funded by voluntary contributions from users.

Because Zeffy doesn't take platform fees, 100% of your purchase supports Florida Odyssey of the Mind. This helps us put more resources into our mission –inspiring creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving–while keeping registration fees as low as possible for our members.

Zeffy invites you to leave an optional processing contribution to support their platform. Any amount is appreciated, and you're always free to adjust it.

Thank you for supporting Florida Odyssey of the Mind and helping our programs thrive!

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*Florida
Odyssey
of the Mind*
Creativity
Florida Open Since 1983

FLOMA State Tournament Presents:

Coach's Talent Competition

First Place Prize: \$300
& bragging rights trophy

5:00-6:00pm
Level IV, Valencia
Ballroom, West
Concourse

Microphones provided. Any additional equipment (such as amps) must be supplied by the talent.

All family-friendly talents are welcome. Submit full name, team info, email, and talent to: talent@floma.org Arrive to Valencia Ballroom stage at 4:30pm. Acts are 3 minutes max.



FLOMA PHIL FEST AT STATE



CELEBRATE!

Florida Odyssey of the Mind presents Phil Fest: a celebration for all State Tournament participants and spectators.

Join in on the fun with music, games, activities, pin trading, Phil the flamingo and more!



Interactive Games & Activities!

From 12-4pm 2nd floor, West Concourse, Exhibit Hall WB1

Pin Trading!

Trade with other regions and collect pins from across the state!

Meet Phil!

Take a picture with FLOMA's new mascot, Phil the Flamingo!

Teams & Spectators Welcome

Stop by between Spontaneous and Long Term, or celebrate at the end of your day!

Special thanks to ASCE Central FL Chapter for spearheading this event.



Phil needs your help!

Phil & the rest of the Florida Odyssey Board want to give you the chance to recommend themes and to help create the designs for future shirts, pins and charms!

Submit designs to our State Director Anna (associationdirector@floma.org) and our State Sales Director Amanda (sales@floma.org). Designs can be submitted at any time, but **to be considered for 2026-2027 must be submitted no later than July 1, 2026**. Please note that designs could be altered based on input from the pin company and others.

If one or more of your designs is selected, you will be awarded a gift certificate for the Florida Odyssey of the Mind merchandise of your choice. Certificates will be awarded in amounts varying from \$10 to \$50.

GUIDELINES

- (1) Submit ideas for any (or all) of the items listed. Have more than one suggestion? That's fine too... submit them all!
- (2) Be descriptive! Submissions for pins or shirts can be either in the form of detailed drawings, written descriptions, or anything in between. As long as it is clear as to what you have in mind, the pin company and the board can take it from there and do the artwork.
- (3) Be specific as to any special effects (sliders, spinners, gems, blinkies, etc.).
- (4) Obvious pop culture tie-ins or parodies should be avoided.
- (5) Any designs submitted that are not used next year will be kept for future consideration.
- (6) Submit designs at any time - but be sure to submit your ideas by July 1st if you would like us to consider them for next year's designs! And please include contact information in case we have questions!

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

Pins:

- (5) Piece Problem Pin Set
- (1) Primary Problem Pin (that also could fit with the Problem Pin Set)
- (1) Spontaneous Pin (that also could fit with the Problem Pin Set)
- (3) – (5) Single Pins
- (3) Pin Sets (3 to 4 pins per set)
- (1) 7 Pin Set

Charms:

- (7) Piece Problem Charm Set (to include spontaneous and primary)
- (1) State Charm
- (1) World Finals Charm

Shirts:

- State Shirt
- World Finalist Shirt

Themes:

- Themes should appeal to all age groups, be Florida or Odyssey related, and be broad enough to include a variety of pin and shirt designs.



Designing Your Own Pins and T-Shirts??

While teams are allowed to make pins and t-shirts of their own design to wear/trade at the Florida Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament, the policy of the Florida Odyssey of the Mind Association is:

- Teams, school groups, and individuals may not use “Florida Odyssey of the Mind”, “Florida Odyssey”, “Florida OotM” or any other name that implies in any way that it is an official Florida Odyssey of the Mind pin or t-shirt. Any team, school or individually produced pin or t-shirt must clearly state the name of the team or school group. It is okay to include Florida to indicate that the team is from Florida (ex. Happy Elementary, Anytown, Florida). However, Florida cannot be emphasized in any way – it must be the same size, font, and color as the team name.
- Teams, school groups, and individuals must submit an electronic or hard copy of their artwork or designs and receive written approval from the Florida Odyssey of the Mind Association Director prior to producing any pin or shirt for the State Tournament. Artwork can be e-mailed to: associationdirector@floma.org.
- Teams, school groups, and individuals must also receive written approval from their Regional Director if their pin or t-shirt design includes the region name.
- Teams, school groups, and individuals may not reference “Phil, the Flamingo”, the Florida mascot, in their pin or shirt design.
- Teams, school groups and individuals are strictly prohibited from producing a pin that is in any way similar to, related to, derivative of, or an add-on to any current- year official Florida Odyssey of the Mind pin. Any pin produced by a team must stand entirely on its own.
- In addition to these guidelines, any team, school group, or individual pin or t-shirt must also adhere to guidelines outlined in the CCI Program Guide.

Teams participating in the Florida Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament are expected to honor these policies.



If

your team should advance to World Finals...

Having a team advance to World Finals can be very exciting, but it helps to know some things in advance. Due to the short turn-around time between State and World, your team and supporters will have to do a lot of fund-raising very quickly, unless you choose to start early, just in case. Following are a list of expenses involved if your team advances to World Finals.

- **Room & Board:** \$700 per person (estimate)
- **T-shirts, State & World:** World Finalist t-shirts will be given to all team members and up to two (2) coaches per team at no cost to the team.
- **Trading Pins:** A small number of pins will be supplied to the teams at no charge.
- **Extra Trading Pins:** \$100 – \$300 – optional, teams may purchase extra pins.
- **Transportation:** \$??? varies (Are you flying? Are your parents driving? Are you taking a bus?)

There will be some incidentals not listed here, so be prepared for those too.

You also need to be aware of the early deadlines for everything. Because of the short time between State and World, you will only have a few days to go through your World Finals Packet and get organized. Registration is due for World Finals on April 20, 2026. You will have a number of forms to fill out, and orders to place for shirts, hats and pins. Please be sure that you read everything in your World Finals packet very carefully and follow all of the directions. **GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YOU!!**



WORKER REGISTRATION WORKSHEET

FLORIDA ODYSSEY OF THE MIND 2026 STATE TOURNAMENT

Region: _____ Membership Number: _____

I, (print name) _____ represent a team from (school) _____ competing in (problem name) _____, (division) _____ I may be reached at:

HOME Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (Include area code)

Day () _____ Evening () _____

Email _____

I would prefer to work in the following position: (number in order of preference):

Preference Order	Work Assignment
	Door Monitor
	Registration
	Information Table
	Friday Registration
	PhilFest Assistant
	Car Lane Monitor (outdoor assignment)
	Saturday Sales
	Friday Sales
	Coach's Talent Competition Assistant

My past Odyssey of the Mind experiences include: _____

I have a child on another team. Problem: _____ Div. _____

I volunteered as a worker at the regional tournament. YES NO (circle one)

If YES, what was your assignment? _____

I am a former Odyssey of the Mind team member: YES NO (circle one)

I understand that I am responsible for filling the position I am assigned, even if my team drops from the competition less than two weeks before the tournament date. If I fail to fill this position, my team may be assessed a 25-point *Spirit of the Problem* penalty. I understand that if for any reason I am unable to fulfill my obligation, it is my responsibility to find a replacement to fill the position.

Signed: _____

This form is to be used by the Coach to capture the worker information and the Coach will go online and enter the worker for their team.



Worker Notes

- Each team advancing to the FLOMA State Tournament must provide a volunteer worker.

FLOMA Standing Rules:

- Any team not providing a judge/worker by the designated registration deadlines may be assessed a \$100.00 fine to be paid prior to the Regional and/or State awards ceremony.
- If a team's designated worker/judge does not report for duty at the designated time and place on the day of the tournament, that team may receive a 25-point Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty.
- The responsible Tournament Director will notify the appropriate Problem Captain that the Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty is to be assessed.
- Worker registration will be part of the team's State Registration process. **(Please use worker's email address and cell number)**
- If a worker is not volunteered the coach's name should be entered as the volunteer from the team. **(Worker from Regional Tournament does not default as State Worker)**
- The worker assignment will not conflict with the long-term performance time for the team that they represent. **(No need to note in conflicts section.)**
- Worker assignments are between 2 and 3 hours in duration.
- We discourage splitting worker assignments between different individuals.
- As part of Worker Registration, assignments will be listed with the option of selecting preference (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.). However, 1st preference cannot be assured.
- Worker conflicts **MUST** be noted in the Worker Registration. **(Do not assume a team conflict will carry over to the worker.)**
- Prior Odyssey experience should be noted on the Worker Registration. There are assignments where it would be helpful to have an experienced worker.
- Worker assignments will be conveyed to the worker and coach via email the week of the State Tournament. Each team's worker assignment will also be listed on the FLOMA website. **(Worker name will not be included on website listing – just team name and assignment details.)**

DESCRIPTIONS OF WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES

Hopefully this information will make the responsibilities involved with your task clearer, thus making it easier for you to do your job at the tournament. Thank you for volunteering to assist with the Odyssey of the Mind program. Your time, talents, energy and support of the program is truly appreciated. Enjoy your “odyssey”....

DOOR & HALL MONITORS

- Keep hallways and areas just outside the performance site reasonably quiet, particularly during team performances
- Prevent spectators from entering the competition site area once a team performance has begun (exits and entrances only BETWEEN performances)
- Maintain appropriate decorum throughout the competition areas (display a positive, serious, helpful-yet-firm attitude)

REGISTRATION (& FRIDAY NIGHT REGISTRATION)

- Assist in distribution of information and registration packets
- Register team coaches during early morning hours
- Verify information on coach information sheets

INFORMATION TABLE

- Provide general information and answers to common questions
- Be knowledgeable about Long-Term Problem locations and OCCC layout
- Act as a message center as requested
- Assist individuals in completing various requested forms
- Manage an informal lost and found

SPONTANEOUS PROBLEM CHECK-IN & ESCORTS

- Assist Spontaneous Problem captain as requested with such duties as checking in teams and maintaining quiet in the area
- Walk with teams to their spontaneous competition room as directed
- Assist in keeping order and in keeping on schedule

AWARDS SETUP / REGIONAL BANNER DISPLAY

- Assist in setting out trophies, ribbons, and medals on Awards stage tables for Awards Ceremony
- Assist in displaying Regional Banners on the Exhibit Floor per the seating plan for Awards Ceremony

PHIL FEST ASSISTANT

- Assist coordinator in setting up, breaking down and running the Creativity Festival and Pin Trading events
- Oversee games and assist where needed
- Assist in keeping order and not letting things get “too wild”
- Make sure area is left clean at the end of the event

PROP/SET DROP OFF CAR LANE

- Make sure teams using the car lane to drop off and pick up props, sets, etc. are in and out in a timely manner
- Make sure teams using the car lanes move to accommodate as many people as possible



SALES (& FRIDAY NIGHT SALES)

- Assist Sales coordinator in setting up and/or breaking down the sales site
- Restock shelves as needed
- Assist customers as needed

COACHES TALENT COMPETITION ASSISTANT

- Usher audience to and from seats (audience members need to be reseated for awards ceremony)

SPECIAL RESERVES (Not optional, will be selected as-needed)

- Work with the Worker Coordinator when/as needed during your shift
- Act as a substitute, or fill-in worker if an emergency arises (You will report to the Worker Coordinator at the Information Table and make yourself available to handle a task when asked.)