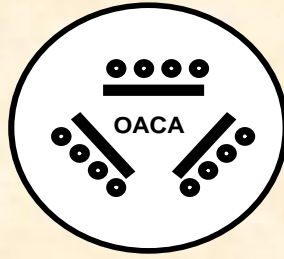


Oklahoma Academic



Coaches Association

## A Message from the President

Greetings fellow academic coaches!

When I began coaching academics ten years ago, I pictured walking into a meet as the equivalence of walking into rival gang territory. I pictured the opposing coaches as being bloodthirsty pirates who were ready to make me walk the plank or worse! I quickly realized that I was in fact joining one of the hardest working, most talented group of professionals that I would ever have the pleasure to meet!

I remember my first dealing with Chelsea's Debbie Hoskins who mailed me middle school questions so that I could have something to practice with. I vividly recall my first meet with Drummond's Anita Hughes and her tenacity as she would fight for every point for her team, and yet she has always been so supportive and encouraging as I try for that elusive state championship. I've laughed with Rock Creek's Marla St. John, and I've almost come to blows with Latta's Susie Edens (all in fun of course!). I've swapped pictures of grandbabies with Plainview's Melinda Wallace, and Stigler's Patrick Phillips to name a few, and I've shared stats and scouting reports with friends from all over the state. Tournaments turn into family reunions where I've exchanged hugs and well wishes and high fives all along the way!

Can you tell that I LOVE Academics?! I love the teams and the camaraderie. I love working with the cream of the crop students and challenging them to learn more and try harder than ever before. I love the trips to Stigler and Kremlin-Hillsdale and Wagoner and Miami and Tonkawa and Stillwater and Norman, and hopefully this year I'll get to travel with my team back to El Reno!

If you are a new coach, WELCOME!!! If you are a veteran, thank you for your service and thank you for helping the newbies learn and grow in our family. Thank you all for your devotion to our students, and to our program!

Please join me for a fun-filled day of camaraderie and strategizing on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at Redlands Community College in El Reno for the Fall Coaches Conference. Second Vice President Melinda Wallace is hard at work planning a fabulous day and a delicious lunch that you will not want to miss. We will have a rules meeting where we discuss the new rules changes for this year and potential changes for next year. We will also select District Representatives, fill OSSAA Advisory Board positions, and elect a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President as well as secretary and treasurer. I HIGHLY recommend serving on the Board. Patrick Phillips will be on hand to receive the baton as the 2016-2017 President, and I'm sure he'll give us a glimmer of what to expect from this year's question writer!

Thank you for your support of Oklahoma Academics, and I look forward to seeing you there!

Martha Ward, President OACA

## About the Oklahoma Academic Coaches Association

The Oklahoma Academic Coaches Association (OACA) is a non-profit organization whose primary goals are to promote academic competition among Oklahoma secondary schools and to recognize and honor an All-State Academic Team at the conclusion of the Academic Bowl season. The OACA works closely with the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association (OSSAA) which governs all competitive extra-curricular activities in Oklahoma secondary schools.

Our organization holds an annual fall conference every September in which both new and veteran coaches are provided many different workshops that cover all aspects of Academic Quiz Bowl competition. The fall conference will be **at Redlands Community College in El Reno Saturday, September 10, 2016**. Please plan to attend.

Remember: OACA is funded through your annual membership dues, net proceeds from our fall conference, and donations. **WE NEED YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO KEEP OUR ORGANIZATION STRONG AND ACTIVE! THE OACA IS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE PROMOTION AND RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC BOWL PARTICIPATION.**

An OACA membership costs \$40. This is a small price for what we do for our students. Fall conference cost is \$60, and this includes the membership costs, workshops, and lunch.

**\*\*\*PLEASE FOLLOW THIS LINK TO REGISTER FOR OACA AND/OR THE CONFERENCE ELECTRONICALLY OR USE THE REGISTRATION FORM ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL\*\*\***

LINK TO REGISTER: <http://oaac.org/OACA%20Registration.html>

## News From the OSSAA

At the April 6 OSSAA Advisory Board Meeting, the committee took action and voted unanimously to approve the following items:

1. The moderator will announce that coaches have 30 seconds to talk with their team and approach the table before the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of play and not be charged a timeout.
2. Adding language to the Academic Bowl Manual to add any electronic devices that can send and receive messages to the list of devices not allowed during play.
3. Captains may defer answering a 60-second round question by stating their intention to defer to another player.

## Important 2016-2017 OSSAA Dates

Here are the dates for the 2016-2017 OSSAA Academic Bowl Tournament:

Entry Forms Due	Wednesday, September 7, 2016
Rules Meeting/Fall Conference	Saturday, September 10, 2016 (Redlands CC, El Reno)
District Seeding	Monday, October 10, 2016
Regionals	Saturday, November 12, 2016
Area	Saturday, January 14, 2017
State	Saturday, February 4, 2017

## Important 2016-2017 OACA Dates

Fall Conference	Saturday, September 10, 2016
OACA Registration Due	Thursday, December 1, 2016
All-State Nominations Due	Tuesday, February 14, 2017
All-State Games and Banquet	Saturday, April 22, 2017

## Invitational Meets

September 24	Oklahoma Early Fall Tournament @ OU	<a href="mailto:tracey.s.hickman@gmail.com">tracey.s.hickman@gmail.com</a>
October 1	Fine Arts & Literature tournament @ Edmond	
November 5	Cougar Invitational @ Redlands	<a href="mailto:rainc@redlandscscc.edu">rainc@redlandscscc.edu</a>
January 28	Oklahoma Regional Science Bowl @ Redlands	<a href="mailto:gbliss@carnegienet.net">gbliss@carnegienet.net</a>

This is not a full listing of events available to you. If you have an event you wanted listed in the next newsletter, please email the information to David Powell at [dpowell@norman.k12.ok.us](mailto:dpowell@norman.k12.ok.us) or [oacasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:oacasecretary@gmail.com).

## 2015-2016 OACA Officers

President	Martha Ward	Caney Valley	<a href="mailto:mward@cvalley.k12.ok.us">mward@cvalley.k12.ok.us</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Patrick Phillips	Stigler	<a href="mailto:pPhillips@stigler.k12.ok.us">pPhillips@stigler.k12.ok.us</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Melinda Wallace	Plainview	<a href="mailto:mwallace@plainview.k12.ok.us">mwallace@plainview.k12.ok.us</a>
Treasurer	Gordon Bockus	Wilburton	<a href="mailto:Gordon.bockus@wilburtondiggers.org">Gordon.bockus@wilburtondiggers.org</a>
Secretary	David Powell	Norman	<a href="mailto:dpowell@norman.k12.ok.us">dpowell@norman.k12.ok.us</a>

## District Representatives

District 1	Greg Davidson	Tushka	<a href="mailto:gcdavidson1981@yahoo.com">gcdavidson1981@yahoo.com</a>
District 2	Michael Dean	Little Axe	<a href="mailto:michael.dean@littleaxe.org">michael.dean@littleaxe.org</a>
District 3	Adam Carr	Bridge Creek	<a href="mailto:acarr@bridgecreek.k12.ok.us">acarr@bridgecreek.k12.ok.us</a>
District 4	Joyce Creed	Corn Bible	<a href="mailto:jcreed@cornbible.org">jcreed@cornbible.org</a>
District 5	James Cooksey	Texoma	<a href="mailto:james.cooksey@texhoma61.net">james.cooksey@texhoma61.net</a>
District 6	Melinda Wilkinson	Crossings Christian	<a href="mailto:mwilkinson@crossingsschool.org">mwilkinson@crossingsschool.org</a>
District 7	Charla Wilkes	Dewar	<a href="mailto:cwilkes@dewar.k12.ok.us">cwilkes@dewar.k12.ok.us</a>
District 8	Debbie Hoskins	Chelsea	<a href="mailto:dhoskins@chelseadragons.net">dhoskins@chelseadragons.net</a>

## OSSAA Advisory Board

6A	Dixie Kellogg	Yukon	<a href="mailto:Dixie.kellogg@yukonps.org">Dixie.kellogg@yukonps.org</a>
5A	Nicky Goff	Bishop McGuinness	<a href="mailto:ngoff@bmchs.org">ngoff@bmchs.org</a>
4A	Melinda Wallace	Plainview	<a href="mailto:mwallace@plainview.k12.ok.us">mwallace@plainview.k12.ok.us</a>
3A	Martha Ward	Caney Valley	<a href="mailto:mward@cvalley.k12.ok.us">mward@cvalley.k12.ok.us</a>
2A	Keith Huitt	Wynnewood	<a href="mailto:keithhuitt@yahoo.com">keithhuitt@yahoo.com</a>
A	Roger Gossen	Kremlin-Hillsdale	<a href="mailto:gossenr@kremlin.k12.ok.us">gossenr@kremlin.k12.ok.us</a>
	Ginger Kelso	OSSAA Advisor	<a href="mailto:gingerkelso@cox.net">gingerkelso@cox.net</a>

## A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY

This newsletter and all future ones are for your benefit. Throughout the school year, please send any information to me about your team, including conference and tournament results, and I will gladly share it in the newsletter. Also, if you have any questions concerning Academic Bowl and don't know who to contact about it, I will be glad to help. The best way to contact me with information or questions is through my email address: [dpowell@norman.k12.ok.us](mailto:dpowell@norman.k12.ok.us) or [oacasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:oacasecretary@gmail.com).

-David Powell, OACA Secretary



## Oklahoma Association for Academic Competition

If you are looking for competitions outside of your conference, OSSAA, NAQT, etc. then OAAC might have something for you!

Gail Bliss offers a plethora of competitions that accommodate the wide range of individuals, and grade levels, that make up your academic team including: Online Subject Area Tournaments, Froshmore Tournaments, Online Tournament of Champions Qualifiers, Science Bowl, and more!

Registration for most things is due on October 1, 2016, so head on over to [www.oaac.org](http://www.oaac.org) to give it a look!

### We Hope to See You There!

Future Dates for both the OACA Fall Conference and OACA All-State Games and Banquet are as follows:

#### Fall Conference/OSSAA Rules Meeting

Saturday, September 10, 2016  
Saturday, September 9, 2017  
Saturday, September 8, 2018  
Saturday, September 7, 2019  
Saturday, September 12, 2020

#### All-State Games and Banquet

Saturday, April 22, 2017  
Saturday, April 21, 2018  
Saturday, April 27, 2019

OACA – The Oklahoma Academic Coaches Association was started to formalize a network of academic coaches throughout the state. The Association provides a newsletter, a fall coaches conference, and All-State competition and recognition. High School academic team coaches are eligible for membership and middle/junior high and elementary coaches are eligible for associate membership which entitles them to have all the privileges of membership except for nominating students for All-State recognition. The OACA is funded through annual membership dues.

