

KNOWLEDGE BOWL FAQs



What is Knowledge Bowl? Knowledge Bowl is an academic competition for high school students in Washington State, where each team has the opportunity to answer loads of questions on a variety of topics. Once a team has buzzed in they have 15 seconds to respond with the correct answer to receive a point. Winners in regional competitions go on to a state tournament.

Who can play? Any WSA Upper School student. The WSA team is divided into three squads playing against each other at practices, and into four squads when playing other schools' squads at the competitions.

When are practices? Knowledge Bowl practices are held during lunch on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in Miss Sara's room, Ryan 5, September through March. Students in lunch-crew advocacies miss the last ten minutes of practice and report to the Commons at 12:05 p.m. After the State Tournament in March, practices are held once a week through April.

Where are Olympic ESD 114 regional competitions held? The Practice Competition for the approximately 48 squads from the OESD schools is held at North Mason High School in Belfair. The second and third competitions are held at Fort Worden Historical State Park in Port Townsend.

When are this year's competitions?

Practice Competition: **December 2, 2019 - North Mason High School**

Summit Award Competition: **January 15, 2020 - Fort Worden**

For State Spots and Trophy: **February 27, 2020 - Fort Worden**

2019-2020 State Tournament, all divisions: **Saturday, March 21 or 28, 2020 - West Valley High School in Yakima**

Where can I find out about Knowledge Bowl? Go to the Knowledge Bowl page on the OESD 114 Website: <https://www.oesd114.org/page/278>
There are links to schedules, official rules and FAQs.

How can I practice for Knowledge Bowl on my own? One fun site to check out is Mental Floss magazine at <http://mentalfloss.com/quizzes/> Another great practice site is <https://www.sporcle.com> Or try Jeopardy! - a classic!
<http://www.j-archive.com/>



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How long do Knowledge Bowl competitions take? The regional competitions start at 9:30 a.m. and go until 2:30 p.m. Team members need to be at WSA by 8:00 a.m. for the competition at North Mason and 7:45 a.m. for the competitions at Fort Worden. We return to WSA by 4:00 p.m. For the January and February competitions, Jefferson County team members can sleep in that morning and just meet us at Fort Worden!

Can I participate in WSA drama productions (or be on a public school athletic team) or be involved in a club (like one that meets at lunch) and still do Knowledge Bowl? Yes. Upper school students are always welcome to come to regular practices, but team members who want to go to the competitions at Fort Worden need to attend practices at least once a week.

Is there an academic requirement for going to the competitions at Fort Worden? Yes. Knowledge Bowl team members must be in good academic standing in all their classes in order to participate in competitions. Good academic standing means that there are no missing assignments, and that the student does not need time in class on the day of the competition to make up missing work.

Cost? Team members' parents will be billed **\$130** for the regular season - twice-a-week practices from September through March, three regional competitions and once-a-week practices during April. Team members who want to order the team sweatshirt will be charged **\$35** each. Players going to State will pay for transportation to Yakima, overnight lodging and meals.

Why? It's fun, it's a "get out of school free" card, plus it looks good on your college application résumé.

Knowledge Bowl team members may earn a varsity letter by meeting the following requirements: *Students must be in grades 9-12, and maintain a cumulative G.P.A of at least 3.0. Students with a D or NC on their report card, regardless of cumulative GPA, shall not be eligible to letter in Knowledge Bowl. Students must attend at least 75% of all scheduled practices, and compete in a minimum of 6 competitions to qualify for a letter. Because there are only 3 regional competitions in a school year, this requirement can only be met by being on the team for more than one year.*

Questions? Contact WSA 'KB' coach Susan Trower for more information.

