

## Guidelines for Battle of the Books

- Battle of the Books will be hosted by the Halton Hills Public Library.
- Each Battle or Round Robin will be between two teams.
- Teams will be randomly assigned numbers and each team will play the same number of rounds.
- A cumulative score will be kept for each team and the teams who finish with the highest final scores will be announced at the end of the Round Robin battles.
- The two junior teams, and similarly, the two senior teams with the highest cumulative scores will return to play in the Grand Battle.
- The winning Grand Battle junior team and similarly, the winning senior team will represent Halton Hills in the Regional Battle of the Books with teams from schools in Burlington, Milton and Oakville.
- All teams will consist of a maximum of 9 members. Junior level teams will have up to three students from each of grades 3, 4 and 5. Senior level teams will have up to three students from each of grades 6, 7 and 8. A maximum of 2 students from each grade will play at any given time.
- At the mid-point of each round teams will be invited to “make any player substitutions”. This is how we ensure that all 9 players will get a chance to play. Substitutions must be made by putting in players from the same grade or lower.
- Each team will have a **Spokesperson** designated by either the team or their coach. While the team is encouraged to discuss the possible answers, it is the spokesperson who will put forward the team answer. Teams should practice this procedure ahead of time to eliminate possible confusion. Library staff will only accept answers from the spokesperson.
- A warm-up practice question will be given to each team at the beginning of the first Round Robin Battle.

- Each team will be asked 7 questions per Round Robin Battle (10 each in the Grand Battle) from these **CATEGORIES**:
  - \*Canadian, \*Award Winning, \*Classic, \*New (since 2007),
  - \*Folk/Fairytale (juniors), \*Myths/Legends (seniors),
  - \*Popular Fiction (these may be in the form of a character question or a series question).
- The questions will be addressed to the teams alternately regardless of which team gives the last correct answer.
- The team to which the question is addressed has **30 seconds** to give the title and/or author of the book. Only the author's last name is necessary.
- During the 30 seconds, the team may have the question repeated, and may give as many guesses as it wishes through the spokesperson.
- **Five points** will be given when the team correctly identifies the book's Title, and **three points** will be given for identifying the Author. It is not necessary to give the author's first name. If it is incorrect, the answer will be incorrect.
- If the team is unable to answer the question correctly within the 30 seconds, the opposing team will have the opportunity to win **bonus points** by giving the correct Title and/or Author. The answer must be immediate. Bonus points are as follows: **two points** for Title and **one point** for Author.
- The judge's decision will be final in the case of any team answers which may be questionable.
- Audiotaping and videotaping are not allowed.
- There will be five rounds in the Round Robin and each team will play 4 rounds and be offered a snack during their 'BYE'. Snacks will include a choice of juice or milk, and **peanut-free cookies**. There will also be coffee available for adults at this time.
- Have fun and read lots of good books!