

## **Knowledge Bowl Timer/Scorer Instructions**

1. Allowable time for ALL RESPONSES in competition is 15 seconds with a warning provided when 5 seconds remain. The warning is stated as '5 SECONDS' so the teams know they have 5 seconds left to respond. 'TIME' is called at the end of each 15 second interval so that the reader may judge if an answer was initiated before 'TIME' was called. Timing should be done with a stop watch or with a timer using a second hand so that consistent and accurate timing is possible.
2. The complete reading of a question includes the number of the question, the title of the question and the body of the question; repeated once, with a brief pause prior to the start of the repeat. At the end of a complete reading of a question, the timer/scorer begins the time, and if no responses are received in 15 seconds (with a 5 second warning), TIME is called; the reader gives the correct answer and the next question is given. If any team should respond that they wish to answer prior to the complete reading of the question, the reader stops when an audible signal is heard from the Quiztron unit (see item 6), the timer/scorer calls upon the team that has signaled, and the timer/scorer starts the 15 second clock. The team has 15 seconds with a 5 second warning to respond.
3. If multiple teams respond to a question at the same time, the timer/scorer will call upon the teams in the order in which they responded. Each team when acknowledged will be given 15 seconds (with a 5 second warning) to provide a response before 'TIME' is called. When 'TIME' is called for a team, the time clock is reset so the next responding team receives a full 15 second interval (with a 5 second warning) to make a response. It is vital that the timer/scorer call 'TIME' at the end of 15 seconds so that the reader may judge if a substantive answer was begun PRIOR to 'TIME' being called.
4. The timer/scorer keeps the official score for the competitive round. The official score sheet shows the round number, the competition room, the reader, the timer and the responses by question plus the final scores by team. For each question, the team making the correct response is marked or, if no team gives the correct response, NONE is marked on the answer sheet.
5. The reader will keep a score during the round as a backup to the official score. After 25 questions, after 49 questions and after 50 questions (the end of the round), the round is paused; the official score is tabulated, verified, and announced. The timer/scorer and the reader MUST resolve any differences and agree on the score before the official score is reported and the round is continued or concluded.
6. Prior to the start of the meet, a meet official will train scorers/timers on the signaling device used (QUIZTRON) and how the unit will be reset during questions to provide an audible signal so the reader will know to stop reading. Timing protocols will also be reviewed during this training. The quiztron unit will

show the correct order in which teams respond to a question and the scorer/timer calls upon teams in that order. The quiztron unit will give a visual and auditory signal for the first signal received after it is reset/started. Thus for the first team to respond, a visual display and tone will be provided. For subsequent responses, prior to reset, the quiztron unit will ONLY provide visual signals.

- a. For example, during the reading of a question, Team A will signal. A visual signal and tone are given by the Quiztron and the reader stops. The scorer/timer calls upon Team A; the team has 15 seconds to respond. Assume Team A provides an incorrect answer. As soon as the reader rules the answer as incorrect, the scorer/timer resets the quiztron unit and tells the reader to 'continue'. Any team which has not signaled is eligible to receive the additional information contained in a complete reading of the question. The reader will continue from the point of interruption.
- b. When the Quiztron unit is reset after the signal by Team A, subsequent signals by either of the remaining teams (B or C) will give an audible and visual signal. The reader will stop at the audible signal and the timer/scorer will call upon the team to respond and start the 15 second response time. Assume that only Team B has responded and missed the question, the timer/scorer must tell the reader to 'continue' since the reader cannot see the quiztron and does not know that Team C is still eligible to receive more information up to a complete reading of the question. The timer/scorer resets the quiztron when the reader is told to 'continue' so that the reader will stop with the next audible tone or will stop when the question is completely read. Should Teams B and C both have responded earlier, the quiztron will show this in the order the signals were received. The timer/scorer calls upon each team in the order of their signal and each team is given a 15 second period in which to respond.

The slight hazard for resetting the quiztron is that any team that has responded previously on this same question is cleared from the unit. Thus, it is necessary for the timer/scorer to be vigilant that the same team should not try to answer twice for a given question. This is not a significant consideration since teams will police themselves and their competitors and lodge a protest if a team tries to make multiple answers to the same question. Further by marking the score sheet when a team misses a question, there can also be a written record of each question in each round. The audible signal that is provided to the reader when the quiztron is reset is a significant factor for a fair competition.

7. At the end of each round, the timer/scorer delivers the final score sheet to the meet director once all team captains have initialed the final scores for that round.