

PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon

STATE COMPETITION **Teams Advancing to State Competition**

CONGRATULATIONS! Your team scored well and has qualified for State Competition. After the initial excitement, you settle into the reality that now you must prepare your team for the next level of competition. Thoughts about arrangements, raising money, scheduling transportation and the idea of traveling with 9 teenagers may distract you. The following information is intended to help answer questions you may have so you and your team will get the most from this challenging and rewarding experience.

TEAM REGISTRATION

An information packet will be available to you via our website www.pagefoundation.org This packet from the state director will have all the information you will need to plan for participating in the State Competition. (*See sample packet in this section.*) This packet will contain general information, a competition schedule, forms, area and school campus maps. **It is important to register your team, complete, and mail or fax all forms in a timely manner.** The due date is in early February. It is important that forms are accurate and received on time (e.g., student registration, GPA worksheets, transcripts). A late fee of \$50.00 will be charged for teams registering after the deadline date.

HOTEL

A hotel reservation form will be included in the January information packet. The hotel will want the method of payment specified up front and will expect payment at checkout. If parents, administrators and others plan to attend the State Competition, send them copies of maps and hotel information as soon as possible. There is a group rate for Academic Decathlon guests, but you are responsible for *making your own reservations*. If you need an early check-in time, request that when you make the reservation.

When checking in, have tax-exempt forms and confirmation numbers or copies of the room reservation form available. Expect a certain amount of delay at the time of check-in, so plan for 1 coach to handle check-in and the other coach to be with the team members.

Some things for the coach(es) to think about would be to request that outside calls be made from the coaches' rooms only. Room service to students' rooms should be on a cash basis and pay television to students' rooms should be turned off, if possible. These steps should prevent any unwelcome surprises at checkout time.

PAGE will work with the hotel to see that the highest level of security is maintained while students are in the hotel.

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MEALS

There will be information in the January packet regarding meals at the competition and any costs for other meals for which you should plan. Some meals are not included so be sure to plan accordingly. Students may want to bring money for hotel snacks. A form for ordering banquet tickets for parents and others who wish to attend will be provided in the January packet.

Complimentary banquet tickets are provided for the team members and one coach. Nine team members and one coach can be seated together at the same banquet table. If complimentary banquet tickets are requested and NOT used, the team will be charged for the price of the meal. We will make every effort to seat team guests close to the team but we cannot guarantee that team guests will be able to be seated near their team members.

TRANSPORTATION

Teams are responsible for their own transportation to and from the competition site.

TEAM IDENTIFICATION – TEAM MASCOT

Some teams like to have team uniforms (t-shirts, blazers, etc.). This is up to the team members and coach(es). However, apparel selected for state competition cannot be distracting to other decathletes.

Selecting a team mascot is up to the team and coach(es). Team mascots must be safe (presenting no potential hazard to themselves or other decathletes) and should be no longer than an official football.

GENERAL

At the state competition, when students are not scheduled for competitive events, their time can be used for last minute studying or meeting and making new friends. Students and coaches will look back on their trip to the state competition as one of the highlights of the school year.