



New York Downstate Association for Respiratory Therapists, Inc.
Respiratory Care Academic Challenge (RCAC) Rules of Competition

I. The primary objectives of the Academic Challenge Competition are to stimulate interest in the current knowledge and practice of respiratory care, to call peer attention to the achievements of the respiratory care programs in our area and to provide academically stimulating entertainment at the annual symposium of NYDART.

II. The competition shall be held in a spirit of good sportsmanship and professionalism. There are no losers in this contest. All should gain a deeper understanding of respiratory care and themselves from this experience.

III. Composition and Qualifications of Teams

1. A team shall consist of at least three (3), but no more than four (4) members. If a team consists of four (4) members, one of the four (4) will be considered to be an “alternate.”

2. Each RC program within NYDART’s territory may submit only one team for the annual competition. The composition of the team is left to the sponsoring RC program but team members must be current students enrolled in that program. All team members must at least be student members of the AARC. The team members will receive complimentary admission to the Symposium in which they are competing.

3. Substitution of a player by the alternate may be made if a player can not complete the entire competition or to give the alternate experience in competition. However, certain rules apply:

(a) Substitution may take place only between rounds and not during play. (b) Once any team player is replaced by the alternate, the replaced player shall not return for the duration of the competition.

4. Each RC program wishing to participate must submit 50 questions no less than 10 days prior to the date of the initial rounds. Questions must conform to the Question Specifications listed below. Submission of questions shall constitute formal application for admission to the competition. The mailing address is listed at the end of this document.

5. Each RC program shall submit a roster of team members to the NYDART Respiratory Care Academic Challenge committee chairperson no less than 10 days prior to the date of the initial rounds.

6. If an RC program fails to submit its questions or roster at least 10 days prior to the date of the initial rounds, it will not be eligible for competition during the symposium.

IV. Question Specifications

1. All questions submitted become the property of NYDART Inc. and may be kept indefinitely, discarded or modified by NYDART Inc. to meet its needs in conducting an annual student academic challenge.

2. The questions should, to the greatest extent possible, represent the expected level of didactic and clinical proficiency the respiratory care student would be expected to possess upon graduation from any accredited respiratory care program.
3. While the submission of questions is a prerequisite for participation, teams should be aware that the questions they submit may or may not be used in competition for the current year. In this manner, a pool of questions for future use will continue to be developed.

SAMPLE

Chemistry/Physics

Q: What is an abnormal finding on the chest film seen when air-filled bronchi are visible as a result of surrounding consolidation
 A: Air bronchogram
 Ref: Respiratory Disease, 3rd Edition, 2007, page 483
 Submitted by: Your school name, month/year

4. Ideally, questions should be developed by student sputum bowl participants from each RC program and screened by program officials before submission. In particular, questions should be constructed in such a manner that there are NO “true/false,” “yes/no,” or “multiple choice” type questions.

5. All questions should be referenced to the currently approved list of Respiratory Care Academic Challenge texts (see Appendix A).

6. Each question should be typed on a single 5 x 8” file card in the following format:

Category:
 Question:
 Answer:
 Reference (author, text, edition, year, page #)
 Submitting program name, Submission date (month/year)

Electronic submission by e-mail is acceptable.

7. Question Category Matrix. The quantity of questions submitted in specific categories is shown below. Because question cards are shuffled during the competition, all questions asked are random and may not correspond to the order in the category matrix.

Airway care	4	Pharmacology	4
Mechanical ventilation	4	Pathology	4
Acute care	4	Chemistry/Physics	3
Gas therapy	4	Neonatal/Pediatrics	3
Humidity/aerosol	4	History of the profession	1
Microbiology	3	Rehab/Home Care	2
Pulmonary Function	3	Management	2
Anatomy & Physiology	5		
TOTAL	50		

V. Moderator(s)

1. The moderator(s) shall be familiar with the terminology of the profession, familiar with the conduct of competition and shall be appointed by the Board of Directors of the NY Downstate Association for Respiratory Care Inc.
2. Two or more moderators may be used alternately during the course of a competition to promote fairness and impartiality.
3. The moderator shall have the sole authority to accept or reject an answer without asking for a judge's ruling. The moderator(s) shall review questions prior to the competition to determine acceptable alternate responses to each question and to prepare random sets of questions for use during each round of play.
4. During the competition, the moderator is solely in charge. The moderator will control the actions of the teams, judges, scorekeeper, timekeeper and audience. All decisions by the moderator will be final.

VI. Judges

1. There shall be three (3) or five (5) judges appointed by the moderator(s) on the day of the competition.
2. If possible, judges will be appointed from the roster of the symposium's guest speakers for the day. If this is not possible, there should be one judge from each RC program that is competing. Each judge should be a faculty member of the RC program represented in the competition.
3. In the event that there is an insufficient quantity of potential judges on hand from the speaker roster or competing RC programs, additional judges, with no RC program affiliation of any type, may be appointed by the moderator(s) from willing volunteers in the audience.
4. The judges appointed for the competition shall rule on the response to any question only when so desired by the moderator and indicate whether they accept or reject a team's answer. Judges should not volunteer any opinion unless requested by the moderator. When requested by the moderator, all judges' decisions are final.
5. When asked to rule, judges must reach a consensus opinion within 60 seconds or the decision will revert to the moderator whose decision will be final.

VII. The Competition

1. Preliminary and final rounds may be scheduled on different days to facilitate the objectives of NYDART with respect to the scheduling of the Annual Symposium.
2. All preliminary rounds will consist of two teams in competition for ten (10) minutes on the game clock. The team scoring the most points at the end of ten (10) minutes is the round winner. There will be no penalty rounds.

3. The final round will consist of two teams in competition either:
A. for fifteen (15) minutes on the game clock (if the entire challenge is held at the symposium). The team scoring the most points at the end of fifteen (15) minutes is the RCAC competition winner.

Or

B. for two of three rounds (if the preliminaries are held prior to the symposium). If a third round is required, the final round will be for fifteen (15) minutes.

4. Depending upon the number of teams available to play, the moderator(s) will determine a play schedule and will have each team draw straws to determine playing position (Refer to attachments 1 and 2 for sample game matrices).

5. The moderator shall announce the commencement of the competition, introduce the team members, introduce the judges and other officials and summarize the rules to the teams and audience.

6. The timekeeper (or alternate moderator) shall time the length of play and announce timed events (10 second limit, judges' 60 second conference limit and end of play). The game clock will be stopped whenever a response has been referred to the judges.

7. The scorekeeper shall maintain a running score visible to all participants and audience.

8. The moderator will ask the questions, indicate the team that has responded first and await the answer. The moderator will judge the first answer given as to its correctness, and if correct, will so indicate to the scorekeeper.

9. Each team, after responding to a question, shall have ten (10) seconds to begin an answer. Failure to either begin an answer or to answer correctly within ten (10) seconds will give the opposing team the opportunity hear the question repeated in entirety and to answer within ten (10) seconds thereafter. Team members have the liberty to confer during this time period.

10. If "Team A" responds to a question before the moderator has read the complete question and does not answer correctly, the moderator will reread the complete question for "Team B" which will have the opportunity to answer within ten (10) seconds thereafter.

11. If neither team responds to a question within ten (10) seconds after the moderator has completed its reading, the question will be set aside, neither team will score, and questioning will continue.

12. Each correct answer to a question will have a value of one (1) point. No deductions will be made for wrong answers.

13. Single numerical answers must be within $\pm 10\%$ of the expected answer unless an exact answer is required. The high and low values for an answer requiring a numerical range must be exact.

14. Where appropriate, answer should include the terms or the units of measure; i.e., cm H₂O, mm Hg, Liters per minute, grams, etc., or else the answer will be ruled invalid.

15. If, due to a moderator error, or an answer shouted by an audience member, a question must be set aside, neither team may score on that question, and questioning will continue.

16. If an answer to a question is begun prior to the end of regulation play (i.e., before the timer's buzzer sounds), it shall be completed in accordance with the above rules if either team has responded prior to the end of play. If the buzzer sounds before the question is read in its entirety, or before either team responds, then the game shall be declared ended.

17. A tie game at the end of regulation play shall be resolved by a sudden death playoff. The first team to score three (3) points shall be declared the winner.

VIII. Awards.

The winning team is awarded the NYDART Inc. (RCAC) Respiratory Care Academic Challenge trophy. The winning school may keep and display the trophy indefinitely. A new trophy will be awarded each year to the winning team.



www.nydart.org

Appendix A

References for NYDART Inc. Respiratory Care Academic Challenge Competition

Ruppel, G., Manual of Pulmonary Function Testing, 9th edition

Barnhart, S., Czervinske, M., Perinatal Pediatric Respiratory Care (2nd Edition), Saunders, 2003

Whitaker, K., Comprehensive Perinatal & Pediatric Respiratory Care: Clinical (3rd Edition), Albany: Delmar Publishers, Inc., 2001.

Cairo, J.M., Mosby's Respiratory Care Equipment, (7th edition), Mosby Publishers, Inc., 2004.

Oakes, D. F., Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care: A Critical Care Pocket Guide (5th edition), Old Town, Maine: Health Educator Publications, Inc., 2000.

Pilbeam, Susan P., Mechanical Ventilation: Physiological and Clinical Applications, (4th Edition). St.Louis: Mosby-Year Book, Inc., 2006

Des Jardins, T and Burton, G.C., Clinical Manifestations and Assessment of Respiratory Disease, 5th Edition, Mosby Publishers, Inc, 2008

Wilkins, R.L., Stoller, J.K., Kacmerk, R.M: Egan's Fundamentals of Respiratory Care, (9th edition), Mosby Publishers, Inc, 2009

Beachy, Will, Respiratory Care Anatomy and Physiology 2nd Edition, Mosby Publishers, Inc, 2007

Gardenhire, Douglas, Rau's Respiratory Care Pharmacology 7th Edition, Mosby Publishers, Inc, 2008

Malley, William, Clinical Blood Gases - Assessment and Intervention 2nd edition, Elsevier Inc, 2005

NB. Later editions of any of these texts are acceptable.

The 2010 NYDART Inc. ad hoc RC Academic Challenge Committee consists of:

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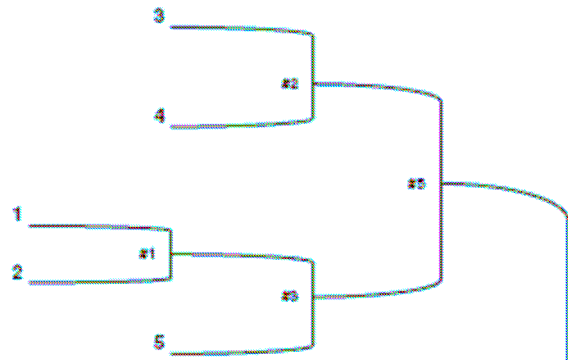
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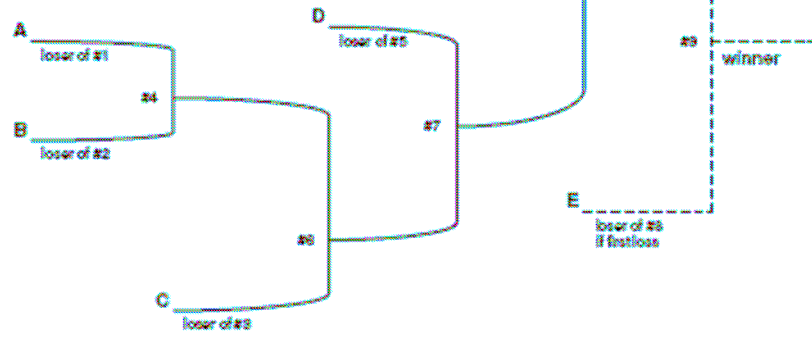
Attachment 1

5-team double elimination

winners bracket



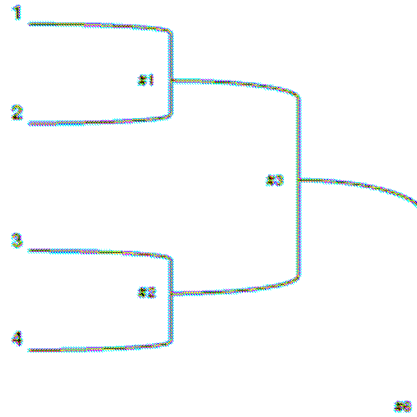
losers bracket



Attachment 2

4-team double elimination

winners bracket



losers bracket

