



3rd Annual Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee



SPELLING BEE RULES

1. The spelling event will begin at 1:00 pm and competition at 1:30 pm on October 3rd/15.
2. Each team must have three members. If a team member is late, the team may start the Bee with only two members, but all three members must be present or their alternates after the intermission. (Each team is encouraged to have alternates available on the evening of the event.)
3. Deadlines for pledge totals for each team: **12:30 on day of event.** Please make sure you have provided Literacy for Life all sources of pledges – including giving pages and hard copies of pledge sheets. **The team that has collected the highest pledges will be determined as of that time and date.**
4. Teams will spell in alphabetical order by team name. The competition begins at 1:30 p.m. If a team doesn't spell their word, or spells the word incorrectly, then they will be eliminated. (exception – use of Mulligan – See Page 2)
5. Each team must select one member to spell the word aloud throughout the competition. Teams may appeal to the judges to change their designated speller once during the Bee.
6. Once a word is given, each team will have 60 seconds to discuss and spell the word. A warning will be given when 15 seconds remain.
7. A speller may stop spelling a word and start over once, but must retrace the spelling from the beginning. The speller will be considered to be finished when the last letter in a word is given.
8. After the Master Pronouncer gives a team a word, the speller is encouraged to pronounce the word before and after spelling it. **However, no team will be eliminated if the speller does not pronounce the word.**
9. If a word has one or more homonyms (such as 'there', 'their'), the Master Pronouncer will indicate which one to spell by giving a definition. If the homonym is not correctly explained, any correct spelling of the homonym will be accepted.
10. The speller can ask for a word to be re-pronounced, defined or used in a sentence until the judges agree that the word has been made clear.

11. Words will be spelled and pronounced according to the Canadian Oxford Dictionary.
12. Spelling Bee eliminations will be on a miss-and-out basis. The competition shall be conducted in rounds. Each team remaining in the Spelling Bee at the start of a round shall spell one word in the round.
13. Upon misspelling a word, a team immediately drops out of competition. (Exception is use of a Mulligan – see below). The next word on the Master Pronouncer’s list is given to the next team.
14. If only one of the teams remaining in the competition at the end of a round spells a word correctly during that round, that team shall be declared the winner. Otherwise (that is, if no team succeeds in correctly spelling a new word in the round), all teams in the competition at the end of the previous round shall remain in competition. A new round will then begin with these teams spelling in the original order.
15. Judges are in control of the Bee. Their decisions are final. Any questions must be referred to the judges immediately. The deadline for filing a grievance is before the team affected would have received their next word had they remained in the competition.

The MULLIGAN is back by popular demand!

What is a Mulligan?

A mulligan is a second chance to stay in the game if your team misspells a word.

How does it work?

- Teams may opt to purchase up to three mulligans. **All mulligans must be purchased at the registration table on the day of the Bee, before the Bee begins.**
- Only three mulligans per team are allowed.
- The cost of a single mulligan is \$25, two for \$50 or each team may purchase three mulligans for \$100. Surcharge for multiples!
- Teams may use their mulligan at any time except in the **final round** where the winner is determined between 2 teams.
- Upon surrender of their mulligan to the judges, the team will be given a new word to spell.