



**APRIL 11,  
2026**

**The Colorado Odyssey of the Mind  
State Tournament Newsletter**

**Date to Remember  
State Tournament**

Following Awards Ceremony  
Brief World Finals Coaches & Parent Meeting  
6:15 PM - Main Gym Bleachers  
  
World Finals Coaches & Parents Meeting via Zoom  
Tuesday, April 14th  
5:30-7:30 PM  
Link Will Be Sent Sunday, April 12th to Coaches

**Welcome to the 2026 CO Odyssey State Tournament!**

Welcome to the 2026 CO Odyssey State Tournament at Thunder Valley K-8 in Frederick. Just by participating at the tournament your team is a WINNER because they have solved the problem to the best of their ability! We appreciate all the hard work and time you have devoted to your problem solution and hope you've had a fun Odyssey along the way.

This newsletter contains much of the information you will need for the 2026 State Tournament. We hope this helps make your day a little less stressful. Please read carefully, discuss it as a team, forward to your parents and anyone else coming to the tournament.

We are looking forward to sharing your excitement as you show your creative problem solutions and energy! Finally, let's give a big Odyssey "THANK YOU" to Thunder Valley K-8 for hosting this event! Best Wishes to all who participate!! Enjoy and have FUN! If you have further questions, please contact:

Calla Pott, State Association Director  
970-420-4801 | [assocdir@coloradoodyssey.org](mailto:assocdir@coloradoodyssey.org)



Use the QR codes to the right to upload photos to our Google Photo Albums for the Awards Slide Show. We need your help to make sure your team is included!



Problem 1:  
Vehicle



Problem 2:  
Technical



Problem 3:  
Classics



Coaches



Problem 4:  
Structure



Problem 5:  
Performance



Spontaneous  
Holding Room



Judges &  
Volunteers

**Pizza Deal**  
Pre-Order your Pizza here;  
Orders due April 8th

[Click Here for Pizza Pre-Order](#)

**TOURNAMENTAPP!**  
Everything you need for the tournament in one place

SCAN THE QR CODE to open the Tournament App

- Event schedule
- Competitions
- Parking information
- Awards
- And more!

Add the page to your phone's home screen for quick access.

**How to Check In:  
Coaches, Judges & Volunteers!**

**Coaches:** Please check-in at the Team Check-In table in the main area, verify the team roster/members, and pick up your registration packet.

**Judges:** Follow signs for Judges Check In/Hospitality to receive your t-shirt & enjoy a continental breakfast before your Problem Captain comes to escort you to your competition venue by the time requested.

**Volunteers:** Please Check-in at the Volunteer Check-In table in the main area to receive your vest and instructions.

# Coaches, Team & Parent Expectations

Coaches please forward this information to all parents

For the location & time of the team's competition, visit:

[www.coloradoodyssey.org](http://www.coloradoodyssey.org)

and click on the tab titled "Tournaments" at the top



**Make sure parents understand:**



**Outside Assistance & Spontaneous rules**



**Parking, unloading and loading**



**Behavioral expectations**



**Odyssey sales**



**Eating arrangements**



**Award Ceremony**



**Please turn off all phones, watch alarms, etc. during performances so as not to distract performers.**



**NO flash cameras or videotaping allowed**

*without the permission of team prior to performance.*



**REMEMBER THAT YOUR SPONTANEOUS PROBLEM IS NOT TO BE DISCUSSED**

among team members, coaches, or parents until May 1st.

Don't risk a "Spirit of the Problem" penalty or disqualification.

**Request for Resolution Process –**



**COACHES ONLY**

- Coaches may approach the Problem Captain.

**APPEALS**

- Appeals must come from the Coach.

**DISCUSSION**

- Rulings are discussed only between the Coach and Problem Captain.

**Spectators – Be prompt to see the team's Long-Term performance!**

**You will NOT be able to enter the venue once the team begins performing.**

## PENALTIES TO AVOID

**Team Membership Sign – Make sure all information is correct**



**Outside Assistance – Only team members can work on the solution, including costumes and makeup**



**Respect other teams, their property & performance**



**Pick Up After Yourself Leave the school & bathrooms clean and in good order**



**Potential Floor Damage – Check team props**



**Unsportsmanlike Conduct – Inform Parents and other team supporters that their actions and words can also cost the team penalty points**

## Be sure to bring:



- The team
- Extension cords (if needed)

**Completed Forms:**

- 1 Outside Assistance
- 1 Materials Cost
- 4 Team Problem Required Lists
- 4 Style Forms
- and any Team Clarifications

**Make sure you make extra copies in case they get lost in "OMERLAND"!**



Remember to keep your solution until all 1st & 2nd place teams have confirmed they will attend World Finals. Each year we have 1-2 teams who are eligible who cannot due to other commitments

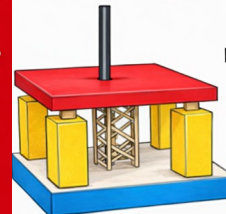
### TEAM CHECK-IN:

**7:00 am TO 1:00 pm**

inside **MAIN ENTRANCE** of the building.



### Problem #4 – Structure



Problem 4 teams have been assigned a weigh-in time. Please show up promptly at your assigned time.

Weigh-in will be in the **Gym.** (Look for the posted signs.)



**REREAD** the Program Guide – in particular, please review Chapter 5 Program Rules that apply to all teams.

**Parking is available on the west and south sides of the building**

Please park in designated parking areas only.



### NO CLIMBING OR PLAYING

on objects in or around the school  
Teams may receive an Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty



### Long-Term Staging

Be at the Long-Term Performance Site **AT LEAST 20 MINUTES BEFORE** your scheduled performance.



### Spontaneous Time

Check in at the Spontaneous Table **20 MINUTES BEFORE** your scheduled time.

## PICK UP YOUR SCORES & STICKY NOTES!

Your scores will be ready for you to pick up approximately 60 minutes after you compete. We will text you when your scores are ready, and you will have 30 minutes to pick up your scores from the Head Judge or Problem Captain.

The PC or HJ will review the team's score and sticky notes with you, then they will note the time. Then you will have 30 minutes from that time to file a Request for Resolution if you disagree with an objective score or a penalty. Style and subjective scores are the opinions of the judges and are final.

Please note if you do not pick up your scores within 30 minutes after receiving the text message, you will not be able to file a Request for Resolution if you find an error in your scores at a later time.

Plus the kids enjoy reading the sticky notes!

# THANK YOU!

Parents • Team Members  
Coaches • Volunteers  
Judges • Problem Captains  
Tournament Directors  
Colorado Odyssey  
Board of Directors

Coaches and Parents—

*It is through your efforts that we continue to offer a successful program for the kids!*



## Team Registration, Information, First Aid & Lost and Found

will be located inside the Main Entrance area along with **Volunteer Check-In.**



## Awards Ceremonies!



### Primary Team Awards

Congratulations to all Primary teams who competed at the Regional Tournaments!

### Hat and Banner Parade

Line up at 4:45 pm  
Outside the Main Gym

### Divisions I, II & III Awards Ceremony

5:00 pm in the Main Gym



Please stay until all winners have been announced or you might miss your team's name!



## Coaches!

When your team is in Spontaneous, make sure to visit the

### Coach's Hospitality!

We will provide you with....  
a drink, snack and a few moments of



### Peace & Quiet!

Please no children or team parents.



Bring your own or make one after you've competed.

Supplies will be available at 3:45 pm in the Cafeteria,

Line-up for the parade will be at 4:45 pm in the West Side of Main Gym



# Drop by the Odyssey Store to Check out Creative Merchandise

## Problem Venue Locations

**Problem #1 — Off The Rails**  
Main Gym

**Problem #2 — Lost in OMERland**  
Band Room

**Problem #3—The Epic Quest**  
Auditorium

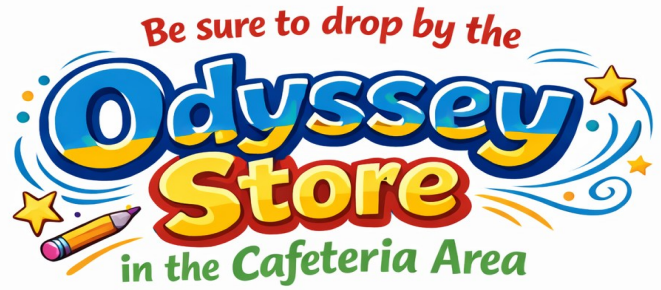
**Problem #4 — Life’s A Ball**  
Aux Gym

**Problem #5 —Taller Tales of John**  
Jivery

Media Center

**Spontaneous Check In**

C Wing



and check out all of the creativity...

T-Shirts, Pins and other Odyssey items will be available for sale!

Some of these items make great "Thank You" gifts for coaches (hint, hint!)



2026 Colorado Odyssey T-Shirt \$15.00



2026 State Pin \$5.00

## COLORADO ODYSSEY

### PASSPORT GAME



- ✓ Look in the team packet your coach received at check in for passports.
- ✓ Visit the Long Term Problems to see a performance & receive a sticker from the Door Monitor as you exit.

✓ **Bonus sticker** available for visiting the Odyssey Store!

✓ Receive 5 of the 7 stickers and enter your Passport for a prize at Awards Ceremony.

Enter as many times as you wish. Several prizes will be given out at Awards Ceremony.



## MAKE A



### Friendship Bracelet

Donations are welcome!

All donations will go to the **Scholarship Fund** in memory of Taylor Waymont



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### Concessions!

Help support Student Organizations by visiting the concession stands on Tournament Day.

**MAUI WOW!**  
HAWAIIAN  
COFFEES & SMOOTHIES

### WF PIN & OFFICIAL'S SHIRT DRAWING

**Get a Raffle Ticket!**

Receive a raffle ticket for the **WF Pins & Official's Shirt Drawing** when you purchase a **\$1.00 toy**

**Winner announced** at the **Awards Ceremony**  
All proceeds benefit the **Julie Farr Scholarship**

★ Support the Julie Farr Scholarship!

**2026 WORLD FINALS**  
**May 27-31**  
**Iowa State University**  
**Ames, IA**

**2026 LONG TERM PROBLEM PINS!**  
Choose just your problem (\$4) or collect them all (set of 6 for \$20)!

# FIND YOUR WAY

Use the colors for each problem and the corresponding directional signs below to navigate the tournament.

<b>PROBLEM 1</b> <b>VEHICLE</b> ←	<b>PROBLEM 2</b> <b>TECHNICAL</b> ←
<b>PROBLEM 3</b> <b>CLASSICS</b> →	<b>PROBLEM 4</b> <b>STRUCTURE</b> ←
<b>PROBLEM 5</b> <b>PERFORMANCE</b> →	<b>PROBLEM 6</b> <b>PRIMARY</b> ←
<b>SPONTANEOUS CHECK IN</b> ←	

- Off The Rails (Problem 1 Vehicle) ..... **RED**
- Lost in OMERland (Problem 2 Technical) ..... **BLUE**
- The Epic Quest (Problem 3 Classics) ..... **PINK**
- Life's A Ball (Problem 4 Structure) ..... **ORANGE**
- Taller Tales of John Jivery (Problem 5 Performance) ..... **PURPLE**
- Spontaneous ..... **NEON GREEN**
- Check-in, Odyssey Store, Concessions ..... **YELLOW**

### Ranatra Fusca Creativity Award

Represents the essence of Odyssey of the Mind and is presented to teams or individuals who exhibit exceptional creativity, either through some aspect of their problem solution, or an extraordinary idea beyond the problem solution.

A successful problem solution is not a criterion for the award; rather, the award is a way to acknowledge and encourage creative thinking and risk-taking.

### Omer's Award

Named for the Odyssey of the Mind raccoon mascot, OMER, this award recognizes individuals or teams who demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship, exemplary behavior, or exceptional talent. Recipients of this award may be coaches, team members, parents, officials or anyone else that tournament officials or directors feel exhibit these traits. This award is not intended to reward creativity.