

Dear Head Coaches,

It's been a while since we've sent you an update, but now it is time to start moving forward to prepare for the 2021 tournaments. The Region 8 tournament is still on course to be a Mini SO tournament, with all events occurring as written tests taken on-line through the Scilympiad platform. Michigan State Science Olympiad will be using this platform as well, and all Regions will share the state website to create a single location for teams to register. Please go to <https://scilympiad.com/mi> and register as a head coach, being sure to select MI Regional 8 as your school's region, and the Wayne-Monroe Regional Tournament as one of the tournaments you are registering for. This is a free platform, so there are no fees associated with using it. The Scilympiad platform will automatically add your information to both tournament lists so you can receive any communications sent by either the state or our region. So far, Flat Rock Community College Science Olympiad is the only team registered for Region 8 – thank you. Until all of our teams are registered, e-mails will continue to come from Terry Smith-Glaser's personal e-mail. After that, you will begin to see e-mails from [info4@scilympiad.com](mailto:info4@scilympiad.com). Please be sure to unblock this address (if this applies) or ensure it does not go to spam. (As soon as you register, the platform automatically sends confirmation e-mails, so this is a good way to check that these e-mails are getting through.)

Once you register, you can poke around and get familiar with the platform. If you check out the listings for our tournament, you will see the list of events we plan schedule as part of our mini tournament. These include Write it Cad it [https://www.soinc.org/sites/default/files/uploaded\\_files/WriteltCadIt.pdf](https://www.soinc.org/sites/default/files/uploaded_files/WriteltCadIt.pdf) and Digital Structures [https://www.soinc.org/sites/default/files/uploaded\\_files/DigitalStructures.pdf](https://www.soinc.org/sites/default/files/uploaded_files/DigitalStructures.pdf) to replace WIDI and boomilever, respectively. Please note that Michigan State Science Olympiad has purchased over 100 licensed copies of SkyCiv for schools to use in practicing the Digital Structures event. Please send the board an e-mail if you would like a FREE copy for your school! Also be advised that any lab events will be “test only” or “dry lab” events. The exact format of events such as Experimental Design, Sound of Music, and Protein Modelling will ultimately depend on decisions of the Event Supervisors, who have not yet been confirmed.

Please bear with us as we all get acquainted with the Scilympiad platform. The Scilympiad platform is still being modified to accommodate its use on such a wide scale (it was designed for use in Southern California) so there are many features yet to come. This is a huge learning curve but we are all in this together, trying to provide a meaningful season under difficult circumstances.

Thank you,

Your Region 8 Science Olympiad board members