

March 2006 Teleconference

The teleconference was called to order by Heather on March 26, 2006 at 7:00PM. Those present were: Laura Jo, Alean, Heidi, Linda Adams, Kathy Adler, Ernie, Linda Troyer, Heather, Stu and the secretary Lee.

Stu spoke of an article in the Helena paper by a Mr. Paul Krugman that he felt would have an impact on us and said he will get a copy and give it to Heather.

Regional Reports

Each director gave a report of what happened in her region during the year.

Most seemed to like the feedback forms. There was some discussion on the change to showcases. The NW Region wanted the places.

There were some discussion/complaints on when state is held due to the Spring break

Teams counts went from 90 statewide last year to 47 at state this year. We really need to place more emphasis on getting more teams. Basin suggested we make more of an effort to target small rural schools.

It was suggested that the program year be as follows: September and October IC, November and December and then Central Challenge. They can start on their challenges whenever they are ready and we can help them focus on instant challenge maybe earlier and learn some brainstorming type tools. Maybe we will be able to get more information to the team managers even with some hard copy type stuff. Heather feels that right now we are asking too much of team managers to absorb everything by e-mail.

There was discussion about the Shop DI e-mails.

Heather and Stu reported on the trainings they did this year.

It appears we need to touch base with the TM a little more often.

The regions reported on their IC Days.

There was discussion on whether to stay with showcases or return to tournaments. There was also some discussion on moving the tournament dates earlier. A change might give the teams more time to get money together for global or will they lose momentum with too much time in between. We also need to be aware of spring break. Are not able to meet everybody's dates.

There was discussion on teams that did not come prepared to the showcases. Do we need to return to having places?

Remember April's meeting is for some heavy thinking toward the meeting in August.

BUDGET

We have a balance of \$17,997.75. There was a review of donations received and not granted.

Heather reported on what the new fees for memberships will be.

Training Video:

Stuart's daughter and friends are going to do videos and then we will be able to view them. The girls know the program and this should be a really good thing and they will work on the completion of the video over the summer and it will be ready for next year.

Linda T thinks this is a really good idea. Stu feels this will show what to expect, supplies needed, etc.

Appraiser trainings:

Each region reported on how well appraiser trainings went.

Heather said she felt good help on how to write sticky notes and another one was how to do a prep area function. Ernie said he did not feel that it really made any difference. They did appreciate the run-through.

New registration system:

There was one major glitch and this appeared to be that people did not know what their regions were.

Appraiser registration went well. Some still sent their information in various ways.

Still had teams late in registering and paying but we did get more appraisers on time this year.

April meeting will be held on the 23rd of April of 2006 at 7: pm to 8:30.

Motion to adjourn was made by Alean and seconded by Heidi.

Lee Hiltz , Secretary