



MAY-JUNE 2019

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Coaches' Bulletin

Major Changes in *Presidents*

The new *Presidents* Committee has made the following decisions, effective for 2019-20.

1. Presidents will be divided into three groups:
Group 1: #1-17
Group 2: #16-33
Group 3: #28-45
2. El/Mid will play one group each year. For 2019-20, that means #1-8 in the first session (round) and #9-17 in the second session (round) locally and at Nationals.
3. Jr/Sr will play two groups each year. For 2019-20 that means #1-17 for the first session and #16-33 for the second.
4. We will continue to have one theme each year for all divisions and an additional theme for Jr/Sr. The 2019-20 themes are:
All divisions: Scandals
Jr/Sr: Foreign Affairs
5. The lists of U.S. Leaders for Jr/Sr have been abolished. Instead, a list of persons to be studied will be provided for each Theme.

Equations Changes

The certified judges have approved the following proposals.

1. **All divisions:** Specify that, when a checker asks a judge to check an Equation, "Solution = Goal" means the Solution and Goal as written on the presenter's paper.
2. **Jr/Sr:** Revise the comment after the Number of Factors (xA) variation to this: "Any such Equation that cannot be verified (even with a **handheld** scientific calculator) by opponents and judges as correct or incorrect will be ruled incorrect." Add a comment specifically excluding software like Wolfram *Mathematica*.
3. **Jr/Sr:** With Number of Factors, Goals of the form $x[(a^b)\pm c]$ where $c\neq 0$ are prohibited.

On-Sets Change

Senior: Players must indicate the order in which Symmetric Difference and Double Set are called at the beginning of the shake.

Propaganda Sections for 2019-20
A, B, C, F



Submit questions to:
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Q1 Why were the presidents divided into three groups instead of two?

Players will be able to study each president more in-depth. Players will learn more with the time to delve into each administration.

Q2 Why do the three groups of presidents overlap?

Instead of breaking the 45 presidents into three equal groups, the committee decided to separate the groups at significant historical points. Since the Civil War was a watershed in U.S. history, Lincoln (16) and Johnson (17) are included in Groups 1 and 2. Same for 28-33 (Wilson through Truman) in Groups 2 and 3 to have World Wars I and II in both groups.

Q3 Who are the persons to be studied for Scandals and Foreign Affairs, the two themes for 2019-20?

The committee is formulating the lists, which will be published in the Tournament Rules available at agloa.org by July 1.

Q4 Will the Presidents Worksheets be revised to fit the new groupings and themes?

Yes, the worksheets will be thoroughly revised this summer and available for purchase by September.

Q5 Why were *Equations* goals like $x[(a^b)\pm c]$ ($c\neq 0$) prohibited with Number of Factors?

Numerous players at Nationals set Goals of that form which they had evaluated using powerful software like *Mathematica*. $(a^b)\pm c$ produces such large numbers that opponents have no chance to calculate the number of factors using only pencil and paper. This is not the type of strategy that coaches want to encourage.

LinguiSHTIK changes and the *Theme* outline will be included in the next Coaches Bulletin in August.