



# ISSF

## Independent Schools of South Florida

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### 2023/2024

## 14th ANNUAL ISSF "SPELLING BEE"

**FOR:** Students entering 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in the Fall of 2023  
**DATE:** TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023  
**TIME:** Check-In: 8:30 a.m. Spelling Bee: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon  
**PLACE:** CORAL GABLES WOMEN'S CLUB  
1001 East Ponce de Leon Blvd. Coral Gables, FL  
**FEE:** \$175.00 per Team if registered before October 1, 2023  
\$200.00 per Team after October 1, 2023

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### RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **PARTICIPANTS:** The ISSF Spelling Bee is for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students enrolled in an ISSF Member School only. A maximum of 25 school Teams may participate in the Bee. Only 5<sup>th</sup> grade students may participate.
2. **TEAM:** Each participating school will choose **one 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Team**. A team consists of **four players**. Each school will choose its four best 5<sup>th</sup> grade spellers in any way it wishes.
  - Names of the students must be submitted prior to the event so Certificates of participation may be made.
  - If one of the students becomes ill before the event, the school can send someone else to the event, but only **four students** from each school may attend on the day of the event. Substitutions must be made before arrival at the Bee.
  - There are no substitutions once the event has begun. Teams will proceed with the number of players present, but no one can spell for an empty spot.
  - No alternates are allowed to attend the event.
3. **WORD LISTS:** When team members have been selected, each team member should be given a copy of the **OFFICIAL WORD LIST AND BONUS LIST** (available on the [www.issfschools.org](http://www.issfschools.org) website) from which the team members can study. All words used at the Bee will be selected from these lists.
4. **SCORING:** The pronouncer reads a word aloud.
  - a. Player one of Team A must spell it correctly, orally. If correct, the player earns two (2) points.
  - b. If he/she is incorrect, he/she receives no points.
  - c. If any player misspells a word, the "pronouncer" gives the correct spelling.
  - d. Play continues with a regular word to the next team. Play rotates to each team (A, B, C, D, etc.)
  - e. During regular and bonus rounds, words are used only once. A player who misspells a word continues in the match; he/she is not eliminated.
  - f. A player must state if there is a Capital or Apostrophe in the word.
  - g. A player must repeat the word before spelling it.
  - h. A player must stand when spelling a word.
  - i. Once a player has started to spell a word, the player cannot stop and start over again.
  - j. A player can ask for a sentence using the word before beginning to spell the word.

5. **BONUS WORDS:** When all 4 players on each team have had a turn, the same bonus word will be given to one member of each team. The player will **PRINT** the bonus word in **CAPITAL BLOCK** letters on a previously distributed folded card with the school name on it. ***A player may not correct the spelling of a bonus word once it has been printed. If the word is erased or crossed out, the team will not receive credit for the bonus word.***
    - Once the word is written on the card provided, the card must be turned over and the pencil put down to indicate that the player has completed printing the bonus word.
    - Printing must be clear and readable in order for the word to be considered correct.
    - Cards will be passed to the front row of the team and the room Chairperson will collect the cards for the Judges.
    - The caller will then announce the correct spelling of the bonus word.
    - The Judges will check each player's printed spelling of the bonus word.
    - Each correctly spelled bonus word will be worth four (4) points to the team. The round will then be complete and the total points for the round for each team will be entered on the scoreboard.
    - In successive rounds, bonus words will be given to different players on a team.
  6. **ROUNDS:** There will be four (4) rounds or Teams will compete until 12:00 noon, whichever comes first.
  7. **AWARDS:** ISSF Certificates will be given to the coaches to give to their team members. In the Spring, schools whose teams placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> will receive a trophy for the school and medals for the students on those teams.
  8. **ATTENDEES:** **Adult Representatives (including parents, coaches, teachers, etc) from each school will NOT be allowed inside the ballroom where the Bee is held. Adults will have the option of waiting in an adjacent ballroom only. This rule will be strictly enforced. No alternates allowed at the event – only FOUR students per school will be allowed to participate.**
  9. **TIE:** In the event that there is a tie for first, second or third place, all tied teams will receive their appropriate placed trophy.
  10. **ELECTRONICS:** **Cell phones, tablets, iPads and/or other electronics are strictly prohibited.**
  11. **BREAKS/SNACK/WATER:** One short morning break will be held midway through the event, at which time the participants will receive a Nutrigrain granola and be allowed to use the restroom. The Women's Club has no drinking fountains. Students will be allowed to take ONE water bottle with them inside the ballroom. No other foods or drinks will be allowed. (ISSF will have a few water bottles on site that may be purchased at \$1.00 each.)
  12. **CONDUCT:** All student participants, parents, and coaches are to portray a spirit of sportsmanship and must abstain from disparaging or unsportsmanlike remarks to any participant, coach, scorekeeper, timekeeper, ISSF volunteer, etc. Appropriate conduct is expected at all times. Failure to abide by rules of sportsmanship may result in the disqualification of a team.
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## 2023-2024 ISSF SPELLING BEE REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Yes, our school will be participating in the 14th Annual ISSF SPELLING BEE scheduled for Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

Name of Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of FOUR Spelling Bee Team Members:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

### 14th ANNUAL ISSF "SPELLING BEE"

#### AGREEMENT

As my school's designated Spelling Bee Coach, I have read the 2023-2024 Spelling Bee Rules and Regulations and have clearly explained these to our participating Students, their Parents and Teachers involved with the Bee. I understand and agree to abide by these Rules & Regulations at all times. I understand that failure to abide by these rules may disqualify my school. I understand that any decisions made by the Bee Director/Bee Staff are final and binding.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Spelling Bee Coach

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

All checks are to be made payable to ISSF and sent to:  
ISSF

Teri Logan, Exec. Director  
200 NW 109 Avenue  
Miami, FL 33172

All monies are non-refundable