



ISSF

Independent Schools of South Florida

Phone: 305-962-0299 ~ E-Mail: issfdirector@gmail.com

2024/2025

15th ANNUAL ISSF "SPELLING BEE"

FOR: Students entering 5th Grade in the Fall of 2024
DATE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024
TIME: Check-in: 8:30 a.m. Spelling Bee: 9:00 a.m. to 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, 2024
\$200.00 per Team after October 1, 2024

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **PARTICIPANTS:** The ISSF Spelling Bee is for 5th Grade students enrolled in an ISSF Member School only. A maximum of 25 school Teams may participate in the Bee. Only 5th grade students may participate.
2. **TEAM:** Each participating school will choose **one 5th Grade Team**. A team consists of **four players**. Names of the students will be submitted in advance of 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 are to attend on the day of the event - no extras are to attend; the substitution 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 to attend the event. *Each school will choose its four best 5th grade spellers in any way it wishes.*
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.com 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 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 will 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.***

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 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 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 1st, 2nd, or 3rd 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 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:** One break will be held midway through the event, at which time, the participants will receive a Nutrigrain granola bar for a snack. **The event takes place in the morning hours and the short break allows them just enough time to eat a bar and use the facilities. The Women's Club has no drinking fountain (but plenty of water faucets), so coaches will need to bring or tell their students to bring a bottle of water to the event. ISSF will have a few bottles of water on site that may be purchased at \$1.00 a bottle.**
12. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** All student participants, parents, and coaches are to portray a spirit of sportsmanship and are to abstain from disparaging or unsportsmanlike remarks to any participant, coach, scorekeeper, timekeeper, ISSF volunteer, etc. Failure to abide by rules of sportsmanship, may result in the disqualification of a team.

2024-2025 ISSF SPELLING BEE REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF SCHOOL: _____

____ Yes, our school will be participating in the 15th Annual ISSF SPELLING BEE scheduled Tuesday, December 3, 2024.

for
Name of Contact Person: _____

Office Phone; _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Names of FOUR Spelling Bee Team Members:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

15th ANNUAL ISSF "SPELLING BEE"

AGREEMENT

As my school's designated Spelling Bee Coach, I have read the 2024-2025 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 Bee Coach - Cell Phone Number

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