



Region 12 Coaches Memo

March Information Update for
Michigan Science Olympiad Tournament, March 21, 2026
Hosted by GVSU's Regional Math and Science Center

Hello Coaches,

There is a little over a month until competition day and we are excited for this years MSO! Please keep this email for your reference and share this information with your students & their families to help ensure a smooth and successful Regional Tournament.

We will see you on March 21st!



Registration Reminder!!!

Coaches you MUST register your team using the Region 12 GVSU form in order to compete. If you haven't filled out the form linked below, please do so ASAP!

[Region 12 Coaches Final Registration Form](#)

Flight Night & Water Quality Review - February 26th

Join us for Flight Night!

Test your helicopter builds in the same area where you will compete.

Test flights from 4 pm - 6pm in the Rec Center Racquet Ball Courts on GVSU Allendale Campus.

Water Quality Review

Come and get some hands on experience in one of our new events!

From 4pm -6pm in Kindschi Hall of Science room 1152 on GVSU Allendale Campus.

Team Competition Structure & Avogadro

Self-scheduling is done online through Avogadro. Scheduling opens for **Division B Teams Monday, March 2nd at 8:00 a.m.** and at **9:00am for Division C teams**. Self scheduling will close Sunday, March 15th at 12:00 a.m. Any changes to the schedule after this time must be done at the event site on tournament day. Alternate Teams self-scheduling registration begins Monday, March 9th at 8:00 a.m.

[Division B](#) & [Division C](#) Self Schedule Events time blocks.

It is very important that you make sure before self-schedule opens that you are able to login to the self-schedule portal to ensure there are no issues logging in.

Avogadro will be used for all teams.

- **By default, we have set all teams to 'competing' in all events. Events must be set to 'Competing' to be scored.** Only choose "not competing" if you are 100% confident you will not compete. **Choose No Show.** *There is no penalty for choosing competing and not showing up, but it is impossible to score if you choose 'not competing' and decide to compete.*
- **Self-schedule events – Signing up is necessary to provide you with a score**
 - *Self-schedule events require teams to choose a time.
- **Team Members need to be added to Avogadro.** Please add your students under the Edit Team page, "Additional Team Details" add "Team Member." If this process does not work for you, please contact Jess Sudy at msor12@gvsu.edu.
- Team member substitution forms available at registration day of.

Please ensure your team has a plan in case of **emergencies**. The coach is responsible for the behavior and safety of team members while on campus.

Event Information - Saturday, March 21st

Coaches Registration: Kindschi Hall of Science beginning at 7:30 a.m. near KHS 1173

Headquarters will be in **KHS 1173** and is open to head coaches and lost and found only. All other informational needs should be directed to the **Information Tables**.

***Impounding** devices can be done from 7:30am to 8:00 a.m. at that devices event site.

B Events: Hovercraft, Scrambler

C Events: Bungee Drop, Electric Vehicle, Hovercraft, Robot Tour

Tip: Any team member (including alternates) can impound a device. Wristbands are not necessary to submit a device for impound. Make sure you are choosing the right people to impound. Make sure your team's name is on your device.

****Note:** Impound is for device drop off only, workers cannot answer questions about devices or events.

Open (spectator) events are as follows:

B Events: Heicopter, Hovercraft, Mission Possible Ping Pong Parachute

C Events: Bungee Drop, Electric Vehicle, Helicopter, Hovercraft, Robot Tour, Ping Pong Parachute

Event Schedule: [Division B](#) & [Division C](#)

*Event Times and Team Schedule Blocks are finalized.

Reminder, no events in the Kirkoff building this year.

Free Time Events

Activity	Time	Location	Info
Climbing Wall	10:30am, 12:00pm, & 1:00pm	Fieldhouse	Signed Waiver needed , space is limited!
Geology Club Rock Sale	10:00am -11:00am & 12:00pm-2:00pm	1st Floor Padnos, by staircase	Cash or venmo ONLY

Encourage your students to participate! Students who attend the exhibitor hall can earn tickets to place in our awards ceremony prize raffle.

Also open is the GVSU Laker Store. Located in Kindschi Hall from 10am - 5 pm.

Head to our [program site](#) for more information!

Award Ceremony - Fieldhouse Arena 4:30pm

The Parade of Schools will begin our Awards Ceremony. Please send no more than **two team members** with **one banner** to the staging area at the lower level of the Fieldhouse at 4:15 pm to line up.

Assigned Seating for Teams: The Bleachers on the far wall opposite the doors, are reserved for teams. Seating chart will be available on the program site a week before tournament date, please review if for your team's assigned seat.

General Information - Day of Tournament

- **Emergencies: Dial 911.** Emergency contact information can be routed through our MSO Headquarters 616.331.2267.
- **Event Program Online:** The program allows users to view schedules, announcements, maps, and more. To explore our event program, visit: www.gvsu.edu/msor12/program. Please encourage your students & parents to utilize the online program.
- **First Aid stations** will be at the Welcome Desk in the Rec Center, PAD 308, or Headquarters. For moderate scrapes & cuts please go to the Rec Center First Aid Station. For series injury call 911 and notify event staff.
- **Food Options:** Participants/teams/families may bring their own food to campus. Additionally, there are some snack/meal options through campus dining. Visit the [online program](#) for details.
- **Sales On Campus:** Selling of goods by anyone besides licensed vendors is not allowed. Teams are prohibited from selling an goods or merchandise.
- **Free Time Activities** In-between & after competitive events, students may visit the Exhibitors Hall (free), Dance with the Laker Dance Team (Free), Rock Sale (cash only), climbing wall ([online waiver](#) **MUST** be signed by parent/guardian, space is limited!). Visit the [online program](#) for details. Please share the attached flyer with families.
- **On Campus Payments:** GVSU is a [cashless campus](#) and accepts Credit Card, Apple Pay, Google Pay, and Samsung Pay. If a student or guest only has cash, they can visit the **Cash to Card Kiosk** in the main entrance of the Laker Market Place (next to Kindschi Hall) to put money on a card. This service is free. *The Rock Sale will accept cash only.*
- **Parking:** Parking will be open in Lots C1, F, G, or H.
- **Team Rooms** are assigned based on the Region 12 online registration form. Room assignments will be posted on our website. www.gvsu.edu/msor12/coaches Grand Valley State University or the Regional Math and Science Center is not responsible for lost or damaged articles, please plan accordingly. All classrooms must be left in a classroom-ready-state for Monday morning classes. Meals/snacks are allowed in classrooms, not in hallways. If you need more trash bins for your classroom, contact a volunteer or RMSC staff. Classrooms are to be cleaned before you leave. Please ensure a coach reviews your room once everyone has left to ensure nothing has been left behind. Items left behind may be trashed.
- **Wireless access (Wifi):** Connect to **GV-Visitor** and agree to the terms. Yes, it's that simple!

Grand Valley State University Science Olympiad Organization

Jess Sudy, Director
Deborah Herrington, Assistant Director
Yogit Verma, MSO Student Assistant
Raechel Bales, Student Assistant

Kerry Hawley, MSO Assistant
Olga Kryger, MSO Assistant
Semya Jarrett, Student Assistant
Mateo Pejaković, Supplies Coordinator

Contact the GVSU Region 12 Planning Committee with questions or concerns:

E-mail: msor12@gvsu.edu

Phone: 616.331.2267

Important Links:

Region 12 MSO Tournament: www.gvsu.edu/msor12/

Region 12 Tournament Program: www.gvsu.edu/msor12/program

National Science Olympiad: www.soinc.org/

Avogadro: <https://avogadro.ws/>

2025 Important Task Dates:

March 2 – Self-schedule opens in Avogadro

March 15 – Self-schedule closes

March 21 – Region 12 Tournament

April 25 – State Tournament at Michigan State University

May 22-23 – National Tournament at University of Southern California (USC)

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