



# The National History Bee and Bowl

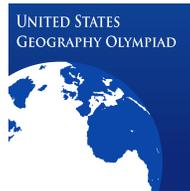


[www.hs.historybee.com](http://www.hs.historybee.com)

and the

[www.historybowl.com](http://www.historybowl.com)

## The United States Geography Olympiad



### New Policy Regarding Late Payments and Late Fees: Effective as of October 7, 2013

Beginning with our first tournament of the school year on Sunday, Oct. 13 at Westview HS in San Diego, and holding true for all of our standard high school regional and state tournaments, NHBB is instituting a new set of policies regarding payments and late fees. Note that this does not hold for the US History Bee or for any designated elementary/middle school event (though middle schools competing at high school events are subject to the following):

1. Payments are no longer accepted by mail in advance. This was leading to confusion if checks were in the mail at the time of tournaments, and it added an additional level of complexity to our accounting procedures. Henceforth, all payments must be made for Regional and State tournaments at the tournament site.
2. All payments are due to the Tournament Director, or designated point person for payments, by whenever the Tournament Director leaves the tournament site at the end of the day. This is really meant as an emergency measure, though - in reality, teams and students should pay when they arrive.
3. Payments may be made by cash or check payable to "National History Bee and Bowl" and/or "United States Geography Olympiad". USGO payments must be by separate check (or cash). If you need to submit a purchase order, we can handle that, but we are not responsible for processing delays due to purchase orders. Simply handing the director a purchase order form the day of the tournament does not constitute payment.
4. No one will be turned away at the start of the competition for lack of payment. However, if one participates in a tournament before having paid in advance, then one accepts the following:
  - Payments should ideally be made by someone on the team getting cash from an ATM during the lunch break if needed.
  - If we do not have payment by the time the TD leaves the building, then you are considered late.
  - If you did not pay, this will be reported to NHBB/USGO headquarters that evening.

-Payment then must be received by one week later, inclusively. Thus, if a tournament is held on a Saturday, you have until 11:59pm EST the following Saturday to submit payment. Put the check in an envelope on Monday, and this will happen. Within the one week extra window, the following late fees apply: +\$25 per Bowl team, + \$10 per Bee Student, + \$10 per US Geography Olympiad student. Note that this is the date we receive it, not the date the checks get postmarked. If your check does not include the requisite late fee, we will not accept it.

-If payment is not made within one week post-tournament, we will double the late fees, i.e., +\$50 per Bowl team, + \$20 per Bee student, + \$20 per USGO student.

-The Bowl late fees are irrespective of team size (i.e. if you play as a team of 1 for \$25, there's no "discount" on the late fee).

-If the doubled late fee does not arrive within 1 month of the tournament, we will forward your lack of payment on to a collection agency, and you will be responsible for both the doubled late fee and the collection fees. Also, your school will not be allowed to compete until payment is made, and we will also notify other quizbowl tournament organizers of our difficulties.

5. Regarding Nationals payments, for the 2014 National History Bee and Bowl / US Geography Olympiad National Championships on April 25-27, 2014, all payments must be made by check payable to "National History Bee and Bowl" and/or "United States Geography Olympiad" and received by April 14. USGO payments must be separated from NHBB payments. Students and schools whose payments have not been received will be notified on April 15. There is then a grace period until Saturday, April 19. That allows anyone who is notified on 4/15 to send in a check that week. If payments are not received by 11:59pm EST on Saturday, April 19, you will be considered late, and are subject to a late fee of \$75 per Bowl team, \$25 per Bee student, and \$25 per USGO student. These late fees, along with the additional payments must be made by the 4:00pm on Sunday, April 27 at Nationals. Again, no discounted late fees for Bowl teams of 1 or 2 students apply.

If payment is not received by the end of Nationals, we will double the penalties to \$150 per Bowl team, \$50 per Bee student, and \$50 per USGO student. These payments must then be made within 1 month after Nationals, along with the standard entry fees. If we do not receive payments by 4:00pm EST on May 27, we will refer all outstanding payments to a collection agency, you will be still held liable for the doubled late fees, and will not be permitted to participate in NHBB tournaments until accounts have been settled.

Please understand that these policies are subject to no exceptions. Particularly with the possibility of getting cash during the lunch break, there's no excuse for late payments at Regionals/States, and for Nationals, we'll be contacting schools who haven't paid and giving them five more days to get payment in without penalty. This is eminently fair. We have run into major difficulties regarding processing payments from schools who have been dilatory on payments this past year and need a new set of policies in place to guard against this happening again. The above will accomplish that task, allowing us to spend more time on outreach, and improving our tournaments to everyone's benefit. For further questions, please contact [director@historybowl.com](mailto:director@historybowl.com). Thanks for your understanding and your continuing support of NHBB and USGO.