

fun fest

695 COLLEGE AVE.
SOUTH MILWAUKEE

2009 ADULT SPELLING BEE competition - rules

1. Spellers must be 18 years or older.
 2. The difficulty for words in the competition will start at a fifth-grade level.
 3. The judges are in complete control of the competition, and their decision shall be final on all questions.
 4. There is not an official study booklet for this competition. All words listed in the dictionary may be considered for this contest.
 5. All participants are expected to arrive at funfest no later than 30 minutes prior to the announced starting time of the contest.
 6. Because of time considerations for this Bee, it will be up to the judges discretion on word selection.
 7. Participants may draw numbers to see who starts first.
 8. The role of the pronouncer is (1) to correctly pronounce the word and (2) to give a sentence, definition, and other information about the word at the speller's request.
 9. The role of the judges is to determine whether the contestant has spelled the word correctly.
 10. The role of the speller is (1) to gather as much information as possible to help spell the word correctly and (2) to spell the word correctly.
 11. In competition, after the pronouncer gives the speller a word, the speller is encouraged to pronounce the word before spelling it and after spelling it. The judges may not disqualify a speller for failing to pronounce the word either before or after spelling it.
 12. The speller may ask the pronouncer to say the word again, define it, use it in a sentence, provide the part of speech, and/or provide the language of origin. The pronouncer shall grant all such requests until the judges agree that the word has been made reasonably clear to the speller. The pronouncer and judges will not entertain root word questions.
 13. The judges may not disqualify a speller for asking a question.
 14. Having started to spell a word, a speller may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning. In retracing, however, there can be no change of letters or their sequence from those first pronounced. If letters or their sequence is changed in the respelling, the speller will be eliminated.
 15. The competition shall be conducted in rounds. Each speller remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round shall spell one word in the round. Upon missing the spelling of a word, a speller immediately drops out of the competition. The next word on the pronouncer's list is given to the next speller.
 16. Under no circumstance is any speller asked to correct the misspelling of another speller.
 17. If none of the spellers remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, all shall remain in the competition with the spellers spelling in the original order.
 18. All spellers eliminated in the same round will be tied for the same place.
 19. During the final rounds of the competition, the judges may choose to allow participants the option of writing the word down on paper before being required to spell it orally.
 20. If only one of the spellers remaining in the competition at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, a new round shall begin and the speller shall be given an opportunity to spell the next word on the list. If the speller succeeds in correctly spelling the new word, the speller shall be declared the champion. Otherwise (that is, if the speller does not succeed in correctly spelling the new word), all the spellers remaining in the competition at the start of the previous round shall remain in the competition. A new round will begin, with these spellers spelling in the original order.
 21. The champion is not the champion until he or she has spelled correctly two more words than the speller or spellers placing second have spelled. These two words will be spelled consecutively only if the champion is the last speller in a round.
- It is possible in two instances to have a round in which only one word is spelled. The first instance of a one-word round is the correct spelling of the final championship word. The second instance of a one-word round is the misspelling of what could have been the final championship word.
22. an oral appeal must be made immediately, that is, before the speller affected would have received his/her next word had he/she stayed in the contest. Judges will have the final say.
 23. If a word has one or more homonyms, the pronouncer will indicate which word is to be spelled. If the listed word is not properly identified, either by defining it or distinguishing the homonyms, any correct spelling of any homonym of the word will be accepted.
 24. The speller shall not be disqualified for failing to note that a word is capitalized (noted as "cap," "usu cap," "often cap," or "sometimes cap.")
 25. The dictionary provided by the judges shall serve as the final authority for the spelling of words. If more than one spelling is listed for a word, any of these spellings will be accepted as correct if the word either matches the pronunciation and definition provided by the pronouncer or if it is clearly identified as being a standard variant of the word that the speller has been asked to spell. Spellings at other locations having archaic, obsolete, or regional labels (such as North, Midland, Irish) that are different from those at the main entry will not be accepted as correct.
 26. By participating/attending, organizers have permission to use each student's voice, likeness and/or image in conjunction with this event and future events, on television, radio, the Internet and/or print.
- The winner will receive a trophy and prize to be determined.