**SWSC Science Competition Rules Template**

**Science Competition Title:** Fermi Questions

**Instructor’s Name:** Bennett

**School of Instructor:** Andrew High School

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**Date Competition Rules were created:** 10/27/14

**Description and Rules for Competition:**

The Fermi Questions event in the Science Olympiad tests a team’s ability to estimate a solution to a problem by interpreting basic information, formulating a set of mathematical operations to provide an answer, and using mathematics to provide the answer to the question.

The answer to a Fermi Question is the correct exponent of 10 (if an answer is 5\*10n, round the answer up to the next power of 10. Calculators, computers, or any other device, including crib sheets, lists of constants, formulae, etc., are not permitted. All the contestants need are pencils (with erasers) and a good night's sleep - I supply scratch paper (to simulate the 'back-of-envelopes'). Positive exponential values are the default; negative exponents **MUST** have the - (**minus**) sign as part of the answer.

**How Scoring will be performed:**

The scoring for the event is:

5 points for the correct exponent

3 points for the correct exponent ± 1

1 point for the correct exponent ± 2

**How Tie-Breaker will be performed (if needed):**

Fastest time will be used as a tie-breaker.

**Number of students allowed in each individual team:**

1 (this would be a solo event)

**Number of teams allowed to compete from each individual school:** 2