



Blue Crab Bowl Spectator Guidelines and Behavioral Expectations

Blue Crab Bowl promotes and expects sportsmanship and model behavior from all attendees -- competitors and spectators alike.

Spectator Policy and Guidelines

Classmates, teachers and parents are encouraged to support their school team. There are, however, space limitations in some competition venues and activities. Please note: It may be necessary for the BCB Venue Coordinator to limit the number of spectators/supporters that accompany a competing team.

Space permitting, spectators are welcome in competition rooms, **but...**

- May not enter or leave a room during a match;
- May not take pictures, notes or audio recordings in competition rooms (NOSB[®] rules #54, 55, 56);
- May not communicate verbally or non-verbally (via signaling) with contestants during matches (NOSB rule #52).
- May not distract judges from their attention to the competition.
- May not answer competition questions (NOSB rule #53) or raise a challenge to a judge's ruling (NOSB rule #47).
- May not disturb competition rooms during matches by talking in the hallways outside.

In the event that spectators disturb a competition, the clock will be stopped and the person(s) will be asked to leave. Judges' rulings are final on these matters.

BCB expects spectators to model the same sportsmanship expected of competing teams and coaches by practicing self discipline and by demonstrating respect and courtesy toward competitors and Bowl officials. Bowl competition is an ideal venue for the development of maturity and professionalism.

Special note: While questions are being read and teams are responding, players, alternates and coaches are cautioned to avoid ANY gestures that may be interpreted (or even misinterpreted) as signaling, such as head nodding or fiddling with earrings, neckties, hair or eyeglasses. In the case of questionable gestures, the clock will be stopped and the person will be asked to leave the room. Rules Judges' decisions are final on these matters. If cheating occurs, the entire team will be eliminated from further competition

Please respect the integrity of the competition and the considerable effort made by all teams and officials in preparing for this event.

Spectator Participation in BCB Activities

As dictated by NOSB guidelines and BCB budget limitations, BCB can assure food and lodging support only for the competing teams' competing members. Spectators, including additional chaperones, school administrators, parents, and classmates, are asked to be responsible for their own food, lodging and transportation. Similarly, the BCB fieldtrip on Friday is an award designed for the competing teams in recognition of their efforts in preparing for competition. Additional supporters may attend on a space-available basis only and will be responsible for any fees associated with activities.

There are expectations for spectator behavior during other Bowl activities, including but not limited to, field trips and hotel stays. Your teams are representing the Blue Crab Bowl and its sponsors, Old Dominion University and Virginia Institute of Marine Science. We expect that team supporters will show model behavior at the hotel, during field trips and other BCB-associated activities. We expect that coaches and additional chaperones will provide guidance, modeling and reminding student supporters of appropriate and responsible behavior. We have some specific rules that apply to all event attendees:

- Students should be in their assigned rooms by 10:00 pm with lights out at 11:00 pm.
- Our program is zero-tolerance re: smoking, alcohol and drugs.

Questions?

NOSB FAQ may address additional questions on supporters in attendance at official Bowl events. Consult the NOSB website at: www.nosb.org.

If you have questions, please contact the BCB Co-Coordinator via the website at: www.vims.edu/bcb.