

# **Spelling Bee rules—2005**



1. Each team will consist of three members.
2. Words used in the preliminary rounds of the Bee will be selected from the 2005 *Paideia* booklet, published by E.W Scripps. A copy of the booklet is provided to each team member.
3. Words will be pronounced according to the diacritical markings in the *American Heritage Dictionary* and *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*.
4. The Master of Ceremonies will pronounce the word and give a definition before pronouncing it a second time. Teams may request that MC use the word in a sentence and pronounce it once more.
5. Team members may ask for one additional pronunciation for the word.
6. Team members have one minute to collaborate on the spelling of the word and then write it on the dry-erase board.
7. Upon misspelling a word, the team will be eliminated and turn over their team sign.
8. If a word has one or more homonyms, the MC will indicate which word is to be spelled.
9. The last team to spell a word correctly in a particular round is declared the winner and goes on to the championship round. If no team in the round spells a word correctly, the round is repeated until one team wins.
10. If, in the championship round, there are two teams remaining, when one of the two remaining teams misspells a word, the other team will be given an opportunity to spell the same word. If the second team spells that word correctly, and then correctly spells the next word on the MC's list, then the second team will be declared the champion.

If one of the last two teams misses and the other team, after correcting the error, misspells the new word, then the team that first misspelled the word will be given a new word to spell. The contest will then continue as outlined in the previous paragraph.

If both teams misspell the same word, both will continue in the contest and the team that first misspelled the word will be given a new word to spell. The contest will continue as outlined above.
14. The judges make the final decisions on all questions.