

Activity name: Mini Tournaments

Purpose: To get quizzers to work as individual or teammates in a tournament setting

Number of quizzers required: 4 or more quizzers

Number of rooms required: 2 to 8 quiz areas depending on the number of teams.

Time required: 1 – 2 hours depending on the format.

Outline of activity: Split up quizzers into equal size teams and come up with a playoff bracket. We often use mini tournaments for the practice before a tournament and try to duplicate the format that will be used at the tournament.

One format to be used is to have 3 on 3 mix-up teams. We may mix up more experienced quizzers, novice quizzers and even include some coaches in the teams.

With smaller teams rounds are normally limited to 15 questions. In order to emphasize the importance of teamwork a 30 point bonus is awarded if a team gets a correct answer from all three members on a team. The format for the tournament could be double elimination or single elimination.

Variations: 2 on 2 tournaments or even 1 on 1 tournaments can take place. In a 1 on 1 tournament the quizzer has no one else on which to rely to get the jump. This can sometimes be a benefit for a quizzer.

Observations: Mini-tournaments provide a good way of mixing up teams and at the same time getting quizzers exposed to the format of an upcoming tournament or event. They are a good activity to use during some of our longer practices.