

MATHCOUNTS School Competition Day Schedule

Date: Saturday, November 8, 2025

Location: Hallie Wells Middle School

Address: 11701 Little Seneca Pkwy, Clarksburg, MD 20871

Number of Participants: Approximately 30-40 students

Competition Format: Sprint Round, Target Round, Team Round (unofficial/fun), Countdown Round (official)

Schedule Overview

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM | Volunteer Setup

- Volunteers arrive and set up competition room
- Arrange cafeteria tables for 4 students per table (8-10 tables depending on number of students)
- Place name cards or assigned seat numbers at each position
- Ensure proper spacing between tables for individual testing
- Set up check-in table and stage area for storing student belongings
- Organize competition materials, answer sheets, and scratch paper
- Test timers and any buzzer equipment for Countdown Round
- Set up projector for displaying Team Round answers during lunch
- Post signs ("Testing in Progress - Quiet Please")

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM | Student Arrival & Check-In

- Students arrive and sign in
- Students receive name tags
- Students leave ALL bags, phones, smartwatches, electronic devices, and calculators on the stage
- Students pick up pencils and blank scratch paper only
- Students find their assigned seats (4 students per table)
- NO other materials allowed at tables (calculators will be retrieved from stage during break before Target Round)

9:00 AM - 9:15 AM | Welcome & Instructions

- Welcome remarks and competition overview
 - Review rules and procedures for each round
 - Explain that no communication is allowed during individual rounds
 - Answer any questions about logistics (not about problems!)
 - Remind students: no calculators for Sprint Round, calculators allowed for Target and Team Rounds
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Competition Rounds

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM | Sprint Round (45 minutes total)

- Includes time for distributing and collecting papers
- 30 questions, 40 minutes of testing time, individual work, no calculator
- Tests speed and accuracy
- Collect all answer sheets immediately when time is called

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM | Break (15 minutes)

- Bathroom break, stretch, water
- **Students retrieve their calculators from the stage** (needed for Target Round)
- Students may not discuss problems

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM | Target Round (30 minutes total)

- 8 questions (4 pairs, 6 minutes each), individual work, calculator allowed
- Tests problem-solving and mathematical reasoning
- **Format:** 6 minutes per pair, with 1-2 minute buffer between pairs to collect and distribute papers
 - Pair 1: 6 minutes
 - Brief pause to collect answer sheets
 - Pair 2: 6 minutes
 - Brief pause to collect answer sheets
 - Pair 3: 6 minutes
 - Brief pause to collect answer sheets
 - Pair 4: 6 minutes
 - Collect final answer sheets
- **Students keep calculators for Team Round**

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM | Break (15 minutes)

- Bathroom break, stretch, water
- Students may not discuss problems
- Students keep their calculators for Team Round

11:00 AM - 11:25 AM | Team Round - For Fun (25 minutes)

- Students work in pre-assigned teams of 4 (the groups at their tables)
- 10 questions, 20 minutes, calculator allowed
- Includes buffer time for distributing and collecting papers
- Focuses on collaboration and problem-solving
- This round is UNOFFICIAL - for practice and team-building only
- Does not count toward individual rankings for Chapter selection
- **Students return calculators to stage after this round**

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Lunch (30 minutes)

- Pizza, sandwiches, or other lunch provided
- Social time for students
- **Team Round answers displayed on projector for students to review**
- Scoring of Sprint and Target Rounds
- Calculate top 14 individuals for Chapter Competition
- Identify top 12 for Countdown Round (top 4 will receive a bye)
- Final preparations for Countdown Round

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | Countdown Round & Awards Ceremony (90 minutes)

Part 1: Chapter Competition Qualifiers Announcement (12:00 PM - 12:10 PM)

- Announce the top 14 scorers from Sprint and Target Rounds
- These 14 students will advance to Chapter Competition:
 - Top 12 will compete in the Countdown Round to determine team positions

- Remaining 2 students will compete as individuals at Chapter Competition
- Recognize all participants in the competition

Part 2: Countdown Round (12:10 PM - 1:10 PM)

- **Format:** Single-elimination tournament (matches run one at a time)
- Top 12 scorers from Sprint and Target Rounds compete
- **Top 4 scorers receive a bye** to the second round (semifinals)
- Head-to-head matches, maximum 45 seconds per problem, no calculator
- **Match Format:** Best 2 out of 3 questions
 - 3 questions are asked per match
 - First student to answer 2 correctly wins
 - If tied after 3 questions (1-1 or 0-0), sudden death (questions continue until someone answers correctly)
- **Tournament Structure:**
 - Round 1 (Quarterfinals): 4 matches - seeds 5-12 compete
 - Round 2 (Semifinals): 4 matches - top 4 seeds enter with byes
 - Round 3 (Finals): Championship match + 3rd place match (optional)
- This round will determine:
 - School Champion (1st place - tournament winner)
 - School Second Place (2nd place - tournament runner-up)
 - School Team (top 4 finishers in tournament become the official team for Chapter Competition)

Part 3: Final Awards & Closing (1:10 PM - 1:30 PM)

- Announce Countdown Round results
- Award ribbons to School Champion (1st place) and Second Place (2nd place)
- Announce the official 4-person School Team for Chapter Competition
- Present certificates to places 3-14
- Group photos
- Closing remarks and information about upcoming Chapter Competition practice sessions
- Thank volunteers

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM | Clean-up & Departure (30 minutes)

- Students collect belongings from stage
- Students depart
- Volunteers clean up at a relaxed pace

Materials Checklist

Before Competition Day:

- Printed competition packets (Sprint, Target, Team, Countdown)
- Answer sheets for all rounds
- Blank scratch paper (multiple sheets per student)
- Pencils and erasers
- Calculators for Target and Team Rounds
- Timers/stopwatches
- Student roster and sign-in sheet
- Name tags for all students
- Designated area on stage for storing student belongings
- Ribbons for 1st and 2nd place
- Certificates for places 3-14

- Lunch orders/arrangements
- Projector and screen for displaying Team Round answers during lunch

Room Setup:

- Cafeteria tables arranged for 4 students per table (8-10 tables depending on number of students)
- Name cards or assigned seat numbers at each position
- Tables spaced appropriately for individual testing
- Clock visible to all students
- Quiet testing environment secured
- Signs posted: "Testing in Progress - Quiet Please"

Volunteers Needed:

- 2-3 proctors to monitor during testing
 - 2-3 scorers to grade quickly during breaks
 - 1 person to manage check-in and logistics
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Important Reminders

For Students:

- Arrive by 8:30 AM
- Leave ALL bags, phones, smartwatches, and belongings (including calculators) on the stage upon arrival
- Bring only pencils to your assigned table
- Blank scratch paper will be provided
- Retrieve your calculator from the stage during the break before Target Round
- Keep calculator for both Target Round and Team Round
- Return calculator to stage after Team Round
- No communication during individual rounds

For Proctors:

- Do NOT answer questions about the problems during competition
- Continually monitor to ensure no communication between students
- Collect answer sheets immediately when time is called
- Maintain testing integrity

For Coach:

- School Competition results will help select 14 students for Chapter Competition:
 - 4 team members (compete in all rounds at Chapter)
 - 10 individual competitors (compete in Sprint and Target only)
 - Notify Chapter Coordinator of selected students before Chapter Competition
 - Continue coaching sessions with selected students to prepare for Chapter Competition
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Notes

Total Time: 5.5 hours (8:30 AM - 2:00 PM)

Actual Testing Time: ~115 minutes

Breaks, Lunch, and Activities: ~215 minutes

This schedule allows for adequate buffer time between rounds, proper breaks for students, lunch, a comprehensive Countdown Round with 14 students, a celebratory awards ceremony, and relaxed clean-up time.