

# SPONTANEOUS FUN DAY

Saturday February 21, 2009

8AM	Meet at USC Rec. Center. A light breakfast will be served.
8:30AM	Teams will board buses to Linton Middle School in Penn Hills.
9:30AM	Teams check in.
10AM	Competition begins. Each team will be given 5 problems to solve. They are taken to a classroom and their performance is judged. Coaches and parents will not see the performance.
2PM	All teams will be finished competing. There will be an awards ceremony for all teams.
2 - 2:30PM	Teams will board buses for ride back to USC Rec Center.
3 - 3:30PM	Arrive at Rec Center.

What to bring:

1. Wear OM t-shirt and comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on Nutrition Center benches and/or school floors (it's a long day).
2. Bring some cash - there will be a concession area and a Chinese auction.
3. Teams should pack games to play during breaks, such as board games (fewer pieces the better), cards, books, electronic games (at your own personal risk - coaches will NOT be expected to referee for, safeguard or repair personal belongings).
4. Bring snacks (careful on the sugar!)

Please discuss with your child the need to follow some basic conduct rules:

1. Stay with their team
2. Inform their coach if they need/want to go anywhere (bathroom, snack bar, talk with a friend at another team table, etc)
3. Have fun and relax!

For first time Fun Day Participants & Family:

Spontaneous Fun Day is a great time for your OMer. It's a very long day, though. We meet at the USC Rec Center, McLaughlin Run Road, at 8am and don't return until 3 or 4PM. If your child is elementary school age, please consider offering to help out your team's coach by attending the event even for just a part of it. Extra adult supervision becomes vital for young teams when some of the team members want to go to the bathroom or some just want to go to the main hallway for some movement. The concession stand can become challenging if you're the only adult with a group of 7.

Fun Day is great bonding time. Team members enjoy spending the day with their teammates and the coaches wind up having some valuable casual interaction time that's difficult to find during normal team meetings. There's lots of time for adult conversation too. This year we'll do our best to have our USC teams sitting in close proximity to encourage camaraderie (and to provide extra cross-team adult coverage).

Because Fun Day uses official tournament rules, only the team members can enter the competition rooms; not even the coaches may see what's going on so don't expect to see how your child's team does on any of the 5 problems. Moreover, the children are instructed NOT to discuss anything about their problems until after the event. This is to ensure equality for any team that follows. The de-briefing details will come after the event through your coach who will receive written score sheets, problem descriptions and feedback/comments from the judges.

When we arrive at Linton MS, we'll receive a schedule for each Division showing when each team will do each problem. Generally you have lots of time between each problem, thus the long day.

#### Travel Arrangements

We'll have our fourth annual FUN DAY BREAKFAST before we load the buses. Meet at USC Recreation Center, McLaughlin Run Road, at 8am. Don't worry about bringing any food - it will be provided!! We'll have coffee, juice, fruit and easy to eat breakfast foods (granola bars, muffins, etc).

Unless your coach makes different arrangements, all of our USC teams will travel to and from Linton Middle School on our school buses. We'll depart from the Rec Center by 8:30am and return between 3 and 4pm.

If your child travels on the bus to Linton but makes other arrangements to get home, YOU MUST INFORM YOUR COACH. Coaches can call parents once we are on our way home - make sure that your coach has the best number where you can be reached if you want a call to be given a more precise pickup time. Otherwise, just be at the Rec Center at 3:30pm.

#### Other FUN DAY Information

Parents may accompany their OMer and coach on the bus, however, NO SIBLINGS WILL BE ALLOWED. This is due to insurance concerns.

Judges and registered Fun Day Volunteers are encouraged to make separate transportation arrangements since you are expected to check-in by 9am. You also may appreciate the flexibility if your shift ends early afternoon...

#### Fun Day Spontaneous Judges

Thank you for supporting your team is such a critical role.

All judges must report to Linton MS by 9am on 2/21 when you will get your assignment for the day. Competition starts at 10am and usually ends shortly after 2pm. The trophy presentation usually ends around 3pm. Please make your own transportation arrangements to ensure your arrival by 9am. For the return trip home, you have the option of returning with our squad on the buses.

#### Fun Day Volunteer Info

Thank you for supporting our USC OOTM teams.

As a Fun Day volunteer you are asked to report to Linton MS by 9am on 2/21. No prior experience or training is needed. Some volunteers will be timekeepers and some will be runners to walk teams to and from their problems. These roles will serve from approx. 9:30 till 2 or so. A

few volunteers are needed to help teams get signed in, and those folks usually work for only an hour or so. Other volunteers are used to double check scores. All of the volunteer scheduling is done by the Fun Day event coordinator. Since emails were part of the registration process, we hope that notification of volunteer assignments will be done online and in advance.