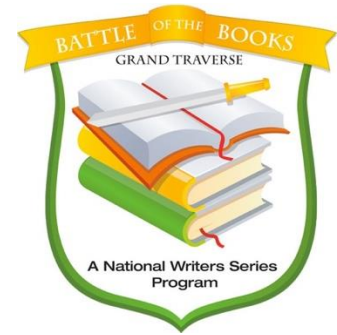


Coach Orientation Meeting



WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

2



Marcy Lindberg

Program Coordinator



Rose Zivkovich

Competition
Coordinator



Audrey Fierberg

Education Manager,
National Writers Series

AGENDA

3

- » What is Battle of the Books?
- » Role of the Coach
- » About the Books
- » Tournament Overview
- » Coaching Resources & Help
- » Q&A

WHAT IS BATTLE OF THE BOOKS?

4

Reading program

Program for fourth and fifth graders to encourage reading

Goal

To make reading **fun**

Key elements

- » Awesome books
- » Sharing the experience with others
- » Competitive events to show kids' book knowledge & creativity
- » Prizes
- » Chance to meet an author

WHAT DO COACHES DO?

5

Encourage reading of the 8 battle books

Keep the **books rotating**

Schedule, plan and host **team meetings**

Communicate info to the team members' families



Coaches help the team:

6

Bond

Get to know each other

Brainstorm

Decide on a
team name and slogan

Read

Stay on track with reading
the books

Create

Create a Coat of Arms
poster with the team name
and slogan.

Prep

Learn book details and
be ready to answer questions
about the books.

ABOUT THE BOOKS

7

- » **Eight** battle books
- » **Mix** of genres, subjects, and reading levels
- » **Written for this grade level** with starred/positive reviews in the professional journals of librarians
- » Look for flyer in your book bag



ABOUT THE BOOKS

8

- » Available in **alternate formats** (audio, ebook, etc.) to all kids through Traverse Area District Library.
- Contact Audrey Fierberg at education@nwstc.org if you have an individual reader on your team who could use support or alternative formats.
- NWS has funds set aside to provide Kindles or similar tools for any kid who struggles to read the battle books or need accommodation.

- » **Extra book sets** are still available from Horizon Books for \$70 per set.
- » Note that extra books are not necessary but can help with rotating the books (for example, two kids want to read the graphic novel).

ABOUT THE BOOKS

10

- » An individual team member is not required to read all 8 books nor any specific book if he/she does not wish to read it.
- » Teams typically **divide up the books.**



- » The schedule of meetings and what you do is completely up to you, Coach!
- » 12 weeks until the Tournament
- » Ideas: Snack, read a chapter out loud, team building activity, book stuff

Early Stages of Team Meetings (Weeks 1-4)

12

- » Get meetings underway and on everyone's calendars
- » Have fun brainstorming your team name
- » **Top goals**
 - Build team spirit
 - Get books rotating and kids reading



Middle Stages of Team Meetings (Weeks 5-8)

13

- » Regular meetings
- » Ask for Q help
- » Make your Coat of Arms poster
- » **Top goals**
 - Get familiar with 8 books
 - Make sure each book has 1-2 kids



Final Stages of Team Meetings (Weeks 9-12)

14

- » Regular meetings and maybe a couple extra?
- » Pull together a costume for your team
- » **Top goals**
 - » • Practice Qs from 8 books
 - » • Review and learn rules
 - » • Discuss good teamwork



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS TOURNAMENT

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Saturday, April 12, 2025

Traverse City West High School



TOURNAMENT DETAILS

16

- » The Tournament is an **all-day event**.
- » Each team member must **bring a sack lunch**.
- » Tournament is comprised of **three events**:
 - Team Battles
 - Lightning Trials
 - Amphitheatre
- » Special Guest Author Lindsay Currie will do presentation



TEAM BATTLES

17

Show your team's knowledge of the books

- » Your team goes “head to head” against another team answering factual questions from the eight battle books.



TEAM BATTLES

18

- » Teams earn points by giving the **correct answer and the correct author** of the book. Teams can earn extra points by answering questions missed by the opposing team.
- » Two battles (with different teams) occur in the allotted time of one hour.

See full rules for Team Battles on the website.

AMPHITHEATRE

19

Highlight your team's verbal or visual talents with an 'on the spot' activity related to a battle book.

- » Teams are given a choice of a drawing activity or "skit" activity when they enter the room.
- » Each team has 20-25 minutes to prepare the drawing or skit and then share it in a **2-3 minute presentation.**

AMPHITHEATRE

20

- » The audience for each presentation will be 3-4 other teams and the judges.
- » Each presentation will be scored out of 100 points.

See full rules for Amphitheatre on the website.

LIGHTNING TRIALS

21

Prove your team's knowledge of the books in this fast-paced format.

- » Your team answers factual questions from the eight battle books in “trials” (sets of questions with a theme).
- » The team writes the answer on a whiteboard.
- » No author is needed for Lightning Trials.

WINNING TEAMS & PRIZES

22

High Scoring Teams

High scoring teams in the three events (Team Battles, Lightning Trials, and Amphitheatre) receive recognition with flags.

Top Scoring Team per Event

The top scoring team per event is announced and receives prizes at the end of day celebration.

Grand Champion

A Grand Champion team is named using the total scores of all three events.

ADDITIONAL TEAM AWARDS

23

**Most Creative
Team Name**



**Best Coat of Arms
and Slogan**



**Best
Sportsmanship**



**Best
Team Spirit**



These team awards will be announced and recognized at our end of day celebration. See more about Team Awards on the website.

PRIZES

24

- » Incredible Mo's gift certificates
- » Moomers gift certificates
- » Horizon Books shopping spree
- » Pirates Cove prize packages
- » Signed books
- » Limo ride?

CHANGES THIS YEAR

25

- » No **Games Arena** event
- » Tournament schedule may be shuffled slightly to put lunch earlier in the day
- » We are still asking that families attend the second half of the day including author presentation and prize ceremony

See the **Battle of the Books website** for:

- » Icebreakers & fun activity suggestions for team meetings
- » Tools for staying organized
- » Official rules for the 3 events
- » Battle of the Books Tournament Schedule
- » Coaching tips and more!



COACHING TOOLS & RESOURCES

27

- » Watch your email for **Battle Reports** providing latest updates (1/31)
- » Reach out to Competition Coordinator Rose Zivkovich at rosezivkovich@gmail.com or Program Coordinator Marcy Lindberg at wildtwig@yahoo.com.



YOUR NEXT STEPS

28

- » Set a time for your first team meeting.
- » Make a schedule for future team meetings and communicate to families.
- » Once you have the books, get reading going!
- » Brainstorm & submit your team name by February 7.

NOTES AND REMINDERS

29

- » Teams may not add more members after Friday.
- » If someone drops from your team at any point, please notify Rose.
- » Registering an assistant coach is strongly encouraged. Teams also may register team helpers (up to 4).
- » Anyone who may be helping with or be in contact with your team should complete the volunteer registration form on the website (with background check).

QUESTIONS?

Coach Meeting #2

3:00 PM

March 9 via Zoom