



ORNITHOLOGY

1. **DESCRIPTION:** This event will test knowledge of North American birds on the official list.

A TEAM OF UP TO: 2

APPROXIMATE TIME: 50 minutes

2. **EVENT PARAMETERS:**

At Regional & State tournaments, teams may bring one published field guide, the three page Official National Bird List and one 8 5" x 11" two-sided page of notes that contain information in any form from any source (teams may tab the guide and write on any of these). At the national tournament teams will be allowed to use two field guides. No other resources, electronic devices or printed labels will be allowed.



3. **THE COMPETITION:**

- Each team will be given an answer sheet on which they will record answers to each section.
 - The competition may be run as stations and/or as a PowerPoint presentation.
 - Specimens/pictures will be lettered or numbered at each station. The event could include live and preserved specimens, skeletal material, recordings of songs, and slides or pictures of specimens.
 - Participants should be able to do basic identification to the level indicated on the Official List. States may have a modified state or regional list. See your state web site. No more than 50% of the competition will require giving common or scientific names.
 - Each specimen will have one or more questions accompanying it on some aspect of its life history, distribution, anatomy and physiology, reproduction, habitat characteristics, ecology, diet, behavior, conservation and biogeography.
 - The ecology questions may pertain to any ecological aspect of the species, including behavior, habitat, niche, symbiotic relationships, trophic level, adaptive anatomy such as bill size and shape, migration, distribution or occurrence (rare, common, special concern, endangered).
 - All questions will be restricted to specimens on the Official National List - see <http://www.soinc.org>.
4. **SCORING:** The teams with the highest number of correct answers will be the winners. Selected questions may be used as tiebreakers.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES: All specimens listed on the Official Science Olympiad National Bird List are represented in the **Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America, 2008**, also CD (BECD) for coaches and supervisors is available for purchase from the Science Olympiad National website at the store on-line or using a School Purchase Order see store at www.soinc.org.