

# Blue Crab Bowl: OFFICIALS & STAFF JOB THUMBNAILS



## Competition Officials:

**Moderator:** Presides over match; reads questions and calls on competitors as they respond; must have excellent understanding of rules and be able to clearly pronounce scientific terms. Must thoroughly review questions well in advance of bowl day to verify accuracy of answers.

**Rules Judge:** Ensures all rules are followed; watches for scorekeeper or other procedural errors; ensures quiet is maintained and that no one from the audience signals competitors. Issues warnings and makes rulings on procedure as required. Must be intimately familiar with all rules before bowl day. Responsible for coordinating team readiness, room set up and breakdown.

**Science Judge:** Follows questions read by moderator to ensure correct statement of questions; controls buzzer system; makes rulings on acceptability of answers and responds to challenges by competitors. Must thoroughly review questions well in advance of bowl day to verify accuracy of answers. Announces results of TCQ to competition room, may review correct answers during break.

**Grader:** Score team responses to Team Challenge Questions (TCQs) as they come arrive in the Grading Room during each round. You will be asked to review the questions a few weeks prior to the event. It is ideal to have folks from different disciplines of marine science, to cover physical, chemical, geological and biological topics. Provide consultation to help settle scientific challenges that arise during matches.

**Scorekeeper:** Maintains a tally of points using overhead projector or paper easel; announces score at the end of each buzzer segment. Must understand scoring system.

**Timekeeper:** Keeps track of two clocks - the game clock (for 6-minute buzzer segments and TCQ timing), and a stopwatch to monitor the time that competitors take to begin answers. Notifies players at specific time intervals.

**Room Runners:** Standing inside the competition room, monitors door during matches. Assures no one enters/exits while competition is in session. Assists Rules Judges in watching for inappropriate behavior. Runs TCQ questions to Grading Room, returns with scores. Takes match scoresheet & packet to Crab Pot Central. Answers any room needs that may come up (markers, pads, water refills, etc.). With Rules Judge, helps assure room readiness, set-up/ breakdown.

## Event Staff:

**Crab Pot Central Staff:** Perform a wide variety of tasks including: checking-in/ registering participants and volunteers; passing out packets and programs; managing meal service; set-up/breakdown competition rooms; etc. Head Scorekeeper (maintains master scoreboard & team progress flowchart) and at least one BCB Coordinator are headquartered here, too. Head Rules Judge is housed in Grading/Appeals Room.

**General Assistance & Alternates:** Escort teams or officials to competition rooms; run messages and materials to competition rooms; may fill in for Room Runners, Scorekeepers, Timekeepers, or Crab Pot Central Staffers, as needed.

**Event Prep:** Advance preparations are handled by Marine Advisory Staff, tasks include: making name tags, preparing team packets, competition signage and labels, event program layout & printing, webpage updates, back-up officials and more!

**Media Support:** VIMS and/or VA Sea Grant Communicator, photographer. Work with BCB Coordinators to issue press releases before and after the Bowl; take photos of Bowl activities, competition matches, winners, and volunteers.