

## **Inter American Division Bible Bowl Guidelines**

1. Participants should be between 16 to 30 years old and members of the Seventh-day Adventist church in regular standing.
2. This competition accommodates only one participant at each level.
3. Participants must qualify through an objective elimination process at all levels. They must not be hand picked. Where such practice is identified the delegate will be automatically disqualified.
4. Persons may not participate more than twice at the division level and three times at the Union level.
5. However if the same person wins twice at the Union level, or once at the Division level he or she may not enter the following year, but may serve as coach for participants in the local field.
6. Questions are based strictly on the Biblical texts, no study helps or other material is included.
7. The competition is completely computerized from the conference to division levels and the winner is determined by an automatic scoring mechanism which records both speed and correct answer.
8. The person with a clear majority of points is the winner. If there is a tie the person who completes the answers in the fastest time is the winner.
9. The winner of the Bible Bowl has the option to choose from a number of special prizes. These include computer, university scholarship, books and cash incentives
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\*This year's finals will be held in Guadeloupe on December 5. The Union's finals will be on September 12 at NCU. The book of study is Revelation, New King James Version.

## **Conducting the Contest**

Guidelines for local church, district, zonal and field coordinators

- ❖ Local churches, districts or zones may set questions manually or develop a computer programme for their competitions.
- ❖ Local Fields will receive a prepared CD with questions for their competition.
- ❖ In order to generate interest and participation it is recommended that an inspirational moderator be chosen to oversee the competition.
- ❖ The Bible Bowl is designed to foster interest in the study of the Bible and enhance spiritual growth; hence it is quite appropriate to have the competition during AY on Sabbath afternoon.
- ❖ It is recommended that the competition be conducted before a live audience to create interest and increased participation.
- ❖ The moderator is critical to this process and should employ natural talents, skills and personality to create a synergy and bond with the audience.
- ❖ There is no one clear method of guiding the process but the following are some ideas
  - a. Give an overview of the general guidelines at the start of the programme and explain how the proceedings will flow.
  - b. The moderator should use natural skills and personality to get the participants as relaxed and comfortable as possible.
  - c. Plan musical breaks at preset intervals in the programme, choose inspirational singers and songs.
  - d. If the competition is computerized have the administrator send questions to the screen for audience to answer after every five or ten questions.
  - e. A question should only be sent to the audience's screen after the participants have answered it on their computers.
  - f. Scores may also be projected on screen at selected intervals to generate interest; this may be done after every ten or more questions initially and after five or less questions later in the competition.
  - g. The moderator could also reiterate relevant guidelines at selected intervals and promote the next level of competition and information on the ensuing year's competition and any other relevant promotions, such as prizes, among others.
  - h. The moderator should be careful not to do too much talking in between so as to prevent boredom and excessive waste of time.