Dear Science Olympiad Coach,

Our Dodgen Middle School Science Olympiad Team cordially invites you to join us for the Dodgen Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament on **Saturday, January 23, 2016**. The Tournament will be held at Dodgen Middle School, 1725 Bill Murdock Road, Marietta GA 30062.

In an effort to maximize the number of schools that can participate, we are limiting most schools to one team per school.   Some exceptions will be made for teams coming from long distances.  You will enter a note on the on-line registration form if your school is interested in bringing an additional team should space for a second team open up.   If space does open up, we will use the date that your registration payment is received and tier to determine which schools can add another team.   We expect to have 45 teams participating.

The Dodgen Science Olympiad Invitational Tournament will serve two purposes:

1.  It will provide an official Science Olympiad Invitational tournament in which students can participate.  We hope that students will learn valuable skills preparing for and competing in this Invitational.

2. This is a fundraiser for the Dodgen SO team.  We will be selling pre-ordered lunches, drinks and cookies for lunch at a reasonable rate.  Doughnuts, coffee, and other concessions will be available throughout the day.  **We ask that you do not bring in outside food except in the case of an individual dietary restriction**.  Also, parking is going to be tight so coming and going for any reason is not advised.    After the registration process is complete, we will send emails to teams concerning food orders.

We are planning to run all 23 events.   To do this, we are asking the experienced schools to sign up for and run at least one event per team.  This will include making the test and providing for all necessary supplies, tools, people, paper tests & key copies for teams, etc. needed to run the event.  In some cases, Dodgen may be able to provide certain items that will be onerous to transport, microscopes and such come to mind.  If you need help with equipment, chemicals or supplies, please contact us well ahead of time so that we can make sure to provide these.  **Final electronic copies of the tests are requested to be delivered to us, along with an answer key, by Jan 7th.  We will put all tests and answer keys on a website that will be accessible to all teams after the competition takes place.**

In an effort to have more Science Olympiad winners, we are planning on having students compete in two flights:  One flight for teams who have experience and another flight for those teams who are just starting or those who have not frequented state competitions. You will enter some information on the on-line registration form that will help us determine how flights will work.

We all know that January weather in Atlanta can be Nice or Nasty.  In case of forecasted inclement weather in our area, the invitational will be run as a virtual tournament beginning one week later.  **A decision to cancel the live tournament and replace it with a virtual tournament will be made by noon Friday, January 22nd, 2016.**

**Please complete the registration form at the following link starting on October 27, 2015 at 8:00 pm through November 10, 2015.****REGISTRATION LINK****.     The invitational committee will send you an email before November 20th letting you know if your team is included in the invitational or on a waiting list.  Last year spaces filled quickly.**

**The cost of the tournament is $75 per team and payment is due by December 10th, with no refunds given after that date.  Please wait to pay until you receive your confirmation letter.  Your confirmation e-mail will include payment details as well as a link to the invitational website with the schedule and other tournament information.**

We look forward to seeing you in January.

Sincerely,

Dodgen Science Olympiad Team

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Debbie Amodeo, Dodgen Head Coach