

East Coast Spiritual Festivity Rules & Regulations

(last updated August 2026)

Notice: Rules are subject to change by the Administration Committee to maintain event continuity.

Note: Exception rulings can be made by the administration committee. Please reach out with any questions.

Age Divisions & Eligibility

- **Junior High:** Grades 6th–8th (includes rising 6th and rising 9th graders).
- **High School:** Grades 9th–12th (includes rising 9th graders and graduating seniors).
- **College:** Freshmen through Seniors (up to 24 years old).
- **Dual Eligibility Policy:** Participants eligible for two divisions must choose one. Competing in multiple divisions is strictly prohibited.

Registration & Fees

Category	Fee
Team Competition	\$30 per participant
Individual MC Exam	\$15 per participant

- **Deadline:** Midnight on the Wednesday prior to each event. No additions, removals, or team switches are allowed after this deadline.
- **Finality:** All registrations are final upon submission.
- **Payment:** Collected at check-in via Cash, Credit Card, or Check (payable to "St. George Coptic Orthodox Church")
- **Meals:** vouchers are provided for each participant. Additional vouchers may be purchased for church representatives.

Individual Multiple-Choice Exam

- Open to all churches.
- Team members are eligible to participate.
- Exam times do not overlap with team competition rounds.

Team Match Rules & Conduct

- **Questions:** Each team receives one question per book.
 - **Answering Policy:**
 - Only ONE designated team member may answer each question.
 - No communication or assistance from teammates is permitted while answering.
 - Teams may change the designated speaker for each question.
 - **Prohibited Items:** No books, study notes, or cell phones are allowed in the testing area. Cell phones must be powered off and put away.
 - **Violations:** 25 point deduction per exam for any rules that are not followed
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Round Time Limits

Round	Thinking Time	Answering Time
Round 1	2 minutes	2 minutes
Round of 16 Quarter-Finals	3 minutes	3 minutes
Semi-Finals 3rd Place & Finals	4 minutes	4 minutes

Scoring & Advancement

- **Round 1 Scoring:**
 - Win: 3 points
 - Draw: 1 point
 - Loss: 0 points
 - **Advancement:** Top-scoring teams advance to knockout rounds.
 - Tie-Breaker 1: Total score.
 - Tie-Breaker 2: Single tie-breaker question from any book.
 - **Tournament Structure:** Typically 5 rounds (Round 1, Round of 16, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, Final/3rd Place). Rounds may be modified based on turnout.
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Judge Guidelines

- **Panel:** 3 judges per match.
- **Church Requirement:** Every participating church must provide at least 2 judges (Priest or youth servant)
- **Age Requirement:**
 - HS / College Events: Must be at least **25 years old**.
 - Junior High Events: Must be at least **21 years old**.
- **Impartiality:** Judges will only officiate matches where their own church is not competing.
- **Judicial Rules:**
 - Judges must remain completely neutral and quiet during exams (no nodding, prompting, or asking "are you done?").
 - Judges cannot provide hints, reveal correct answers, or share scores during or after the match.
 - Judges must underline and use the answer sheet in case of disputes

- Judges must not consult with each other during exams or compare point distribution. Judging is independent.
 - All judges must be within 10 points per question. This is the only time consultation may take place.
- **Question Procedure:** Judges hand copies of the question to both teams at once. Team A answers first, then Team B. Answering order alternates for the next question.