

# **SPELLING BEE RULES**

1. The participants must:
  - a. **Look at the spelling master/judging panel**
  - b. **Say the word before spelling. This is to ensure that the student heard the word correctly.**
  - c. **Spell the word orally.**
  - d. **Say the word again after it is spelled, to indicate spelling is complete.**

This is the **SAY-SPELL-SAY** procedure that must be followed to ensure that: (1) the speller understands the correct word, and (2) the judges know when the spelling is complete and no more letters will be added. The judge will stop the student if he/she fails to pronounce the word before spelling or if it is pronounced incorrectly. **NOTE:** Failure to say-spell-say will not in itself eliminate the speller from competition, but will reduce the chances of correct spelling and/or the ability to arbitrate.

- e. **Participants must speak clearly and loudly.**
2. The student will have 30 seconds after he/she pronounces (or is advised to pronounce) the word until he/she must begin spelling.
3. Having started to spell a word, a contestant may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning, but, in the retracing there can be no change of letters and/or their sequence from those first pronounced.
4. The student will be informed immediately whether the word is spelled correctly or incorrectly. If eliminated, the student will **NOW SIT WITH THE AUDIENCE.**
5. No talking will be allowed among students or between students participating in the Bee or with the audience.

**THE SPELLING BEE JUDGES WILL BE IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE BEE;  
THEIR DECISIONS WILL BE FINAL.**

## **PLEASE NOTE**

**SPELLING BEE WORDS can be found on the Convention website at [www.fspbc.org](http://www.fspbc.org) click on Youth.**