**LifeSmarts Coordinator Conference Call**   
**Agenda – March 13, 2019**

State Coordinators Present: Tammy (WI); Courtney (GA); Gillian (DE); Gloryana (HI); Joan (WI); George (CA); Brittani Kelly (GA); Gwen (FL). Angela (KS)

Staff Present: Lisa Hertzberg, Chantal Spruill, Cheryl Varnadoe

Agenda Items:

1. Tell us about your state competitions! We are excited to hear about your event!

WI- 5 teams at state. Competition went well. Oconto is the state champ.   
GA – 8 teams and had a great day and had lots of new teams. All the teams learned and are gearing up for next year  
HI – four teams at state - ‘Iolani is champion again. Had lots of new officials and a new MC to help. Kids loved the Speed smarts.  
CA – Unable to have an in-person event this year. Winner unable to attend but runner-up team is coming  
DE – Only one school but they are a fantastic school and new coach this year.   
FL – had an online competition and have a 4-H champion

1. Nationals

* 41 teams have been invited.
  + Discuss Wild Cards and tell where they are from, a little bit about the system for choosing them, and how excited we were to extend EIGHT invitations
* Please share media coverage from your state if you have not already. Help us feature your state champs – keep sending your pictures, captions and articles
* Nationals information is available here: <https://lifesmarts.org/national-lifesmarts-championship-2019-orlando/>
* April 13- 16
* We would love to have all of you there with us (Sign- up here: <https://lifesmarts.org/nlsc2019volunteer/> )
* Who all is already registered to attend? Thank you for registering!
* VIP Coordinators Reception is Sunday evening, April 14 at 6:30 PM
  + We will send details about the event app soon; this will include the event schedule, roster, sister teams, etc.
* Gillian has volunteered to run the internet teams’ orientation at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 13th (immediately following dinner.) Who else would like to help? Tammy
* Please stay in touch with your coach. Several deadlines THIS week so please remind them! You and your coach should be receiving our special Orlando championship newsletter (Celebration Central) every Tuesday. One went out earlier today with a detailed list of deadlines.
* Our registration deadline is this week - March 16. This is VERY important. When coaches register they should be prepared with all the information so that they can complete the registration at one time; the information they need to gather is listed in the coach memo. Link: <https://lifesmarts.org/nationals-orlando-team-registration/>
* Remind coaches to submit their permission slip (Participation Release form) to Chantal (chantals@nclnet.org) via e-mail as soon as possible: <http://lifesmarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Form-Packet-2016-v2-1.pdf>
  + **Please have coaches contact Chantal directly with questions about registration or permission slips; please do not fax forms.**
* Details include hotel reservation numbers (if you are making reservations for your coach, please give them this information); this is so we can assist them with any hotel issues more easily/quickly
* If they need to restart the registration process, contact us so we can delete their original registration – we cannot amend it once they leave the site
* The hotel cut-off deadline is also March 20. Earlier reservations are encouraged. If the hotel shows as full online, email us immediately so that we can have out reservations specialist reach out to them.
* Coach conference calls are set for later today, March 13 (5 p.m. Eastern) and March 19 (3 p.m.). Coaches only need to join one call – this is their best opportunity to hear updates, ask questions, find roommates if they need them, etc.
  + They can also post roommate needs on the LifeSmarts Coaches Facebook page.
* Safety Smart stipends are available for teams. See the details and deadlines on our website at <https://lifesmarts.org/resources-2/safety-smart/>. We have UL Safety Smarts scholarships to present – please encourage coaches and students to participate and apply!
* Other event highlights are a special birthday celebration complete with a special Disney guest, an alumni panel, and discounted tickets to Disney Park of your choice on Monday afternoon and evening and of course our 40 fantastic teams!
* Please order your Disney tickets using the form which we will email to you. The deadline to order and pay is March 28. Tickets are being offered to you at a huge discount of only $45 each. Of course, park tickets for you and for your teams are optional. **Link to form for Disney tickets**: <https://lifesmarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/LifeSmarts-National-Championship-2019-Disney-Ticket-Request.docx>
* **If paying by credit card, please have coaches email/scan form and send directly to Chantal by March 28. Do not mail forms that contain credit card info.**
* If paying by check, send payment to: National Consumers League ATTN: LifeSmarts 1701 K Street NW Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20006
  + We recommend if you have a favorite park restaurant that you would like to dine at to go ahead and make reservations. Use the [My Disney Experience mobile app](https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/plan/my-disney-experience/mobile-apps/) for reservations both inside and outside the parks including Disney Springs. For more information on Disney Springs restaurants, visit: <https://www.disneysprings.com>.
* Sister teams will be announced after the March 16 registration deadline (ideas for sister team gifts?) t-shirts,
* Meals covered include: Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast and lunch, Monday breakfast and special celebration (birthday cake), Tuesday breakfast and awards luncheon. Discounts available at Disney Springs with many places to eat. Use the [My Disney Experience mobile app](https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/plan/my-disney-experience/mobile-apps/) for reservations both inside and outside the parks including Disney Springs. For more information on Disney Springs restaurants, visit: <https://www.disneysprings.com>.
* Remind teams to make nominations for Coach of the Year (comes from students) and Student of the Year (nominated by the Coach). This is optional, but we really encourage nominations!  
  [Coach of the Year Nomination](http://lifesmarts.org/national-coach-of-the-year/)

[Student of the Year Nomination](http://lifesmarts.org/national-lifesmarts-student-of-the-year/)

* **ITRC Cyber Scout essay contest deadline extended until Tuesday, March 19TH.** Follow instructions on weblink. A $2,000 scholarship will be given to the winner. Honorable mentions will also be awarded prizes. Link: [www.lifesmarts.org/itrc-essay](http://www.lifesmarts.org/itrc-essay)
  + Essay must be 500 words or less and answer the question, “What is privacy?”
* Reminders about Competition 1 – Teams will:
* Use the UL XPLORLABS and LifeSmarts resources provided to educate themselves about button cell batteries and the risks and hazards they pose to young children.
* Create the video using whatever technology you have available; this includes cell phones, iPads, digital editing tools, and digital cameras. Purchasing equipment solely to complete this video should not be necessary.
* The LifeSmarts judging team purposely designed this activity to be open-ended. Use your imagination and creativity to construct a memorable video with a valuable message for others. The video can be anything from humorous to instructional or dramatic.
* As a team you are responsible for using content appropriate for all viewing ages. Inappropriate content such as profanity will result in disqualification. If in doubt, leave it out.
* Plagiarism is not allowed. Do not use music or other copyrighted materials without direct approval from the person or organization that holds the copyright. You will be asked to verify this approval.
* Create a 30-second video PSA and upload it to the LifeSmarts web site by March 29.
* Take the TeamSmarts lithium ion battery assessment between March 25 and April 5. This will be available to your captain but is a team activity.
* Project Background: LifeSmarts is partnering with UL to educate consumers about the uses, risks, and hazards of lithium ion batteries. This multi-year project also provides opportunities for team travel stipends and student scholarships. Use the LifeSmarts Web site to learn more: <http://lifesmarts.org/lithium-ion-batteries>
  + - Provide updates from coach meeting --
      * Points have been updated based on feedback from the Team Advisory Board last year
        + More points for team activities (Speed Smarts, Competition 1)
        + Same points for buzzer matches
      * New competition question format: Team Link
        + Chance for full team to be engaged
        + Replaces Team-Plus at Nationals
        + Thanks to TAB for helping us create this new format!

1. Invitation to all LifeSmarts teams – compete in the special March TeamSmarts quiz!

LifeSmarts invites all teams to join us in celebrating LifeSmarts at 25, and the fun starts now!

We have created a special March TeamSmarts quiz for all teams! This special edition of TeamSmarts is open now through March 31, 2019. The quiz features topics that students will be asked about in-depth at the National LifeSmarts Championship. If you're not attending Nationals, we invite you to play along. In fact, we have prizes reserved just for you! Top-scoring teams who "play at home" will be recognized during the live stream of the National semifinals and finals on April 16. This is an **extra** chance to win $100 for your school or organization's LifeSmarts team. Prizes will be awarded to the top-scoring Varsity, JV, 4-H, FBLA, and FCCLA teams who join us by competing at home throughout the month of March.

1. Enter the[**LifeSmarts Student Essay Contest.**](https://www.nclnet.org/r?u=KZcKWvJae7GB_0yOB0QncHn88DAhBt1rpjnyD9-FJGCp0Se04xjj4cclvh96Zm-6&e=5c293ccf92ba54b3bf398958ece621d0&utm_source=ncl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=teachsmarts_mar5&n=7) In 250 words or less, students will write a persuasive essay describing their favorite LifeSmarts moment and why it was memorable for them. Essay entries are due **March 29**. Gift cards will be awarded to the contest winners!
2. Nominate a Stand-out Graduating Senior for the[**Sarah Weinberg LifeSmarts Memorial Scholarship.**](https://www.nclnet.org/r?u=KZcKWvJae7GB_0yOB0QncOQnPAEAt9OQ-xPSLR3SO5w&e=5c293ccf92ba54b3bf398958ece621d0&utm_source=ncl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=teachsmarts_mar5&n=8)This $500 scholarship will be awarded to a LifeSmarts participant who demonstrates a commitment, like Sarah did, to volunteer service work. Scholarship applications are **due March 15**. One $500 scholarship will be awarded.
3. LifeSmarts In a Box – You can pre-order the new, revised LifeSmarts in a Box. Thanks so Gillian and Crystal for their support. We will reprint the updated version and hope to have copies at Nationals. We want you to be thinking about how you can use this and how many you would like to have to use in your state. These will be shipped in early May. You may order 50 – 100!
4. End-of-Season LifeSmarts Surveys   
   Please share this with any LifeSmarts students, coaches, alumni, and volunteers. Thanks so much!   
   End-of Season Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R5MZCTQ>We would also love to hear your LifeSmarts Story! Questions vary on this survey, so:

Coaches, please [use this link](https://www.nclnet.org/r?u=h9S4XiYLh2vmKd5gsI_G95bey7g1H0rcbRM6V11GUCbeCDwkTDNQHGKu0_Lf_YSj&e=5c293ccf92ba54b3bf398958ece621d0&utm_source=ncl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=teachsmarts_mar5&n=5) to tell us more.

Students, please [use this link](https://www.nclnet.org/r?u=h9S4XiYLh2vmKd5gsI_G95bey7g1H0rcbRM6V11GUCYwGPsTz9IED93l4BCF61X7&e=5c293ccf92ba54b3bf398958ece621d0&utm_source=ncl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=teachsmarts_mar5&n=6).   

1. Follow Us!    
   Follow LifeSmarts on Social Media:  [Twitter](https://www.nclnet.org/r?u=YqgukYA3Mrlri-dqG7I8TvPHl0R78qReDU7EtzDkMaErmjsuj5FkrF0Y_7b1PXg1&e=5c293ccf92ba54b3bf398958ece621d0&utm_source=ncl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=teachsmarts_mar5&n=11), [Instagram,](https://www.nclnet.org/r?u=6hyvAYXBs1PELL28GD73y6BxaGohSC94KAT93fXOuZYFm8hrq9qhBX8VMVAUIPxx&e=5c293ccf92ba54b3bf398958ece621d0&utm_source=ncl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=teachsmarts_mar5&n=12) [Facebook](https://www.nclnet.org/r?u=27Ax0UmWOX2J8J_QwK9Z6sPbQXIjoxUaqI6y2H_dDa9PD_Vjz1x5iQv7MsT4e3-i&e=5c293ccf92ba54b3bf398958ece621d0&utm_source=ncl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=teachsmarts_mar5&n=13), [Snapchat](https://www.nclnet.org/r?u=G8Lz5xzset53mB-1XL3knqQpeHqYvUG6sYGBy4gXSyh67BncuOZX75DyAyejbkqE&e=5c293ccf92ba54b3bf398958ece621d0&utm_source=ncl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=teachsmarts_mar5&n=14) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXfyCJGEBaMOTcf5l7W_GTg)!

8. FBLA update

* Spring Challenge closed at the end of February
* 18 states had teams qualify, 100 teams qualified overall

9. FCCLA Second Chance report

10. Questions? Comments?

11. Our next conference call is set for Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 3 PM. The call-in number is   
1-888-585-9008 and the passcode is 310-237-369#.