LifeSmarts State Coordinator Call Agenda
November 4, 2020

Staff: Lisa Hertzberg, Cheryl Varnadoe, Elena Robertson

Attendees: Donna (MO), Tammie (WI), Linda (MO), Gayle (NM), Kim (VA), Chelsey (NE), Courtney (GA), Bill (DC), Crystal (ND), Kyla (SC), Gwen Worlds, (FL), Michelle Wilde (NC)

Agenda:

1. Welcome!
2. Program Updates:
   - October TeamSmarts winners:
     - FBLA: John Marshall FBLA 1 - John Marshall High School, WV
     - FCCLA: Selah FCCLA - Selah High School, WA
     - 4-H: Y'All - WIT Home Educators, VA
     - JV: IMSponies - Iola Middle School, KS
     - Varsity: Big Honchos, Hargrave High School, TX
   - TeamSmarts for November on Consumer Rights and Responsibilities is open until November, 30th. For more information, visit: http://lifesmarts.org/teamsmarts/
   - Reminder: There is still a clock on all quizzes.
     - The clock is set up to begin deducting points after the student exceeds 40 seconds per question. This means, on an individual quiz with 20 questions, the student has 13.33 minutes to test before his/her score will go down.
3. Projects:
   - LifeSmarts / Johnson & Johnson OTC medicine safety infographic contest
     - Students have the chance to win prizes for creating informative infographics about Over-the-Counter (OTC) medicine safety.
     - For complete information and submission guidelines, click here.
     - For ideas on how to implement the project, visit the Over-the-Counter Medicine Safety Mentoring Project page.
     - We thank Johnson & Johnson for their support of this project and for providing scholarships and prizes for the participants.
     - The first 10 $100 cash awards will be made to JV and Varsity students who submit winning infographics by **December 18**.
     - Please promote to your coaches!
   - LifeSmarts is proud to partner with AARP to present educational components on Social Security and Retirement.
     - Check out the new LifeSmarts U lesson here!
   - Be Safe Buy Real - Underwriters Laboratories has created a coalition, including LifeSmarts, to take part in their World Anti-Counterfeiting Week campaign, Be Safe Buy Real.™
     - This global campaign is designed to raise awareness among consumers, educators, governments, and law enforcement agencies about the negative health, safety, and economic consequences of counterfeit products.
     - This topic is featured in the November TeamSmarts competition, which focuses on consumer rights and responsibilities.
     - Join LifeSmarts and UL to learn more about counterfeit products during World Anti-Counterfeiting Week, November 16-20, 2020, and advocate for a safe, fair, fake-free world.

- Please share this excellent resource with your LifeSmarts coaches!

4. Wildcard/ Automatic Bid Process:
   - http://lifesmarts.org/automatic-bids/
   - Teams must complete the Wild Card TeamSmarts Quiz which will be available
   - December 1;
   - Prepare a PowerPoint or Prezi on a LifeSmarts topic (requirements on handout and web page);
   - Coach submits a recommendation of their team that shares information about the team and the team members and why they should be chosen.
   - The application asks for some demographics to be supplied by the coach.
     - Teams that can apply this year:
       - New teams that have never competed at Nationals.
       - FCCLA, FBLA, and 4-H teams.
       - Teams that place 2nd in their state competition.
       - Wild Card teams from 2019, who were not slated to attend Nationals in 2020, are eligible to apply for a Wild Card bid for the 2021 National LifeSmarts Championship.
     - Teams that cannot apply this year:
       - Any team that was to compete at Nationals last year including Wild Card teams. Exception: A team from the same school or club with NO returning members.
       - Teams that were to have competed at Nationals last year must win their state competition to return UNLESS all 4-5 team members are new.
       - Two teams from the same local/county school, club or organization cannot compete at nationals the same year.
       - Deadlines FCCLA, FBLA, and 4-H teams must submit all application materials by January 31, 2021.
       - Varsity teams can apply on a rolling basis until March 1, 2020.
       - Second place teams have one week after their state competition is held to submit an application, but they must submit by March 1, 2021, if that is first.
     - Other requirements
       - One spot each will be reserved for FCCLA, FBLA, and 4-H teams.
       - A team cannot be the state winning team AND a wild card team. If a team is selected as a Wild Card bid winner and subsequently wins their state title, they must decline the Wild Card invitation so that another team can be invited to compete in Nationals.
       - Teams can submit a Wild Card application while competing for their state title.
       - Wild Card teams are eligible for travel stipends, provided we are able to travel.
       - Please promote to teams in your state who have never competed at the national level or have not been to nationals in a while.

5. Scholarship Reminders
   - Toyota Making Life Easier Scholarship – Late notification this year but our students ARE eligible. Deadline is Friday, November 6. Our friends at Toyota Financial Services are once again providing $1 million in scholarships to college-bound students! Applicants must be participants in affiliated programs,

and LifeSmarts graduating seniors and alumni are eligible to apply. This is a renewable scholarship, and LifeSmarts has successful applicants every year.

- Sarah Weinberg Memorial Scholarship (Deadline March 12, 2021) -The Sarah Weinberg LifeSmarts Memorial Scholarship remembers our colleague who died in 2016. We honor Sarah's life by awarding this scholarship to one senior each year who exemplifies Sarah's passion for volunteer service.
  Visit: https://lifesmarts.org/sarah/ for additional information.

6. Other competition updates:
   - With your input and suggestions, we have added Workforce Preparation to the Technology category – it will now be called Technology and Workforce Preparation.
   - FBLA
     - Fall Challenge is underway to advance teams to the FBLA NLC next summer. These teams will represent 12 different states. We have quite a few new states and coaches participating. This closes on lucky Friday, Nov. 13.
   - FCCLA
     - We had great number of FCCLA/LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl Teams competing this fall – We had 42 teams eligible for the next step.
     - We will be conducting interview competitions online the week of November 16. The top 16 will advance to the NLC next summer.

7. State Programs:

   - New State Coordinators will be invited to an informal webinar. Be on the lookout for an email. If you are not new but would like to attend, let me know.
   - Coordinator agreements and understanding letters have been sent to those who needed them this year. Please return these as soon as possible.
   - Thanks to all who have now sent in their bios. We are getting closer! You should have received a reminder from me last week if we need yours. Thanks!
   - **State competition update**:
     - We have drafted virtual competition protocols, volunteer roles, etc. and are working to finalize those to share with you.
     - Volunteer roles include MC, Question Master, Referee, Judges (2), Zoom Room Host, Zoom Room Co-host, Backup scorekeeper (if desired), and at least one QuizBowl Pro Official (Usually LifeSmarts staff). If states choose to do SpeedSmarts as part of their virtual competition, a volunteer would also serve as the SpeedSmarts Expert.
     - For states who choose to use QuizBowl Pro, we will have a video orientation for teams and coaches that can be shared, a zoom question and answer/ practice session for interested teams prior to their state event as well as a letter to competitors that can be personalized and more.
     - There will be a few changes to the competition format regarding rounds and types of questions in those rounds.
     - Only two teams will be able to compete at one time
     - **To help us in planning you will receive a survey link following this call to complete within the next week. Please be prepared to provide us with the following information:**
       - How you plan to compete in your state currently. (we know this may change)
       - Choices will be:

        - Use online scores from five category quizzes and capstone
        - Use online State TeamSmarts
        - Hold in-person competition
        - Hold virtual competition
    - Dates you plan for your competition
    - How many teams you plan to host for your competition
    - If you plan to have a JV competition, how it will be conducted and how many teams.
    - Survey link: https://lifesmarts.org/state-competition-2021-coordinator-survey/
    - Please complete by **November 12**
- QUESTIONS? INPUT**?**
    - **Kyla wants to attend orientation**
    - **Lisa mentioned multiple licenses allow us to run multiple virtual rooms at once if we have enough volunteers**
    - **How many teams do you need for a virtual competition?**
        - **We will work with any number of teams (if two – they could compete multiple times; if a larger number, running multiple virtual rooms allows us to host more matches)**
    - Thanks so much to all of you who have called, emailed, asked questions and offered help. It is very much appreciated!
    - Kim asked if QuizBowlPro is available to coordinators or coaches to use ahead of time?
        - LifeSmarts team will see if the third license is available to use for teams that want to practice
    - Practice online – Try https://buzzin.live/
    - Updated State pages
        - You can list TBA as the date on your state page

8. Giving Tuesday – December 1, 2020
    - This is our 27th year. We want LifeSmarts to continue to grow and thrive. To do that we must build support for its future. We encourage you to share with coaches and past state coordinators and ask them to share with alumni, alumni coaches and competitors to make a donation on Giving Tuesday to express their appreciation for LifeSmarts and the work we continue to do to support youth consumer and financial education.

9. Next call info:
    - Next call is Wednesday, December 2 at 3 p.m. ET
    - Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours! We are thankful for each of you! Stay safe and sound!