



Welcome to Junior Bible Quiz!

On behalf of Pen Florida JBQ, we are thrilled to have your church join our amazing ministry. My name is Reannah Horton, and I have the privilege of overseeing the Pen Florida District for Junior Bible Quiz. While this is my third year as District Coordinator, I have been heavily involved in JBQ ministry for nineteen years. My journey in Junior Bible Quiz began as a quizzier in 2005, and I since have served as an official, coach, and league coordinator. JBQ has been the greatest spiritual and biblical influence in my life, and it is an honor to give back to this amazing ministry. My prayer is that your church experiences the same blessings.

As the District Coordinator for Pen Florida, I want our children to have unwavering confidence in their faith in Jesus Christ. To accomplish this, as a District we will:



1. Promote discipleship that nurtures children's spiritual growth and biblical understanding. We want our children to develop a love and a hunger for God's Word. (Deuteronomy 6:4)
2. Create a fun yet competitive environment that instills our quizzers with an unshakeable confidence. We want to bolster an Elijah generation that will be equipped to speak boldly about their faith in Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 3:15)
3. Extend opportunities for JBQ fellowship that exceeds the traditional quiz season. We want to foster community across the District. (Proverbs 27:17 & Hebrews 10:25-26)
4. Encourage the natural progression of Bible Quiz from JBQ to TBQ. We want our children to continue to habitually study the Word of God through their secondary years as they venture into adulthood. (Proverbs 22:6)
5. Expand the JBQ ministry to everyone—whether in a church, school, or homeschool setting. The Gospel is for everyone, and we want everyone to participate. (Acts 2:39 & John 17:21-23)

Last season, our theme throughout the Pen Florida District focused on the Armor of God in Ephesians 6:10-18. We explored how we can use God's armor to protect ourselves from Satan's flaming arrows as we accomplish the will of God. Our theme this season is an extension of the Armor of God. This season, our theme is titled "Created for a Purpose on Purpose." Throughout the 2023-2024 JBQ season, we will focus on Jeremiah 1:4-9. We will learn that God has chosen us for a purpose and has placed us in this exact moment in history to accomplish his plan for the world.

I can't wait to hear how Junior Bible Quiz impacts your church, your quizzers, and their families. I pray you have a wonderful season and that your quizzers' lives are forever changed.

Reannah Horton

Pen Florida Junior Bible Quiz
West League & District Coordinator

PENINSULAR FLORIDA DISTRICT JUNIOR BIBLE QUIZ GUIDELINES 2023 - 2024

I. LEAGUE SCHEDULE & QUESTION SET RANGES

The Pen Florida District is divided into six different leagues (or sections) to facilitate quizzing. The district coordinator assigns JBQ groups (churches and/or teams) to leagues according to the church's location and the quizzing capacity within the league.

League competitions for the 2023 - 2024 season will vary according to each league. JBQ groups assigned to each league are expected to comply with the listed competition dates and question set ranges as well as all policies and procedures set forth by the district coordinator and the league coordinator. The league coordinator determines the location for all league quizmeets.

A. *Central, South, Southwest, & West Leagues*

1. Competition Dates

- i. Saturday, September 9, 2023
- ii. Saturday, October 14, 2023
- iii. Saturday, November 11, 2023
- iv. Saturday, January 27, 2024
- v. Saturday, February 24, 2024

2. Question Set Ranges

Study Ranges for Achiever Division				Study Ranges for Rising Stars Division	
Date	10-point	20-point	30-point	Date	10-point
September 9	174 - 231	406 - 442	538 - 556	September 9	174 - 231
October 14	174 - 288	406 - 480	538 - 576	October 14	232 - 288
November 11	1 - 57; 174 - 288	289 - 327; 406 - 480	481 - 499; 538 - 576	November 11	1 - 57
January 27	1 - 115; 174 - 288	289 - 366; 406 - 480	481 - 518; 538 - 576	January 27	58 - 115
February 24	ALL QUESTIONS			February 24	116 - 173

B. *Northcentral & Northeast Leagues*

1. Competition Dates

- i. Saturday, October 14, 2023
- ii. Saturday, November 11, 2023
- iii. Saturday, January 27, 2024
- iv. Saturday, February 24, 2024

2. Question Set Ranges

Study Ranges for Achiever Division				Study Ranges for Rising Stars Division	
Date	10-point	20-point	30-point	Date	10-point
October 14	217 - 288	441 - 480	549 - 576	October 14	217 - 288
November 11	1 - 72; 217 - 288	289 - 340; 441 - 480	481 - 505; 549 - 576	November 11	1 - 72
January 27	1 - 144; 217 - 288	289 - 390; 441 - 480	481 - 526; 549 - 576	January 27	73 - 144
February 24	ALL QUESTIONS			February 24	145 - 216

II. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. Registration for the 2023-2024 quizzing season begins July 1st. The cost is \$35.00 per quizzier. A late fee will be assessed after September 1st. Teams wishing to participate in the September quizmeet must be registered by September 1st. Registration will remain open throughout the quiz season until January 1, 2024. Teams may not quiz unless registration fees are received one week prior to their first quiz.
- B. Teams may carry a maximum of eight quizzers, but must have a minimum of two quizzers to compete. At the beginning of each quizmeet, a roster must be presented to the coordinator. It is the coach's responsibility to guarantee eligibility. When a quizzier is found to be ineligible, all matches where s/he participated will be forfeited.
- C. Teams may make changes to their rosters through January 27th. Rosters are unable to be changed after the January quizmeet unless extenuating circumstances arise. The January roster will be used as your final roster heading into the District Finals in April.
- D. New teams added in the January match will disqualify them from the Champion Flight at Districts and will make them ineligible to participate at Regional or National level quizzing.
- E. Any official league match that you are not present for will result in a forfeit. Forfeited wins or losses can no longer be counted as official unless the present team quizzes against empty chairs and the quiz data is uploaded to the JBQ scoring software.

III. LEAGUE DIVISIONS

There are two divisions of play throughout the majority of the Pen Florida District: Achiever and Rising Stars. The number of teams in each division depends on the population of each league. Both divisions incur the same registration fee of \$35.00 per quizzier and both are eligible to compete at the Pen Florida District Final in April.

A. Achiever Division

- 1. The Achiever Division is the more competitive level of quizzing in Pen Florida JBQ. These quizzers know the rules of the game and are familiar with the questions in the Bible Fact-Pak. It is the most common division of quizzing.
- 2. Children who are enrolled in 1st – 6th grade are eligible to compete in the Achiever Division.
- 3. Quizzers in the Achiever Division study all 576 questions in the Bible Fact Pak, including 10, 20, and 30-point questions. These questions are cumulative from quiz match to quiz match. Please see the question range schedule to know which questions to study for each competition.
- 4. Each team is required to have at least 2 certified officials, one of which is trained and certified to quizmaster.
- 5. All rules and procedures set forth in the National JBQ Guidelines and the Serious Seven are followed.
- 6. The Achiever Division is the only division within the Pen Florida District that is able to qualify for Regional and National levels of competition.

B. Rising Stars Division

- 1. The Rising Stars Division is reserved for young children just starting out in a JBQ program. Participants will learn proper etiquette with buzzers, table manners, and basic rules for game play. This division is largely informal and noncompetitive.
- 2. Children enrolled in pre-K through 2nd grade are eligible to compete in the Rising Stars Division. Children should be able to maintain some level of self-control in terms of quizzing match play.

While the games are largely informal, quizzer distractions should be kept at a minimum for the benefit of the other participants and audience. Coaches and parents should use their best judgement in deciding whether a very young quizzer would be suited for quizzing.

3. To maintain the intended purpose of the Rising Stars Division, any quizzer averaging 50 points per match cumulatively through the JBQ season will be promoted to the Achiever Division the following season even if the quizzer still meets the grade level requirements for Rising Stars.
4. Quizzers in the Rising Stars Division only study 10-point questions from the Bible Fact-Pak. These questions are not cumulative from quiz match to quiz match. Please see the question range schedule to know which questions to study for each competition.
5. Each team is required to have at least 1 certified official. These officials should either be willing to quizmaster or scorekeep on a tablet.
6. All rules and procedures set forth in the National JBQ Guidelines and Serious Seven are followed except for fouls. No fouls are administered in Rising Stars unless a quizzer is consistently and repeatedly interrupting the flow of a quiz match.
7. The Rising Star Division is unable to qualify for Regional or National levels of competition. However, Achiever Division teams may add Rising Star quizzers to their teams should they qualify for Regional or National competitions.

IV. LEAGUE COMPETITION PROCEDURES

To ensure consistency and fairness across the Pen Florid District, all Pen Florida JBQ competitions will adhere to the following guidelines regardless of league or division of quizzing.

- A. All Pen Florida JBQ competitions will adhere to the most current edition of the National JBQ Guidelines (2021). All teams and officials must be familiar with these guidelines.
- B. An extension of the National JBQ Guidelines, referred to as the Serious Seven, is the Pen Florida District's interpretation of the National JBQ Guidelines and will be used to adjudicate and run quizmeets.
- C. All teams must use the NLT version of the Bible Fact-Pak.
- D. Each quizmeet (league competition) will adhere to the question set ranges set forth by the Pen Florida District.
- E. Question sets will be randomly generated using the Bible Fact-Pak generator according to the designated question set range.
- F. The decision to repeat or not repeat questions within the quizmeet's question set should be announced at the beginning of the quizmeet during the opening ceremony.
- G. All quizmeets will begin no later than 9:00am.
- H. Teams arriving 15 minutes late to their first quiz match will forfeit their first match.
- I. Teams are required to bring a specific number of certified officials. This is non-negotiable. See section VI "Officials" for more information.
- J. Church coordinators must send an updated team roster and officials list to their league coordinator at least one week prior to the league competition date.

V. BIBLE FACT-PAK TRANSLATIONS

All question set ranges stem from the most current edition of the NLT Bible Fact-Pak. Beginning in the 2023-2024 season, all questions and answers must be given from the NLT translation of the Bible Fact-Pak. Quizzers may not recite from any other Bible translation, such answers will be marked as incorrect. This applies to all other seals and awards as well.

VI. OFFICIALS

Each team participating in the Junior Bible Quiz in the Pen Florida District must bring the required number of certified officials. This is non-negotiable. Quizmeets are unable to run without the appropriate number of officials.

- A. The number of officials required is determined by the team's division.
 - 1. Each Achiever Division team is required to bring two-certified officials, one of which is trained and certified to quizmaster.
 - 2. Each Rising Star Division team is required to bring one-certified official.
- B. All officials are required to take and pass the Pen Florida Officials Test with at least a 75%.
 - 1. The officials test is comprised of two parts: the general knowledge test and the scorekeeping test. Officials only need to take the test for the position in which the league or district coordinator requires them to serve.
 - i. Quizmasters are required to take both the general knowledge test and the scorekeeping test.
 - ii. Judges and timekeepers are required to take only the general knowledge test.
 - iii. Scorekeepers are required to take only the scorekeeping test.
 - 2. The Pen Florida District Coordinator keeps a current list of all certified officials.
 - 3. Officials are required to recertify every three years or whenever a new version of the National JBQ Guidelines is published.
 - 4. Coaches are not required to take the Pen Florida Officials Test; however, coaches are still required and expected to know the rules. It is highly recommended that all coaches take at least the general knowledge test.
 - 5. Please reach out to your league coordinator for the password.
- C. Teams who do not bring the required amount of certified officials will be subject to a 10-point penalty per quizmatch unless an extenuating circumstance arises.
- D. Church coordinators may request that their officials serve in a specific role at each league or district competition; however, this is never a guarantee.
 - 1. If a league or district coordinator needs an official to serve in an area in which the official is not certified, the league or district coordinator must notify the official by the Wednesday before the competition so that the official may take and pass the appropriate test. If the official is not notified by Wednesday, no 10-point penalty will be assessed.
 - 2. Officials who are replacing a "no show" official the day of the competition must still be certified.

VII. THE IRON INVITATIONAL - PEN FLORIDA SEMI DISTRICT FINAL

The first ever Iron Invitational, also referred to as the Pen Florida Semi District Final, will take place on March 9, 2024 at Haven Worship Center in Winter Haven, Florida. The purpose of this competition is to determine Achiever division team placements into flights at the Pen Florida District Final.

- A. The top fourteen teams from across the Pen Florida District are invited (and expected) to attend this competition. Invitation to this competition is based on each team's cumulative win/loss percentage and team average from October through February. (For leagues with a small number of teams, the percentage of 30-point questions answered each competition is also considered.) A team must have participated in at least 75% of the quizmeets to be eligible for the Iron Invitational.

- B. Teams should expect to play a full round robin (13 rounds).
- C. Each team is required to bring 2 certified officials, one of which is trained and certified to quizmaster. These officials should also be able to serve at the Pen Florida District Final in April as well. Failure to bring the correct number of officials will result in a 10-point penalty per quizmatch.
- D. The Iron Invitational will cover all 576 questions in the Bible Fact-Pak. National JBQ Guidelines and the Serious Seven will be enforced.
- E. Team ranking at this competition determines placement at the Pen Florida District Final in April.
 - 1. The bottom 7 teams will be placed into Flight 2 at the District Final.
 - 2. The top 7 teams will be placed in the Flight of Champions at the District Final. Teams qualifying for the Flight of Champions have the opportunity to earn a spot at the regional or national competitions.
- F. There is no registration fee for this competition. However, each team is required to bring a bag of candy to the event.
- G. The top 10 quizzers for the day will be recognized. Quizzers will receive a bag of candy and a certificate.

VIII. **DISTRICT FINALS PROCEDURES**

The Pen Florida JBQ District Final will take place on April 13, 2024 at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida. The purpose of this competition is a) to come together as the Pen Florida District, b) celebrate our quizzers' accomplishments throughout the season, and c) determine who will progress to the regional and national levels of quizzing.

- A. All teams in both Rising Star and Achiever divisions are expected to attend the Pen Florida District Final. Teams are placed into flights (levels) according to their win/loss percentages and averages throughout the season (October to February). The Iron Invitational determines team placement in the Flight of Champions and Flight 2.
- B. Teams should expect to play six or seven rounds.
- C. Each Achiever division team is required to bring 2 certified officials, one of which is trained and certified to quizmaster. Rising Star division teams are required to bring 1 certified official. Failure to bring the correct number of officials will result in a 10-point penalty per quizmatch unless an extenuating circumstance arises.
- D. The Pen Florida District Final will quiz over the most current edition of the NLT Bible Fact-Pak. National JBQ Guidelines and the Serious Seven will be enforced.
 - 1. Achiever Division will quiz over all 576 questions in the Bible Fact-Pak.
 - 2. Rising Stars Division will quiz over only question numbers 116 - 231.
- E. Teams in the Flight of Champions may earn a spot at the regional or national competitions. The top four teams receive an invite to the Southeast Regional while the District Champion receives an invitation as well to the National Festival. Teams who qualify for the Southeast Regional must pay the registration fee the day of the Pen Florida District Final. No exceptions.

F. Teams and quizzers have the opportunity to earn a myriad of awards at this competition. The awards given at this competition include the following:

3. Team plaques
4. Top quizzers in each flight
5. Top quizzers in the district throughout the season
6. Seals (For more information, please visit <http://nationaljbq.org/bible-master-award/index.cfm>)
7. Christian Character Award

IX. **DISTRICT CHAMPIONS**

A bid for the National Festival is contingent upon the District Champion to attend the Southeast Regional Tournament. Preparations for advanced levels of competition should begin early in the JBQ season. Participation at the Southeast Regional not only sharpens the skills of the District Champion, but sharpens the skills of the opposition. Exceptions include emergency situations.

X. **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Pen Florida District expects its parents, coaches, quizzers, and other audience members to demonstrate integrity, respect, and support for all other churches, teams, and participants. Failure to comply with the code of conduct will be cause for dismissal, and the offender will be asked to not return for the remainder of the JBQ season or possibly to the JBQ program. The following are expectations for all participants in Pen Florida Junior Bible Quiz.

- A. All participants are expected to exhibit Christ-like character at all JBQ competitions. Overly competitive attitudes and obvious displays of rudeness or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.
- B. Teams are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entirety of the quizmeet, including the awards ceremony. While we understand that extenuating circumstances may arise, these situations should be infrequent.
- C. Teams are expected to follow the quizzing schedule as dictated by the league or district coordinator.
- D. At the conclusion of a quiz match, teams should report immediately to their next quiz room as to not delay the competition for other teams. Bathroom breaks or snack breaks should occur in between rounds when other teams are still quizzing.
- E. Teams or other participants should remain quiet in the hallways while other teams are quizzing so that they do not distract or impede the flow of a quiz match. Teams or participants who are consistently too loud and interrupt quiz matches will be subject to a team foul or and potentially a forfeiture of the following round.
- F. Entering a quiz match once the quizmaster has declared the match open is prohibited. Participants who enter the room once the match has begun will subject their team to a foul. Only league and district coordinators and officials are permitted to enter and exit the room.