



## Suggestions and Tips for a Successful Spelling Bee



- Some clubs hold separate Bees for fourth and fifth grades. This is a good idea when there are many schools participating and therefore, many students. The sample letter to contestants and alternates contains information pertaining to both forms of Bees. Please delete the part that is not applicable to the format of your Bee.
- Limit the number of contestants to around thirty or forty. You do not want your Bee to take too long.
- Open doors to the Bee one half hour before starting time for registration. Begin the Bee promptly and do not wait for “no shows”.
- Offer a break if you feel it necessary after five rounds. Remind students the breaks are the time to use the bathroom.
- You may wish to record the Bee, should there be a dispute over the spelling of a word. (The State Bee will be recorded on two devices)
- You may wish to solicit prizes from a local bookstore, business or bank.

### Suggested seating arrangement:

Contestants should not face the crowd, if possible. This helps the children maintain their concentration and reduces the chance of “help” from parents.

