

2023-24 NNVMath Competition Team Development Program

The focus of the NNVMath Competition Team Development Program (CTDP) is to provide an opportunity for students in the Reno/Sparks area to participate on a regional math team. Our goal is to challenge students to develop their math, logic, and thinking skills while working both independently and within a group. **Participants are expected to do their best work, support their teammates, and contribute to a strong and cohesive team.** Students must apply to be a part of the Competition Team Development Program (CTDP). Students who regularly demonstrate that they are ready to be a productive member of the team will be invited to represent northern Nevada in the American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) team competition on May 31-June 2, 2024. Students will be given a timeline for accepting their position on the team. Once accepted, they ARE expected to participate in. Students who are selected, commit to the team, and then cancel for reasons other than illness or family emergencies will not be considered for the team the following year.

Competition Team Program Application - Students are required to complete a new application yearly.

Steps to joining the CTDP:

- Student and a parent are required to attend an information meeting;
- Complete and submit application with the **application fee of \$100.00** (may be paid online) upon wanting to join. Upon acceptance, the \$100.00 fee is applied to the **full CTDP \$450.00 program fee**. Students not accepted will receive their fee back. Students who are accepted will not have their fee returned, even if they change their mind or are removed from the team at a later date.
- As always, if your family cannot afford the fees for any program, email or call Sherry@NNVMath.org.

To remain in good standing:

- Complete required minimum of **10 NNVMath pre-approved volunteer hours**;
- Attend practices as a good teammate and with a good attitude;
- Show effort, listen to coaches, and study solutions after practices;
- Participate in MathRocks! contests;
- Pay fee balances when billed;
- All members must take the AMC (at their appropriate grade level or higher);

Practice Format - CTDP practices on most Sundays during the school year (see CT Practice Schedule at our office, 2105 Capurro Way, Sparks, NV 80431. Practices may be moved online due to weather or as situations warrant.

With various things in mind, we have decided to return to our original practice format that is utilized by a number of successful ARML teams. While we may have guest coaches from time to time, most practices will be run as follows: ARML or similar level problems will be given. Initially, each member will work on the problem set independently. After some time (will vary

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by contest round type), members will work in groups to solve the problems. Solutions will be sent home for members to review and study.

Because this approach requires members to have the skill sets needed to approach this level of problems, members without base competition level problem solving, number theory, geometry, algebra, & probability skillsets will need to develop these outside of practice. We are offering classes. There are other options that can be utilized for this development as well. All members are welcome (and encouraged) to take a class in areas where they feel they need improvement.

We will have 2 practice times: 1-3 and 3:30-5:30. Members will be divided between these as their “main practice time.” Should you have a conflict with your regular time, you may come to the other practice time. However, if it will be a regular switch, permission needs to be obtained to allow practice sizes to be reasonable.

Competition Team Development Program Fees – All members are required to be vested in the program. To join the program, students have several options for “paying their way.” The basic way is to pay \$450 for the year (\$100 application fee and \$350 balance) and contribute 10 hours of volunteer work to NNVMath. That said, it has always been my goal to prevent money from being the reason a student cannot participate and to improve the local math culture. With that in mind, students may volunteer up to 40 additional hours to go towards their program balance to a total of \$350. Each hour reduces \$8.75 from the bill. That would leave them a total of \$100 paid application fee and 50 hours of work (40 hours that would equate to \$350 plus the 10 hours required of all program members).

Couple of important items regarding fees and hours:

- Fee balances will be Invoiced in the Winter to provide families ample time to complete additional hours. Amounts will take into consideration hours contributed up to that point plus those showing on volunteer signup sheets for events prior to April 1st.
- Any balance due must be paid or alternate arrangements upon receipt.
- No double dipping – this means I will not sign off on any volunteer hour forms for the first 10 hours you work as they are required to be a member of the program. Hours volunteered beyond the 10 that go towards your fees will be signed off at ½ rate (so if you work the 40 max to reduce your fee to \$100, I will sign off on 20 hours on your volunteer form for school/church/etc.). Hours beyond those will be signed off at full rate. After the initial 10 hours, you may choose to have your volunteer hours signed off at full rate if you do not want them to go towards reducing your program fees. The exception is for college, scholarship, and similar programs – full credit is given for all hours for these purposes.
- Students who volunteer beyond 50 hours will be recognized as community changers at our annual awards dinner.
- Students removed from the program due to behavior will NOT be given a refund.

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- Students removed from the program due to *parent behavior* will NOT be given a refund.

Service Hour Opportunities – Service hours need to have a positive impact on the local math culture. Below are some ideas but it is not exhaustive. Please clear new ideas to make sure they will count!

- Math Camps – preparing, planning, instructing, and helping at one of our math camps is a great way to contribute to the math culture and have a huge impact on younger students. **CTDP members only.**
- Help at a MathRocks! event (set up, clean up, parents can proctor, help in scoring room, run snack table, donate food for volunteers, etc.) **Parents**
- Run or help with a school math club (high school members – at a middle school, middle school members – at an elementary school). **CTDP members only.**
- Be a CTDP coach. **Parents**
- Apply to be one of our Competition Math Interns – work with students in grades 1-6 participating in MathRocks! going over their results and helping them grow their competition math skills. **CTDP members**
- MathCounts Chapter & State events (high schoolers & a few parents – and when they don't conflict with our contests). **CTDP members whose school is not participating and parents**
- Write math contest problems. You need to be able to keep problems confidential and not share them but it's a great way to contribute. **CTDP members and parents (cannot write problems for a round in which you or any of your children will participate)**
- Special Events Committee - The Special Events committee plans the Year-end awards dinner, our Pi Day fundraiser, and Dodgeball. The more help the better. You can participate as part of the committee or volunteer to help with a specific event or function. **Parents**
- Apply to be on our Board of Directors – Our board is a working board which means they help with fundraiser or volunteer within our programs. They are key to helping the organization run. **Parents**
- Organize a fundraiser – many local restaurants and businesses will work with non-profits to share profits for business the non-profit brings in (such as people who come in for dinner from 5-8 on a specific day and show the server a flyer or something similar). Have a business you frequent that does this? Let me know. Your time putting this together goes towards your child's service hours. **ANYONE**
- PR help – we are desperately in need of help with getting press releases out, marketing materials, social media, etc. If you are interested in helping in this capacity, please, please volunteer! **Parents**
- Photography - take pictures at contests, practices, and other events. **Parents**
- Let us know what you enjoy doing and we'll put you to work 😊

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ATTENDING ARML

Student attendance at practices will be tracked along with contest participation. Once you have attended 15 practices, you will be evaluated for a spot on our ARML Team with a minimum of 20 of the 28 offered be on the final team. It is encouraged that students attend as many of both as they are able. The more commitment we see, the better. Students who have conflicts due to sports or school activities, should communicate these conflicts as soon as possible. Communicate illnesses and emergencies with us. Students who are ill should not come to practice. While it is perfectly okay for a parent to communicate illnesses and emergencies, as students get older, more of the communication should fall on the student (parents – you are welcome to follow up to ensure communication has taken place as we understand it is a learning process).

It is important to note that while ability matters when we are selecting ARML teams, it is not viewed in a vacuum. This is a Competition Team *Development Program*. To be a part of a team means a willingness to work with others, a willingness to share your knowledge, a willingness to learn from your teammates, being nice to your teammates and coaches, showing good judgement and self-control, and demonstrating an interest in learning more math by making the effort and staying on task. Our expectation of all program members is that they build each other up; not tear each other down. Students who are accepted into the program or onto a team will be removed if they later determine they are not living up to this expectation. Additionally, because of the age range involved, maturity level is considered when determining our ARML team(s). An applicant may be mature for their age but not be a good fit for the team at this point. We want the experience to be a good one for all involved and that means some students who are intellectually ready may need to wait a year or two to mature and be socially ready.

Assuming ARML is held at UNR in 2024, we will meet as a team during the morning on Friday, May 31st, and will stay together until Sunday morning. Members for whom school will still be in session should communicate with their school administration as soon as they receive an invitation to find out how to navigate the missed day of class.

There will be a fee for each student accepting their invitation to attend ARML. This fee will be due when billed (likely within 2 weeks of ARML's completion). This fee is to help cover the additional cost associated with staying an extra night and participating in some activity on Saturday afternoon after the ARML is completed (and before the free casino evening event put on by the coaches of the California teams), and ALL their meals during the weekend. It will NOT be greater than \$100.

Students needing to study due to finals the following week will have dedicated time set aside when they can study. We will also have a quite van with priority given to those needing to study.