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## Bonus Teams policy

- Promptly after the last regional tournament results are received (early March), the TXCPSO office determines the “excess capacity” of each Affiliate Tournament site. “Excess capacity” is defined as the number of additional teams the site can accommodate to bring its total team count up to 20.
- From the regional tournament results, the TXCPSO office identifies, for each regional site, the one team per site that came closest to qualifying for the Affiliate Tournament but did not do so. These are the candidate teams to qualify for selection as bonus teams. If a team that did not otherwise qualify for advancement has been advanced to the affiliate tournament from a region site due to scoring irregularities or other errors, no team from that site will be chosen as a candidate for bonus team advancement.
- The TXCPSO office ranks the candidate teams within each problem and level by their “margin of defeat” -- the difference between the candidate team's score and the score of the lowest-scoring team to qualify from the same regional site. Scores are as they come out of the scoring program (i.e., after raw scores for each part of the competition have been normalized and added together).
- Based on the ranking, the TXCPSO office identifies a list of invited teams to fill the excess-capacity slots. The Regional Directors for those teams are informed, and promptly advise the team managers and get “winners’ packets” to them. All invited teams must register for the Affiliate Tournament by the regular registration deadline, unless the TXCPSO office establishes a later deadline for invited teams. If a team declines, the slot is left empty.
- In applying the bonus teams policy, the ordinary rules regarding ties do not apply. In the event that two or more teams from the same regional site come closest to qualifying and have exactly the same score (to two decimal places), all such teams will qualify as candidate teams. In the event that two or more teams on the ranking of candidate teams for a problem and level have exactly the same score (to two decimal places), all such teams will qualify as invited teams.
- If a candidate team has qualified for the Affiliate Tournament in another challenge (other than Texas Xtreme), the team is ineligible for selection as an invited team.
- In applying the bonus teams policy, secondary, university, and military teams are considered to be competing in a single level.