

Dear Pony Club Members/Families,

Our 2009 Quiz Rally was a wonderful learning competition -- challenging (of course) but also exciting and fun. We very much appreciate the feedback (published herein) from numerous competitors and adult volunteers because your feedback can spark fresh ideas on ways to improve.

This year was the first time Quiz Rally was organized as a 'Regional' effort and we happily discovered this had many benefits and we plan to continue this approach in the future.

We also discovered a few "Hanging Chads", to borrow a term used in a previous Presidential election. Then the term referred to ballots whose voters' responses could not be clearly interpreted. I use the term here to mean scoring results which could not be clearly interpreted. During the Quiz competition, the Ground Jury and Scoring Committees determined Mega-Room scores for Division II had "Hanging Chads" (which we termed "anomalies" at the time) and a decision was made to drop those scores from the calculation of the Division II final scores. That ruling, even in 20/20 hindsight, was the 'correct' decision at the time because the cause of the "Hanging Chads" was not identifiable.

After Quiz Rally, at the request of Stones River PC, the Scoring and Ground Jury Committees performed additional analysis on all the Quiz Divisions; and, surprisingly, we found other "Hanging Chads". This discovery in no way compromises the integrity of Quiz Rally but it did show us organizers that we need to make a few revisions for 2010 and we thank Stones River for helping us identify them.

Because of that finding, the Ground Jury and Scoring Committees, with the concurrence of the Quiz Organizing Committee, decided that for Division II, Mega-Room scores should be *reinstated* into the Final Scores (posted herein). Consequently there will be a second Top 10 list of Individual Finalists for Division II.

What does this mean? One Senior D MidSouth Championship team will be formed from the first Top 10 List of Division II finalists; and, *if feasible*, a second Senior D Championship team will be formed from the second Top 10 List of Division II finalists.

What to do about the Ribbons? The first Top 10 individual finalists may keep their ribbons, if they choose. If, however, a finalist wants to exchange their current ribbon for a higher placing ribbon based upon this second Top 10 list, they may return the old ribbon and, upon receipt, a new ribbon will be sent. If you choose to exchange your ribbon, please complete and include the form below with your ribbon and mail it to the address indicated. The new ribbon will be sent as soon as possible. Ribbons will be given to all second Top 10 individual finalists.

If you have any questions/comments, please email or call me and send your "ribbon form" to me as well..

Sincerely,
Nancy Smith
MidSouth RS
1110 Appalachee Dr.
Huntsville,AL 35801
256/881-4214 (H)

(tear here)

Name _____ Pony Club _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home # _____ Email _____