

*GFWC Junior Woman's Club of the Somerset Hills, Inc.*  
***Thirteenth Annual Spelling Bee***  
***Registration Form***

The GFWC Junior Woman's Club of the Somerset Hills would like to invite all Bernardsville, Basking Ridge, Bedminster, Far Hills, Gladstone, Peapack and Warren fourth and fifth grade students to participate in a spelling bee.

The competition will take place Thursday, February 4th, 2016 at the Bedminster Township School, 234 Somerville Rd, Bedminster. The **check-in will begin at 6:00 and the bee will begin at 6:30** p.m. *promptly*. Snow date is Thursday, February 11, 2016 and will be used if the schools are closed or have an early dismissal on February 4th due to weather. There will be pizza, snacks and drinks available to purchase.

There will be gift cards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place (amount tbd) and these winners will be invited to participate in a joint competition between students from Bergen, Morris, Sussex and Somerset counties in a District Spelling Bee in February 20<sup>th</sup> in Sparta with a snow date of February 27th. The top spellers from this District Bee will compete on the State level to be held in March 2016 at NJSFWC Headquarters in New Brunswick.

Anyone wishing to participate should complete the registration form below and return it with a \$10 registration fee to us no later than January 28, 2016. Rules and practice word lists will be **EMAILED** to all participants. Please write email clearly. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PRACTICE WORD LISTS DO NOT INCLUDE ALL THE WORDS THAT WILL BE USED IN THE COMPETITION. Participation will be limited to the first 40 students registered.

Please return this form and a \$10 check made payable to the  
**Junior Woman's Club of Somerset Hills** to:

**Bridget Ameo**  
**39 Hillcrest Blvd.**  
**Warren, NJ 07059**

Note: No student will be denied participation for financial restrictions. Any profit from the event will be donated to our local school libraries.

**Tear here. Remember: Registration deadline is January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SCHOOL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **GRADE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TEACHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_



NJSFWC 2014-15 Spelling Bee  
Official Club, District, and State Spelling Bee Rules  
State Bee: NJSFWC HEADQUARTERS  
55 LABOR CENTER WAY, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901

All rules must be made available to contestants prior to the Spelling Bee and also read out loud to the contestants and audience members on the day of the Spelling Bee before competition begins.

1. Grade/Enrollment: Participants must be enrolled in the fourth or fifth grade.
2. Official Dictionary: Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary shall serve as the final authority for the spelling of the words. If more than one spelling is listed for a word, any of these spellings will be accepted as correct if the alternate spelling appears in boldface type.
3. Talking Among Contestants: Once the Spelling Bee begins, there shall be no talking between the contestants. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in the contestant being disqualified from the remainder of the competition.
4. Re-pronouncing and Definitions: The contestant may ask the pronouncer to re-pronounce the word, define it, or use it in a sentence. The pronouncer may grant all the requests until the judges agree that the word has been made reasonably clear. Judges may disqualify any contestant who ignores a request to start spelling.
5. Pronouncing Words: In competition, the pronouncer gives the contestant a word. We strongly suggest to the contestants that they pronounce the word before spelling. This will allow the judges to make sure the contestant is spelling the correct word. After spelling word, the contestant should say the word again to let the judges know they are done spelling.
6. Practice Word Lists: Every contestant will receive a practice word list. Some words for the Bee may be chosen from the practice word list. Additional words will be added. No contestant at the Club, District, or State levels will receive any official competition word lists.
7. Homophones: During competition, a contestant may receive a word that is a homophone, meaning a word could have two different and correct spellings with two distinct meanings. Example: "plane" vs. "plain." In these instances, the pronouncer will automatically define the word. Should the pronouncer not provide the definition, the contestant can spell either of the homophones.
8. Proper Nouns: During competition, contestants may receive a word or words that are proper nouns, meaning that the word or words must include capital letters. All capital letters must be indicated during the spelling of the word. For example: if the word "Rhode Island" is given, then

the contestant must spell as follows: “Rhode Island (pause) capital R-h-o-d-e capital I-s-l-a-n-d (pause) Rhode Island.”

9. Pauses or Re-starts to Spelling: Having started to spell a word, a contestant may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning, but in retracing, there can be no change of letters and their sequence from those first pronounced. If letters or their sequence is changed in the respelling, the contestant will be eliminated.

10. Questions Related to Word Spellings: Any question relating to the spelling of a word should be referred to the judges immediately, before the correct spelling is given.

11. Misspelled Words: Upon missing the spelling of a word, the contestant will be informed by the pronouncer or judge that the word is incorrect and must immediately drop out of the contest and exit the spelling area to join the audience as a spectator. Competition continues with the next word being given to the next contestant.

12. Final Decisions: The decisions of the judges shall be final on all questions.

**END OF BEE PROCEDURES: Once the Bee is down to THREE CONTESTANTS**

A. If all the contestants in any round misspell their word, all the spellers are invited back to the next round and continue to spell in the order listed on their placards

B. If there is only one contestant in any round that spells correctly, that one speller goes into the next round alone and is given the next word on the list

C. If that contestant spells that word correctly, he or she shall be declared the champion. If that contestant misspells the word, all the spellers from the previous round are invited back to start spelling again in the next round. Contestants will spell in the order listed on their placards