

Here's the BUZZ!



The official newsletter of Honda Campus All-Star Challenge

January 2012

Get Connected & Trained

Participate in one of the many webinars and attend a Pre-NCT

Page 2

HCASC NCT Schedule

Get a preview of the new schedule, the hotel and where the activities will take place

Page 3-4

NCT 2012 FAQs

Everything you need to know about the NCT in California

Page 5-6

What's new this season? Well, just about everything!

Fall webinars introduced the program changes to the HCASC constituency. The new HCASC recruiting tool, the Power Search, produced spectacular results, with HBCU student participation doubling. 66 HBCUs now have active HCASC Academic Clubs.

Season 23 is "all-digital," with everything needed for HCASC participation distributed exclusively via the Internet. This saved countless trees and much time. Live online chat support helped even the most computer-challenged individuals.

By November, the race to qualify for the NCT was on! 72 institutions successfully completed the NCT Part 1 requirements.

In January, NCT Part 2 qualification culminates in the naming of the 2012 Great 48. To ensure the strength of the NCT field, each HBCU must submit scoresheets from 1-3 new campus games.

Training in the new format for players, coaches and volunteers will be ongoing from now until the games begin in Los Angeles.

The NCT schedule has been revamped to facilitate game official training and for the teams, a day-long trip to Disneyland and California Adventure.



Did you know?

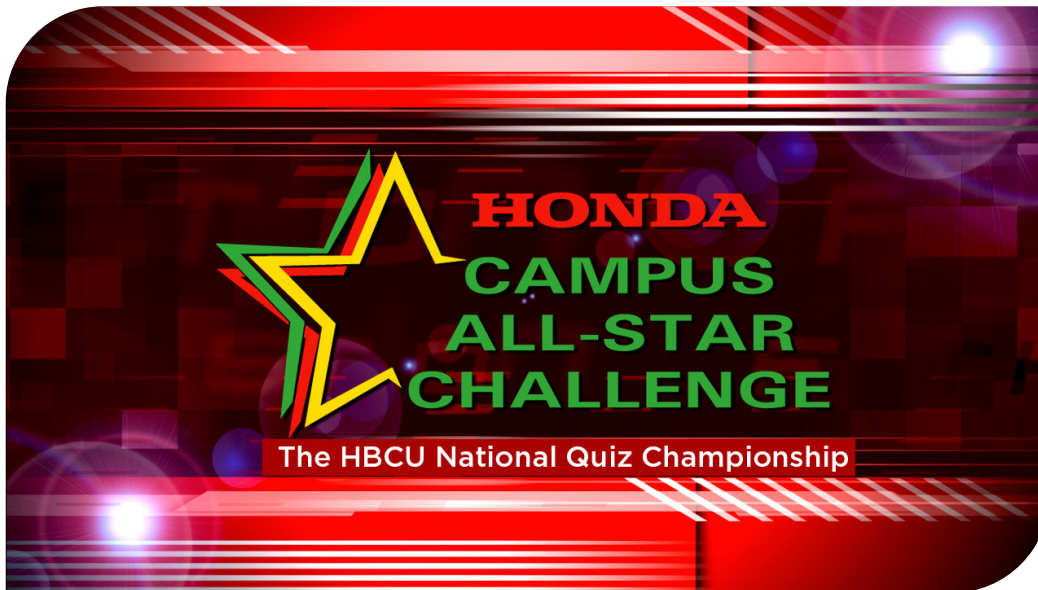
HCASC adopted a new tagline "The National HBCU Quiz Championship"

The HCASC Question of the Game, played at HBCU football games reached over 250,000 fans in its pilot year

Up to 92 questions are played in each game. At the NCT, that's nearly 2,500 questions

The national HCASC Community Service goal is 5,000 hours of mentoring

A new online game is posted at HCASC.com every Thursday and you can play



Get an NCT preview with online webinars

To help prepare the volunteers for the changing roles at this year's NCT, a series of webinar briefings is being prepared. For most efficient use of time, the briefings are being conducted by position. When a volunteer invitation was submitted, it included a primary role. That is the webinar that you should sign up to attend. The schedule of the briefings is (in alphabetical order by position):

NOTE: All times indicated are Eastern time

Division Team Leaders

Thurs., Jan. 12 – 5 PM or Mon., Jan. 16 – 5 PM

Moderators

Fri., Jan. 13 – 2 PM or Thurs., Jan. 19 – 2 PM

Non-Game Officials

Mon., Jan 16 – 1 PM or Wed., Jan. 25 – 1 PM

Reset Announcers

Thurs., Jan 12 – 12 N or Mon., Jan 23 – 12 N

Scorers

Wed., Jan. 11 – 7 PM or Tues., Jan 17 – 3 PM

RECAP – ANY VOLUNTEER POSITION

Tues., Jan 25 – 5 PM

Additional sessions may be scheduled as needed. To sign up for your briefing time, please go to <http://www.hcasc.com/webinarsched.asp>. If you have any problems with the registration process, please call the HCASC office (800-388-2272).

Attend a Pre-NCT to master the game

All Pre-NCTs will be held Presidents Weekend this year and will provide valuable training prior to the National Championship Tournament. The tournaments are open to the HBCUs *and* to national volunteers.

Alabama State Univ.	Saturday, February 18
Fayetteville State Univ.	Saturday, February 18
Morgan State Univ.	Saturday, February 18
Morris College	Saturday, February 18
Prairie View A&M Univ.	Saturday, February 18
Tennessee State Univ.	Saturday, February 18
Oakwood Univ.	Sunday, February 19

Volunteers interested in attending should contact HCASC headquarters to be matched with a tournament. There is no registration fee, but HCASC is not able to cover travel and accommodation costs.

Questions: Email staff@hcasc.com or call us at 800-388-2272.



NCT Schedule at a glance

The Marriott South Bay will be our home away from home for the 2012 NCT. Check out the hotel's layout, accommodations, function space...and the indoor/outdoor pool at:

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/laxtr-torrance-marriott-south-bay/>

THURSDAY, MARCH 29				
Arrivals & Volunteer Registration	10:00 AM	4:00 PM	M	Registration Area
Game Room Set-Ups	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	M	Game Rooms
Computer Scoring Lab	10:00 AM	4:00 PM	M	Suite 10
Moderators Question Read-Through	10:00 AM	4:00 PM	M	Suite 1
Volunteer Orientation I	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	M	Grand Ballroom (D & E)
Moderator Training	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	M	Suite 9 & 11
Reset Announcer Training	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	M	Suite 2 & 4
Division Team Leader Training	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	M	Suite 3 & 5
Scorer Training	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	M	Suite 10
Division Meetings	6:00 PM	6:30 PM	M	Game Rooms
Volunteer Welcome Dinner	6:30 PM	7:30 PM	M	Poolside
Volunteer Orientation II	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	M	Suites
Honda Hospitality Suite	9:00 PM	11:00 PM	M	Presidential Suite

FRIDAY, MARCH 30				
Breakfast	6:30 AM	8:30 AM	M	Garden Court Restaurant
Computer Scoring Lab	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	M	Suite 10
Game Officials Practice Sessions	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	M	Suite 2 & 4, 3 & 5, 7
Moderators Question Read-Through	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	M	Suite 1
Arrivals & Team Registration	10:00 AM	5:00 PM	M	Registration Area
Student Union	10:00 AM	5:00 PM	M	Elements
	& 8:30 PM	11:00 PM		
Lunch	11:30 AM	2:30 PM	M	Elements & Zen Garden
Team Rules Briefing (on the hour)	12:00 PM	4:00 PM	M	Suite 9 & 11
	8:30 PM	9:30 PM		
Team Welcome Dinner	6:00 PM	8:30 PM	M	Grand Ballroom (A -D)
Game Room Set-Ups	8:30 PM	10:00 PM	M	Grand Ballroom (A & C)
Honda Hospitality Suite	8:30 PM	11:00 PM	M	Presidential Suite

SATURDAY, MARCH 31				
Breakfast	6:30 AM	8:00 AM	M	Grand Ballroom (D & E)
Coaches Meeting	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	M	Grand Ballroom (B)
Team Captains Meeting	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	M	Grand Ballroom (G)
Load Busses to Disney	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	M	Ballroom Drive
Disney Parks Excursion	10:00 AM	9:00 PM	O	Disneyland & California Adventure
Load Busses to Hotel	8:00 PM	8:30 PM	O	Disneyland Bus Zone
Load Busses to Hotel	9:00 PM	9:30 PM	O	Disneyland Bus Zone
Load Busses to Hotel	10:00 PM	10:30 PM	O	Disneyland Bus Zone
Arrive at Marriott	9:30 PM	11:30 PM	M	Ballroom Drive

Location legend:

- M Torrance Marriott
- O Offsite
- H Honda Headquarters

23 years of Honda Campus All-Star Challenge has made a difference
More than 75,000 HBCU students at over 80 institutions have participated in HCASC

SUNDAY, APRIL 1				
Breakfast	6:30 AM	8:00 AM	M	Grand Ballroom (D & E)
Team Divisional Meetings	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	M	Game Rooms
Round Robin Games	8:30 AM	6:00 PM	M	Game Rooms
Student Union	10:00 AM	6:00 PM	M	Elements
	& 9:30 PM	12:00 AM		
Lunch	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	M	Poolside
Playoff Games - Round of 16	6:30 PM	7:00 PM	M	Game Rooms
Final Games Team Briefing	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	M	Suite 9 & 11
Movie Night	7:00 PM	11:00 PM	O	Del Amo Fashion Center
Honda Hospitality Suite	9:30 PM	12:00 AM	M	Presidential Suite

MONDAY, APRIL 2				
Breakfast	6:30 AM	7:30 AM	M	Grand Ballroom (D & E)
Busses to Honda	7:00 AM	7:30 AM	M	Ballroom Drive
Playoff Games - Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals & Championship Games	8:00 AM	12:30 PM	H	Honda Studio 540
Lunch & Honda Tour/Treasure Hunt	12:30 PM	3:30 PM	H	Honda
Final Four Photos	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	H	Honda
Busses to Marriott	3:30 PM	4:00 PM	H	Honda
Bus to Honda (Presidents & Event Volunteers)	5:00 PM	5:30 PM	M	Ballroom Drive
Busses to Honda (Teams & Volunteers)	5:30 PM	6:15 PM	M	Ballroom Drive
Honda Presidents Reception	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	H	Honda
Closing Awards Banquet	6:30 PM	9:00 PM	H	Honda Tent
Busses to Marriott	9:00 PM	9:30 PM	H	Honda
Student Union	9:30 PM	1:00 AM	M	Elements
Honda Hospitality Suite	9:30 PM	1:00 AM	M	Presidential Suite

TUESDAY, APRIL 3				
Breakfast	4:00 AM	9:00 AM	M & O	Garden Court Restaurant & Airport
Departures		all day	M	Lobby

Location legend:

- M Torrance Marriott
- O Offsite
- H Honda Headquarters



NCT 2012 FAQs:

Why is the NCT moving to Los Angeles? There are many reasons, including:

1. We get to share the “HCASC magic” with up to 1,000 Honda management and associates. That’s a big deal to help build awareness with Honda.
2. It is a cost-saving move due to more favorable hotel rates and a special deal that Honda made with Delta airlines.

Why are the volunteer invites being done in waves?

1. Because of the change in the game format, which requires fewer game officials in the rooms, and with the availability of Honda volunteers, we have reduced the headcount.
2. We initially invited 85% of the national volunteers needed and as the acceptances are confirmed, “rolling invitations” will be issued.

What are the changes for Game Officials?

1. **Moderators** will be significantly impacted. They will read from a laptop screen instead of from printed questions. They will pre-read as a group to get used to reading from a screen.
2. **Scorers** will need to learn the new protocol for buttons to push, but it is as easy (or easier) than the prior format.
3. **Reset Announcers** will need to master “opening” the lockout on the last word of the question as interrupts to Face-Offs are not permitted. The clock is now controlled by the Scorer’s computer.

What happened to the Judge position?

1. It has been combined with the former Liaison position into a new volunteer position called the Division Team Leader. The new format does not require a game official to make notes on printed questions as Face-Off questions are not interruptable and the Scorer’s computer knows the possible point value of the question.
2. The Division Team Leader will run the room, maintain verbal contact via walkie-talkie with tournament HQ and will assist the game officials in the event of any procedural discrepancy.

How will game officials get training and practice? This will be ongoing from now until the 1st round robin game.

1. All game officials are strongly encouraged to sign up for (and participate in) webinars in January.
2. All game officials are invited to participate in the pre-NCT tournaments February 18 & 19. While HCASC cannot fund the cost of travel and accommodations, we hope many national volunteers will be able to attend and gain confidence in the amended role.

What training will be provided at the NCT?

1. We have a training schedule that will ensure your learning, competency and comfort in the assigned role. It is rigorous! With the change in format, we are cross-training many of you to be able to function in more than one role.
2. All game officials will be required to go through a lab session where they learn the operation of the computerized scoring system. This will familiarize everyone with the procedures and help them prepare to function as a team in the games.

3. To facilitate the training, no game officials will be on inbound “Airport Duty” this year (consider it a one-year “get out of airport duty pass”). All game officials will be engaged in training and practice sessions from arrival through team arrival day.

What if I cannot handle my game official role?

1. We hope that everyone will adapt, but recognize that there may be some “mis-matches.”
2. No one will be sent home or excluded and we will move people among assignments as needed. You are all critical and valuable to the program. That is why we will be doing a significant amount of cross-training.
3. The moderator role is especially important in this format as s/he controls the game and it is a more challenging role than previously. There are numerous rule changes and prompts to the players (pick the next category please; put your Face-Off player in the center position please, etc.) as well as a mind-warping difference between the conduct and speed of the game in the Face-Off & Bonus rounds (rounds 1-3) and the Ultimate Challenge (round 4). Our experience is that with training and practice, moderators should adapt well, but we have “covered our bet” by inviting more moderators than are needed.

Can I invite family & friends to watch the games?

1. For the round robin games, yes, but due to budget limitations we cannot provide meals for guests.
2. For the final games at Honda, no. This is because we are in a facility with a fire marshal limited maximum occupancy. It is likely that most volunteers will not be in that studio, but will watch from an adjacent viewing area.

What if I want to come in early or stay late for vacation?

1. Please note this on your volunteer acceptance or email staff@hcasc.com with your requests. We cannot guarantee that we can make such an arrangement but we will use our best efforts. Please alert us ASAP as we are booking flights now.
2. As to spouses, the same applies, but this is more complicated with hotel rooms and ground transportation involved. Email staff@hcasc.com with your request.

Can I go to Disneyland?

The Disneyland excursion is limited to teams and volunteers needed to act as chaperones. Be aware that this is made possible due to Honda’s long-term relationship with Disneyland. They were able to utilize their special relationship for tickets and meals at no cost to the event budget.



The HBCU National Quiz Championship

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