

# THE ESPN CLEVELAND AND JOEBEE'S SPELLING BEE

## OFFICIAL RULES

***NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE OR PAYMENT WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCE OF WINNING.***

850 ESPN Cleveland and JOEBEE's are giving fans a chance to a \$1,000 cash prize in a spelling bee this December. There will be ten (10) fans selected to compete. To qualify, fans may head to [www.ESPNclevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNclevelandContests.com) starting Monday, October 31, 2022, at 12AM EST to fill out the entry form and explain why they should be selected in 100 correctly-spelled words or less. The qualification period will close on Sunday, November 27, 2022, at 11:59PM EST. ESPN Cleveland and JOEBEE's will then select the 10 contestants based on the reasons given by fans on why they should be selected. If selected, fans must be available to attend the Spelling Bee in person from 9AM to 1PM EST on December 13, 2022, in the ESPN Cleveland studios located at 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113. The selected contestants also must be able to show proof of COVID19 vaccination and must wear mask during the entire contest on December 13<sup>th</sup>. During the Spelling Bee, contestants will each be asked to spell sports-based words or names. When a contestant spells a word incorrectly, they will be eliminated. There will be one grand prize winner determined by the Spelling Bee once there is only one contestant remaining that has spelled their word correctly in a round. That contestant will be then asked to spell a final winning word. Then, once they have spelled the final winning word correctly, they will be the Spelling Bee Champion and win the \$1,000 cash prize. For more contest details and all tiebreaking scenarios, please see below.

### 1. HOW TO ENTER

- a. These rules govern The ESPN Cleveland Spelling Bee contest (the "Promotion") being conducted by ESPN Cleveland, 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113 ("GKB"). The qualifying period for the Promotion will begin on Monday, October 31, 2022, at 12AM EST and end on Sunday, November 27, 2022, at 11:59PM EST. The Spelling Bee competition will take place on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, from 9AM to 1PM EST at the ESPN Cleveland Studios located at the address listed above.
- b. To qualify for the Promotion, you may enter via the following method(s):  
Fans can explain why they should be one of ten spellers in the Spelling Bee on December 13, 2022 in 100 correctly-spelled words or less and fill out the registration form online at [www.ESPNclevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNclevelandContests.com).
- i. To qualify for the Promotion, you may log onto [www.ESPNclevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNclevelandContests.com) and follow the links and instructions to enter the Promotion and submit your explanation of 100 correctly-spelled words or less on why you should be selected for the Promotion, along with your first and last name, complete address, city, state, zip code, telephone number, date of birth and a valid email address in the online entry form. Only one internet entry per person and one internet entry per email address is permitted. Internet entries will be deemed made by the authorized

account holder of the email address submitted at the time of entry. The authorized account holder is the natural person who is assigned to the email address by an internet access provider, online service provider or other organization that is responsible for assigning an email address or the domain associated with the submitted email address. Multiple participants are not permitted to share the same email address. Entries submitted will not be acknowledged or returned. Use of any device to automate entry is prohibited. Proof of submission of an entry shall not be deemed proof of receipt by GKB. GKB's computer is the official time keeping device for the Promotion. GKB is not responsible for entries not received due to difficulty accessing the internet, service outage or delays, computer difficulties or other technological problems. Each entrant must agree to GKB's online submission release in order to submit his or her entry.

- ii. To participate in the Spelling Bee itself, qualifiers must be able attend the competition in person during *The Really Big Show* (9a-1p) at 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113 on December 13, 2022. Qualifiers in attendance must also show proof of COVID vaccination and wear a mask during the entire competition.
- c. Only one internet entry per person and one internet entry per email address is permitted.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS

- a. The Promotion is open to all persons who are 18 years of age or older and who reside in the United States of America. Employees of GKB, its subsidiary and affiliated entities, GKB's advertising and promotional agencies, its participating sponsors, other radio stations in the greater Cleveland metropolitan area and the members of their immediate families (spouse, parents, siblings, or children) and/or households (whether related or not) are ineligible to participate or win. This Promotion is subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited.
- b. Listeners are eligible to win a prize in a Promotion conducted by GKB only once every seven (7) days and only once every thirty (30) days if the prize is valued over \$600. Only one (1) winner per household is permitted in any GKB promotion.
- c. The winner must provide valid government-issued photo identification and provide his or her complete address, date of birth and phone number to claim a prize.
- d. Entrants are required to provide truthful information and GKB will reject and delete any entry that it discovers to be false or fraudulent. GKB will disqualify any entry from individuals who do not meet the eligibility requirements.

## 3. PRIZES

- a. Ten (10) qualifying prizes will be awarded in this Promotion. Each qualifying prize consists of the following:

- One (1) spot in The ESPN Cleveland Spelling Bee presented by JOEBEES® taking place on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, from 9AM to 1PM EST at the ESPN Cleveland studios in The Flats East Bank (1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113).
- b. One Grand Prize will be awarded in this Promotion. Each grand prize consists of the following:
- \$1,000 cash

The Approximate Retail Value (“ARV”) of the grand prize is \$1,000. The winner will be solely responsible for all taxes and all other fees and expenses not specified herein associated with the receipt and use of the Prize. GKB accepts no responsibility for repairing any real or supposed damage to any prize.

- c. The prize will be given to the winner upon completion of the contest and the winner will be asked to fill out the required paperwork on site. The winner will forfeit any prize or prize certificate not claimed on site. In the event that a prize or prize certificate is mailed to the winner, it will be with the prior written consent of the winner and therefore, winner assumes the risk of its loss. GKB is not responsible for the safe arrival of a prize or prize certificate.
- d. There is no substitution, transfer or cash equivalent for prizes, except that GKB may, at its sole discretion, substitute prizes or cash of comparable value. The prizes are expressly limited to the item(s) listed above and unless otherwise expressly specified, do not include taxes, gratuities or any other expenses. Other restrictions may apply.

#### 4. WINNER SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

- a. Decisions of GKB management with respect to the Promotion are final.
- b. Qualifiers will be selected between Monday, November 28, 2022, and Friday, December 2, 2022. Qualifiers will be selected by ESPN Cleveland and JOEBEES based on the written entries that are received. Qualifiers will be notified by an ESPN Cleveland representative by 5PM EST on Monday, December 5, 2022.
- c. All qualifiers must be able to attend the Spelling Bee in person during *The Really Big Show* from 9AM to 1PM EST on Tuesday, December, 13, 2022, in order to receive their qualifying spot. Qualifiers must show proof of vaccination *and* wear a mask throughout the duration of the competition. If they are unable to attend, or if they become unable to attend at any point ahead of the date of the Spelling Bee, or if they are unable to adhere to the health and safety requirements stated above, another qualifier will be selected as replacement.

- d. The grand prize winner will be determined by a Spelling Bee on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, by 1PM EST.
- e. The ten qualifiers will participate in a Spelling Bee involving sports-based words or names to determine the grand prize winner, which will be conducted in person and on-air during *The Really Big Show* from 9AM to 1PM EST on Tuesday, December, 13, 2022.
- The Spelling Bee will be conducted in rounds and will continue until one contestant is the only correct speller in that round.
  - During each round:
    - Each remaining contestant will attempt to spell their assigned word.
    - Contestants must spell their word and then repeat their word to signify that they are done spelling.
    - If the contestant spells their word correctly, they will advance to the next round.
    - If the contestant spells their word incorrectly, they will be eliminated unless every contestant in that round spell their words incorrectly, in which case all contestants from that round would remain in contention and the next round would start.
    - If a round is completed with only one contestant spelling their word correctly, that contestant will be named the champion pending their successful spelling of the final winning word. If they spell the final winning word incorrectly, all contestants from the previous round are reinstated and competition continues until a round ends with just one contestant spelling correctly.
  - During each contestant's turn each round:
    - Contestants will have a sports-related word or name read to them by the official pronouncer.
      - Upon hearing the word, contestants can ask the official pronouncer for any of the following:
        - To repeat the word or name
        - To state the sport of origin of the word or name
        - To use the word or name in a sentence
        - To state alternate pronunciations of the word or name
      - After the word is read, contestants will have sixty (60) seconds to spell, which includes any questions that are asked and answered.
  - The competition will continue until a round is completed with just one correct speller. Upon completion of that round, the final speller will be required to spell a final winning word. If they fail to correctly spell the final winning word, all eliminated contestants from the previous round will be reinstated the Spelling Bee will continue.
  - Once a contestant has completed a round as the lone correct speller, and correctly spells the final winning word, they will be crowned champion.

- If the contest reaches a sufficient duration without a decided winner, and ESPN Cleveland and JOEBEE's deem it appropriate, the remaining contestants will move to a 90-second spell-off to decide a winner.
  - All remaining contestants will compete in the spell-off by spelling as many words as they can from a designated spell-off list in a 90-second period.
  - All contestants in the spell-off will be spelling the same list of words and in the same order.
  - For the spell-off, one contestant at a time will enter the studio while the remaining contestants stay in an isolated area where they cannot hear the words being spelled.
  - For each contestant's turn in the spell-off:
    - Each contestant's goal is to spell as many correct words as possible in the allotted time.
    - The contestant will be in the studio with the official pronouncer, hosts, and analysts.
    - The official pronouncer will read words from the official spell-off list, in order, with the 90 seconds beginning after the first word is read.
    - The contestant must spell the word and then repeat the word to signify that they are done.
    - New words will not be read until the previous word has been stated by the contestant.
    - There will be no passing or skipping of words during the spell-off. Contestants must make an attempt at each word.
    - An official spell-off judge will grade the contestant's spelling as the 90 seconds elapses, with final count coming after the contestants have all completed their spell-off.
    - There will be no questions of origin or pronunciations, nor will the official pronouncer use any of these words in a sentence for the contestant.
  - After each spell-off contestant has completed their turn, the judge will confirm total counts for each contestant.
  - The contestant with the most correctly-spelled words in their 90-second period will be crowned champion.
  - If there are multiple parties with the same amount of correctly-spelled words at the end of the spell-off:
    - First tiebreaker will be fewest misspelled words in the spell-off (or best percentage of correctly spelled words from their total number of attempted words)
    - Second tiebreaker, if there are contestants with the same number of correctly-spelled words *and* the same number of misspelled words, will be the most consecutive words spelled correctly during the spell-off.
    - If there are contestants with the same number of correctly-spelled words *and* the same number of misspelled words *and* the same

number of consecutive words spelled correctly during the spell-off, a second spell-off will be conducted with the tied parties.

- In the event that a second spell-off is necessary, procedure will follow all steps from the first spell-off, but with a new list of words.
  - If a champion does not emerge from the second spell-off and its tiebreakers *and* two spellers are still tied, a coin will be flipped to determine the winner.
  - If a champion does not emerge from the second spell-off and its tiebreakers *and* more than two spellers are still tied, the speller who guesses the number closest to the number chosen by the judges will be determined the winner.
- f. The winner must execute and return any required affidavit of eligibility and/or liability/publicity release on site following the competition or prize will be forfeited. If a potential winner cannot be contacted, fails to sign and return the required affidavit of eligibility and/or liability/publicity release within the required time period, or if a prize or prize notification is returned as undeliverable, the potential winner forfeits the prize.

## 5. CONDITIONS

- a. Payments of all federal, state and local taxes are solely the responsibility of the winner. The winner will be required to complete and submit an IRS Form W-9 with the winner's full Social Security Number or the equivalent for receipt of any prize valued at \$600 or more or for any prizes awarded by GKB in a calendar year with an aggregate value of \$600 or more. Failure to submit a complete W-9 or equivalent will result in forfeiture of the prize. Such winnings of \$600 or more will be reported to the IRS.
- b. By participating in the Promotion, the winner agrees to have the winner's name, voice and likeness used in any advertising or broadcasting material relating to the Promotion without additional financial or other compensation, and, where legal, to sign a publicity release confirming such consent prior to acceptance of the prize.
- c. Prior to awarding any prize(s) or prize certificate(s), GKB, in its sole discretion, may require Promotion winner(s) (and any travel companion(s) or guest(s)) to sign a liability release, agreeing to release and hold harmless GKB, its subsidiary and affiliated entities, their respective officers, shareholders, directors, employees, agents and representatives and all of their successors and assigns from and against any and all claims or liability arising directly or indirectly from the prize and participation in the Promotion.
- d. If for any reason this Promotion cannot be executed as planned, including, but not limited to, as a result of infection by computer virus, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes beyond the control of GKB that corrupt or affect the security, administration, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the Promotion, or if the Promotion is compromised or becomes technically corrupted in any way, electronically or otherwise, the Station reserves the right to cancel,

terminate, suspend, or modify the Promotion. If the Promotion is terminated before the original end date, GKB reserves the right to select the winner(s) by random drawing from among all eligible non-suspect entries received as of the termination time/date or otherwise modify the procedure for selecting winner(s).

- e. GKB, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to disqualify any person tampering with the entry process or the operation of GKB's website. Failure to comply with the rules of the Promotion may result in a contestant's disqualification and/or forfeiture of any prize or prizes. If GKB makes a good faith determination that an entrant has cheated or committed fraudulent activity in connection with a Promotion, GKB reserves the right to disqualify that entrant from entering and/or winning future Promotions and to prosecute and seek damages to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- f. GKB reserves the right to make changes in the rules of the Promotion, including, without limitation, the substitution of a prize of equivalent value, which will become effective upon announcement. If due to circumstances beyond the control of GKB, any competition or prize-related event or travel is delayed, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled, GKB reserves the right, but not the obligation, to cancel, terminate, suspend, or modify the Promotion and shall not be required to award a substitute prize.
- g. GKB is not responsible for typographical or other errors in the printing, the offering or the administration of the Promotion or in the announcement of a prize.
- h. For a copy of these Official Rules, send a self-addressed stamped envelope for receipt by Tuesday, December 13, 2022, to "The ESPN Cleveland Spelling Bee – Official Rules," Attn: Promotions, GKB 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113. For the names of the prize winners send a self-addressed stamped envelope for receipt by Saturday, February 11, 2023, to the above address marked "The ESPN Cleveland Spelling Bee – Winner List." The Official Rules and the Winner List (when completed) shall also be available during regular business hours at the main offices of GKB and may be posted online at [www.ESPNClevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNClevelandContests.com).

## 6. PRIVACY

- a. By use of GKB's website or by entering the Promotion through GKB's website, you agree to the website's Terms of Use Agreement located at [www.ESPNClevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNClevelandContests.com) and to the use of your personal information as described in the Privacy Policy located at [www.ESPNClevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNClevelandContests.com).

Administrator: GKB 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113

Sponsor: JOEBEE's