

MLAG PRESIDENTS Tournament Rules 2019-20

- PZ1** The following version of PRESIDENTS is played at all levels.
- PZ2** A Presidents chart (gazetteer) listing the number, picture, and name of each president plus date and place of birth, date and place of death, dates in office, and political party is the only reference permitted to be used by each player.
- PZ3** Players play in groups of three or four for purposes of scorekeeping. Scores of all players in a group are kept on a Score Sheet at the table. Each player has an individual answer/wager sheet.
- PZ4** The presidents are divided into three groups for competition purposes:
Group A: #1-17
Group B: #16-33
Group C: #28-45
- Minor/Elementary/Middle Divisions will play one group per year. For 2019-20 they will play Group A, #1-8 first round, #9-17 second round
 - Junior/Senior Divisions will play two groups per year. For 2019-20 they will play Group A in the first round, Group B in the second round.
- For the schedule of groups in future years, see below.
- PZ5** Ten questions are read each round (eight for Minor Division). Each question consists of three clues — worth 6, 4 or 2 points — with each clue being increasingly revealing. Each question is read aloud by a central reader; for each round, the answers will fall into a specified range.
- PZ6** Each question consists of three clues, with each clue being increasingly more revealing. Each clue consists of one or more sentences written in the first person, as if the president were stating the information (e.g., “During my term, I...”). Suggested guidelines for these statements are:
- 6-point clue: This statement should be relatively obscure, yet specific enough to limit the answer to just one possible president. It should require intensive knowledge of American History and/or personal facts about the president.
 - 4-point clue: This statement should give more information, perhaps including more history and/or personal facts. The Presidents chart often might be used to help narrow the range but not uniquely identify the President.
 - 2-point clue: This statement should make the choice obvious. It should include something unique from the Presidents chart or something in the president's era that is obvious or a very well-known fact about the president.
- For 2019-20, in Elementary and Middle Divisions, the 4-point or 2-point clues may contain something about **Scandals**. In the Junior and Senior Divisions, the 4- or 2-point statement may contain something about **Scandals** and/or **Foreign Affairs** .
- PZ7** The reader will read the clue and, after a short pause, read it again. Players will then have approximately 30 seconds to mark an answer.
- PZ8** As players try to determine the identity of a president, they should consider the ENTIRE set of clues rather than one isolated incident or fact.

PZ9 Using a non-erasable pen only, each player may circle one and only one answer per question. The answer may be marked only after the second reading of any one of the three clues. WHEN a player answers determines how many points that player receives if correct. Players may not change an answer once it has been marked. An erasure or scratch out makes the answer automatically wrong.

PZ10 To answer, a player circles the number of the president on the answer side of the answer/wager sheet and either 6, 4, or 2 (depending on when the answer was written) on the wager side. The answer/wager sheet is then placed answer side DOWN on the appropriate 6, 4, or 2 space of a marked 8.5 x 11 mat. Other players confirm that a player's 6, 4, or 2 matches the location on the mat and corresponds to the clue that has just been read. Once a player places the answer/wager sheet on the mat, that player may NOT touch it or write on it again during that question.

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PZ11 Thirty seconds after the 2-point clue has been read twice, the reader tells players to reveal their answers, then gives the president's name and number. Answers are checked and verified by the players at each table.

PZ12 Those players who have a correct answer win the number of points determined by WHEN they answered (6, 4, or 2). Those players who have an incorrect answer score 0 (zero) for that question. IF A PLAYER HAS FAILED TO CIRCLE THE 6, 4, OR 2, A CORRECT ANSWER SCORES TWO (2) POINTS ONLY.

PZ13 The ultimate winner in each Division is the team that has the most points after all questions have been played.

PZ14 Questions are not asked about any President first elected or sworn in during the current school year.

Rotation of presidents groups and themes for future years:



Year	Min/EI/Mid Group	Theme for all Divisions	Jr/Sr Groups	Jr/Sr Theme
2019-20	1-17	Scandals	1-17, 16-33	Foreign Affairs
2020-21	16-33	Occupations and Posts	16-33, 28-45	Immigration
2021-22	28-45	Presidential Firsts	1-17, 28-45	Economics
2022-23	1-17	Slavery	1-17, 16-33	Wars and Treaties
2023-24	16-33	Vice Presidents	16-33, 28-45	Pres. Campaigns and Elections
2024-25	28-45	Early Years	1-17, 28-45	Social Reform Movements
2025-26	1-17	First Ladies	1-17, 16-33	Domestic Affairs
2026-27	16-33	Secretaries of State	16-33, 28-45	Cabinet Members