**The head judge reads the rules and procedures aloud to the spellers and audience. She/He asks the spellers if they have any questions about the rules.**

**Rules:**

1. The first speller goes to the microphone.

2. The pronouncer announces the word to be spelled. He speaks slowly and clearly, without distorting the normal pronunciation of the word. He uses the word in a sentence and says the word again.

3. The speller listens carefully to the pronouncer and asks for the word to be repeated if necessary.

4. When the speller is sure she understands the word, she pronounces it, spells it and then says the word again. She must say it loudly enough for the judge(s) to hear it.

5. The judge(s) determines whether or not the word was spelled correctly.

6. If the correct spelling was given, the speller remains in the bee and goes back to her seat.

7. If the spelling was incorrect, that speller is eliminated from the bee. The speller leaves the stage immediately.

8. If the word was misspelled, the judge gives the correct spelling of that word. Then the pronouncer reads a new word to the next student.

9. This process continues with correct spellers staying in the competition and incorrect spellers being eliminated.

10. When there are only two spellers. left, if one player misspells a word, the other player must spell that word correctly, plus one more word to be declared the winner of the spelling bee.