

Journal club rules

(Revised on Dec. 13, 2009)

The Journal club of the Sperm Laboratory is a very highly efficient platform for us to know the latest advances in the biology of spermatozoa in the world. To make our club more interesting and attractive, we revised the first version regulation for our journal club which was made on Sep. 14, 2007.

The new rules for the journal club are as follows:

1. The selection of the paper should begin one week before your due date. At least three candidate papers should be chosen by the student (speaker) who will do the presentation, which should be limited to the following area: Functions of cytoskeleton and motor protein during spermatogenesis and early fertilization; these papers should be published in recent three months. Pure morphological descriptive papers will not be selected from now on; the candidate papers should have a scientific hypothesis as well as a research model.
2. The speaker needs to discuss with the supervisor about the paper selection. After one paper is selected, the student should send the paper to all spermlab members at least five days before the due date; the speaker should remind all the members the exact presenting date in the email.
3. The speaker should read the selected paper completely, make sure you understand the paper fully; then the speaker should make a presentation file in ppt format. The ppt file should be an independent file, so the auditorium could understand your presentation although they did not read the selected paper before they come. The introduction, materials and methods, main results, discussion, as well as research model should be included in your presentation. Every figure and chart should contain legend.
4. The following contents should be included in your presentation:
 - (1) What kind of scientific question(s) this paper is discussing?
 - (2) What kind of scientific hypothesis this paper proposed?
 - (3) How did the authors/group members try to prove their hypothesis? What kind of methods did they use in this paper?
 - (4) What kind of animal did they use and what kind of model system did the author use in this paper?
 - (5) Explain the result in detail first, and then tell us how those data support each other?
 - (6) What kind of questions did the author(s) discuss in the paper?
 - (7) What kind of research model did the author(s) approach?
 - (8) What can we learn from this paper?

5. The speaker should interpret the whole paper, not just explain part of the paper.
6. All the slides should have a footnote which contain the following information: The Sperm Laboratory at <http://www.spermlab.org>

We hope that everybody prepares the presentation carefully and treats it seriously. If you can not prepare it well before the due date, you could cancel it. If you cancel it yourself, then you will not have a chance to do the presentation again in the following three months; if you do not prepare it carefully before you do the presentation, then you will not be permitted to do the same presentation in the following three months.

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