

The 2019 Premier's Spelling Bee State Final was run on 8 November at the ABC Studios in Sydney.

With record fields, both senior and junior competitions were contested with dogged determination.



The senior field after the competition; smiles all round!



Wendy Harmer announced the words, a panel of Department of Education heavyweights formed a judging panel.



Students from Jasper Road Public School, accompanied by their teacher Beth Cahill, hosted the event.

Tensions mounted as the senior students defied the odds and went a record 14 rounds before winner and runner up were decided.



The final four: Jonas Kappelmann, River Robinson, Akshath Senthil and Albert Zhou

The senior competition ran on so long we thought we were going to replicate the Scripps outcome in the USA this year, where they ran out of words!

The eventual outcomes saw River Robinson from Yamba Public School, back for his fourth crack at the cup, take out the senior section, with Albert Zhou from Ashfield Public School running up.



Albert Zhou, Ashfield Public School



Rosemary Davis, Director, Arts Sports and Initiatives for the NSW Department of Education, presents the cup to River



Senior State Champion, River Robinson, from Yamba Public School