



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR COACHES

If you have any questions about events, please contact the Science Olympiad office immediately! Any clarifications that are received after today will be posted on the web. If you have trouble downloading or reading anything on our web page, please call us (575) 835-5678 or email us sciencefair@admin.nmt.edu.

EVENT CLARIFICATIONS, Q&As, AND RESOURCES:

IMPOUNDS:

Keep the Heat (B), Gravity Vehicle (C), Protein Modeling (C), Mission Possible (B), Mousetrap Vehicle (B), Thermodynamics (C) and Storm the Castle (B)

For additional clarifications and updates, visit our website at <http://infohost.nmt.edu/~science/olympiad>.

Compute This

The software on NM Tech's computers is Microsoft Office Suite 2007.

Forestry

Attached is the official Forestry List, thanks to Dr. William Norris from Western NM University. According to Dr. Gerard Putz, from the National Science Olympiad, many states have slightly revised their state tree lists to include trees within their state. Dr. Norris has done this as well.

This is the Official New Mexico Science Olympiad Forestry List. This list will be used during the NM Science Olympiad on February 25, 2012. This list was emailed and mailed to every school that is registered with the NM Science Olympiad office.

The attached list of Official NM Science Olympiad Forestry List is a list of ~ 40 tree species has been pared down from the big list. Note that the three significant changes that veer from this list:

- 1) Inclusion of *Quercus gambelii* (Gambel's Oak) which is one of the most common readily identified oak species in the southwest.
- 2) Inclusion of *Ulmus pumila* (Siberian elm), which is perhaps one of the two most common trees in urban settings in this state.
- 3) Ditto #2 for *Ailanthus altissima* (Tree-of-Heaven), which is in the official list but only listed for the eastern region. The above three tree species are indicated with asterisks in the attached lists.

Bottle Rockets

Q. Does a Sharpie marker count as a type of paint?

A. At the State level, using "Sharpie" pens does not count as paint. I searched and did not find this question anywhere on the National website. Therefore, we conclude that using a "Sharpie" is not a problem if it is used to write the name of team/members on the bottle rocket. I do discourage covering the entire or large areas of the bottle with a "Sharpie" pen because Nationals may consider this "painting".

Keep the Heat

Q. (Directed to the Jean Davis, from the Southeast Region) How do you heat the water and are you using digital thermometers? Also if they think they can really run the event in an hour or if they are extending it? In Albuquerque, there isn't lab available, so we have to figure out how to do it without a lab.

A. In the past digital thermometers has been used at state. I would practice with both, but for regional most schools don't have very many or any at all so the regular ones would work. As far as time, if there are very many teams, 10



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or more you might need two set ups, or you could extend the time. I would just bring 2 hot plates and beakers to heat the water.

Optics

Q. Can you use more than 1 template on the optic table? Could you use several templates?

A. The rules say that you can bring "premade templates", so you may use as many as you need.

Rule Clarifications from National Science Olympiad, Rules Clarification/Science Olympiad from http://www.soinc.org/official_rules_clarif.

Towers B/C (10/17/11): Add one line, "6.c.iv. The tower height is measured to the highest tower point on which the bottom of the loading block rests."

Protein Modeling 3.c. Part II: The On-Site Model (10/18/11): the pdb for Regionals should read 1i3o.pdb (the letter "o", and not the number zero).

Events requiring Eye Protection #5 (High Impact Protection - ANSI Z87+) - Goggles with lenses identified as Z87+ regardless of markings on other parts of the goggles and Spectacles identified as Z87+ with side shields regardless of markings on other parts of the spectacles will be acceptable for events requiring High Impact Protection #5. (4/8/10)

Reach for the Stars: 3.a. (11/9/11): The correct spelling of Canes Venatici is with an "i" at the end not an "a".

Thermodynamics: 4.a.v should read (11/9/11): Teams may elect to add up to 100 mL of water from an ice bath to their internal beakers immediately after receiving the hot water for bonus points.

Water Quality B/C 3.c. (12/12/11): At Nationals, the saltwater solution (most likely NaCl) will be made by adding salt to a volume of water until a predetermined total volume is reached (e.g., a 6.5% solution can be made by dissolving 65g of NaCl in water until a total volume of 1L is reached). Teams will record concentrations in percent (1-10 and estimate the tenth). At Nationals (maybe State) any percent "0.5 (maybe" 1 at Invitationals/Regional) will be given full credit (partial credit may be awarded for other percents). The points for this testing should be approximately 5% of the total score (e.g., if a team recorded between 6.0-7.0%, they could receive 5 points out of 100). There is no restriction on the salinometer type as long as it is built by the team.

WRITTEN POLICY ON PENALTY POINTS

- ▶ Event Supervisors, Science Olympiad Director or Coordinator may assess penalty points.
- ▶ **Any penalty points assessed will be taken from the OVERALL TEAM SCORE.**
- ▶ It is your responsibility to inform your students, team parents, other coaches, and visitors of these rules IN ADVANCE OF THE COMPETITION.
- ▶ Penalty points cannot be taken to arbitration. They are final at the time of assessment!

Penalty points may be assessed for any of the following reasons.

1. **Interference**—only students actually competing in an event (those who have signed in on the sign-in sheet provided to Event Supervisors) may enter areas where events are being held. **Spectator events are at the discretion of the Event Supervisor.**
 - a) For any student, coach, teacher, parent, or chaperone interfering with, or disrupting the administration of an event, up to 5 penalty points may be assessed.
 - b) For any student, coach, teacher, parent, or chaperone entering an event without proper authorization to do so, up to 5 penalty points may be assessed.
2. **Policy on Electronic Communications**



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- a) Students with cell phones, PDAs, iPads, two-way radios, (ANY DEVICE USED FOR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION) must have them in the OFF (not vibrate) position during any event in which they are competing. Students who violate this policy will be penalized up to 10 penalty points.
- b) Electronic communications usage will be allowed in buildings as long as it does not disrupt any event taking place in that area. Event Supervisors, Science Olympiad Director and Science Olympiad staff may assess penalty points for violation of this policy at their discretion.

WRITTEN POLICY ON CHEATING

1. Any individual who cheats during any event will be penalized by disqualification of the team from that event.
2. If a team, team member, or anyone associated with that team (coach, teacher, parent or chaperone, etc.) deliberately takes an action that impairs the ability of other teams to fairly compete in an event, that team will be disqualified from that event.
3. If cheating occurs by a team in more than one event, or in successive years, the team may be disqualified that year, or the following year, from the entire competition.
4. Disqualification results in 0 points.

TEAM HOME ROOMS

NM Science Olympiad will not assign team homerooms. Please note:

1. As a team coach, you are also responsible for making sure your delegation understands that this is a University campus and business is conducted here on the weekends. Please make sure your delegation understands that we expect all visitors to be respectful to students, faculty, and staff as they are conducting business and research in the buildings.
2. As a team coach, you are responsible for keeping the area in which your team claims as “Home Base” clean during the day. You are responsible for the contents, the cleanliness of the room, and putting the room back in the manner in which it was found.
3. The following areas are **OFF LIMITS** to all teams during the Olympiad.
 - Any rooms and areas assigned for use during the Olympiad is off limits.
 - Jones Hall Annex 2nd Floor - Only students participating in an event on this floor are allowed in this area.
 - Jones Hall Annex 3rd Floor
 - Macey Center may not be used as a “home base” area.
 - ALL Stairways and Stairwells are “off limits” and may not be used as a “home base” area.

Olympiad Officials will periodically check campus locations to ensure that these expectations are being met.

TRIAL EVENTS

There are NO trial events for 2012.

ARBITRATION:

In the event of arbitration please refer to the following rules.

1. The event supervisor must sign the arbitration form prior to its submission to the Arbitration Committee. This doesn't mean the event supervisor agrees with the appeal, but that the event supervisor and the coach have discussed the matter. Try to solve appeals at the event level.
2. Appeals regarding administration of an event must be submitted within 30 minutes of completion of the event.
3. The arbitration panel will determine time of submission.
4. The team coach must submit appeals.
5. The student(s) competing in the event under appeal must present the information to the arbitration panel. Coaches may be present, but must refrain from comment unless addressed by the arbitration panel.



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AWARDS

- ▶ 1st-10th place medals will be awarded to each team member.
- ▶ New Mexico Tech will award 10 New Mexico Science Awards of \$700 (to senior participants) to NM Tech for the Fall Semester, 2012. Award winners will be the top ten, twelfth grade participants according to their individual placing in events. Students will receive their award at the time of enrollment at NM Tech in the Fall Semester 2012. Please remind your seniors to sign in (legibly!) at each event.

MACEY CENTER

The Macey Center Upper Lobby Concession Stand will be open from 7:30-9:00 am and 3:00-5:00 pm.

- ▶ Food or drinks from outside sources may not be brought into Macey Center. Please do not take your food or drink purchased in Macey Center outside, as it will not be allowed back in.
- ▶ Macey Center may not be used as a “home base” area.

CAMPUS DINING SERVICES

Schools wishing to purchase breakfast or lunch for their entire team should contact campus dining at (575) 835-5111. Purchase Orders will only be accepted by RSVP. See letter enclosed.

SNOW ALERT

In the event of a winter storm, the Olympiad state finals will not be cancelled. The logistics of rescheduling over 1,000 people and associated facilities, food, lodging, and travel are inconceivable. It is the responsibility and obligation of your school district to determine the safety of travel for your students. NM Tech and NM Science Olympiad are not responsible for the safety of your students as they travel to the competition.

SCORING

There will be no public posting of scores and coaches **WILL NOT** be allowed in the Scoring Room.

FRIDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

On Friday Evening, a public Star Party will be held at the NM Tech Etscorn Observatory. For more information and directions to the Etscorn Observatory visit <http://infohost.nmt.edu/~astro/EtscornPages/directions.html>.

In celebration and recognition of your teams achievement in science, math, and engineering, New Mexico Tech welcomes you and your team with a special free event; Black Light Party, Friday, February 24, 6:00 – 8:00 p. For more information contact Tony Ortiz at tortiz@admin.nmt.edu or by calling (575) 835-5292.

SOCORRO AREA INFORMATION:

- Tours can be pre-arranged by contacting the following individuals:
- ▶ NRAO/Very Large Array—Self-guided tours only. The Visitors Center is open until dusk.
<http://www.vla.nrao.edu/genpub/tours/>
 - ▶ Bosque del Apache—Contact (575) 835-1828.
 - ▶ New Mexico Tech Admissions Office – (575) 835-5424

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