

## EVENTS LIKELY TO INVOLVE SAME STUDENTS DO NOT SCHEDULE SAME TEAM AT SAME TIME FOR THESE EVENTS

### **B EVENTS**

Weather and oceanography  
Crime busters and food science  
Ecology and oceanography  
Balloon race and balloon launch glider  
Write it do it and experimental design (for future ref)  
Metric mastery and simple machines

### **C EVENTS**

Forensics, food science and chem. Lab, and possibly designer genes  
Ecology and oceanography  
Circuit lab and physics lab  
Write it do it and experimental design (for future ref)  
Scrambler and robot ramble

### **EVENT GENERAL COMMENTS**

1. In any event with any kind of stations, place questions in plastic sleeves or laminate to prevent writing on questions. Tape questions down to the table.
2. Be sure that each station, if stations are used, has the same amount of allocated time.
3. If space permits, and to accommodate a large number of teams, consider two complete setups, either in same room or adjacent rooms.
4. In general, there should be at least 2.5 times as many points as there are total teams at the site. This point value will decrease ties. In many cases this rule translates to having 2.5 times as many questions as total teams. In any event requiring any kind of writing, more is better from a tie stand point.
5. It is much better to invest time in developing questions that will be easily graded. Such an activity usually results in shorter grading times. For any kind of paper/ pencil event consider the following prep times: regional about 10-12 hours; state about 20-25 hours; national about 40 hours. Creating answer sheets usually work better than giving students blank sheets of paper, or having them write in many spaces (exceptions: Exp design and disease detective).

6. Questions/tasks should be a mixture of easy (and hence age related) and challenging activities. Be careful not to make too many of the questions above the cognitive skill level of the age group.
7. If using multiple choice questions, and use these types of questions sparingly, do not use all Rote type questions. Be sure to include many higher order thinking skill questions (certainly more difficult to make, but well worth the effort). Rote questions can often be converted to other forms by such formats by questions such as: which is the best... , which of the following results is expected if... which of the following does not belong with the others, etc.
8. Try to include some calculations, tables, and graphs in any and all events. There are many questions that can be asked about one graph or table.
9. Almost all events, including device ones, lend themselves to the development of a scoring rubric. Such a rubric leads to quick, uniform grading.
10. ***To tournament directors:*** each event supervisor must be provided with the same score reporting form (see sample). It is quite helpful to use different colored papers for each separate form.

