

TAKEAWAYS FROM THE TOURNAMENT PREP MEETING

2/8/22

Please note: *All information is subject to change. Please keep an eye on your email, the Mid-Cities website, and social media for up-to-the-minute information coming out. Some information in this document has been clarified/altere d/added since the meeting. It will be highlighted in yellow.*

- ❖ Final decisions about the type of tournament we will be running will take place on Saturday, February 2, 2022. Notification will be posted and an email will be sent out.
- ❖ The safety of all participants and spectators are our top priority. If you or another member of your team is ill, please stay home. **A solution can still be presented even if all members are not present.**
- ❖ Please check in with your assigned volunteer and appraiser. Make sure they have signed up either through the system or the provided google forms posted on the Mid-Cities DI website. **Almost all appraisers should have completed their training by now. (exception: appraisers assigned to the scientific challenge)**
- ❖ We will be following the protocols set up by Birdville ISD on Covid guidelines.
- ❖ The schedule will be posted no later than February 23, 2022 unless otherwise notified.
- ❖ Team check-in will take place on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 from 4:00- 7:00 at Richland High School outside of the Omni Room. **(still pending final approval from campus)**
- ❖ Make sure you are referring to the rules of the road when completing your budget report and safety guidelines.
- ❖ Read the Travel Guide to give you specific input into your specific challenge.
- ❖ ALL paperwork will be submitted online in the resource section of the program. All paperwork must be turned in by Wednesday, March 2, 2022.
- ❖ **ALL TEAM MANAGERS MUST HAVE A DEVICE WITH THEM AT TOURNAMENT IN ORDER TO FIX POSSIBLE ISSUES WITH PAPERWORK, AS WELL AS, RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SCORES.**
- ❖ Maps of the campus will be posted at the same time as the schedule. **QR codes will be generated and will be posted throughout the tournament venue for quick access to the maps and schedule.**
- ❖ **You will be notified by the head appraiser when your scores are ready. You will then take one member of the team with you back to the challenge room, and the head appraiser will go over your raw scores. You will then have 30 minutes to**

appeal any objective scores given. Final scores will be posted on Sunday, March 6, 2022.

- ❖ A menu will be posted prior to the tournament with food options within the tournament venue. No pre-sold meals will be taken.
- ❖ Please remember that interference is a big deal and will be watched for at the tournament. Please remind parents not to help with any aspects of the challenge, including costumes, makeup and hair.
- ❖ As it stands, we will be sending the first place teams in all challenges/all levels, with the exception of Fine Arts Elementary Level. We will be sending the first and second place teams at that level only. Any ties for first place will advance both teams to state. For elementary fine arts, if there is a tie for either first or second, those teams will move forward.
- ❖ There is a Q & A document that has been posted on the website from throughout the training last week. Please take time to read over those.
- ❖ Please prep your teams for a Q & A with the appraisers after their performance.
- ❖ There will be 2 awards ceremonies: 5:30 for challenges Technical, Improv, Engineering, and any Rising Stars teams that would like to attend; 7:00 for challenges Fine Arts, Scientific, Project Outreach, and Extreme. Colored wristbands will be provided at check in for teams, TMs and families. We are working with technology to see about getting the awards ceremonies into the main gym at the high school for those teams either waiting for the 2nd ceremony or would just like to watch at a different location. We are also working on streaming the ceremonies on social media for those who are unable to attend or would like to extend the opportunity to families out of town. We are hopeful that this will 1) give teams something to do while waiting, and 2) give teams other options to see and participate in the awards ceremonies throughout the evening.
More to come on this!
- ❖ You will not have free reign of the school during awards ceremonies. If you are waiting with teams, you must either be in gym 1 or waiting outside. We cannot have people all over the campus, and we cannot have you congregating outside the auditorium doors. Teams will **STILL** need to have adult supervision at all times whether they are in the gym, in the auditorium or outside. **YOU** are ultimately responsible for each and every team member you are assigned to. This is for everyone's safety and security.
- ❖ Prop Storage: I feel like I need to clarify how this space will be utilized on the day of the tournament and how the transition from TC to IC will work this year. When your team finishes their team challenge, they will do one of two things: 1) go directly to the designated prop storage area or 2) remove their props from the area with help from parents if possible. They will then remove costumes or makeup or whatever will be distracting to them during instant challenge. They will

have some time to discuss their performance for a few minutes before they head to IC. Prop storage will be manned by a volunteer at all times to make sure your things are taken care of when you are not there. This will keep things from possibly getting broken or misplaced and gives you peace of mind that someone is watching things while you are away. **ALL TEAMS MUST BE AT THE PROP STORAGE ROOM 5 MINUTES BEFORE YOUR POSTED IC TIME.** The team guide will then take you and your team to the IC check in area at your posted time. Please listen to your guide when they tell you it is time to move. We have a very tight schedule, and we need to adhere to it for this day to go well for everyone.

- ❖ Instant Challenge: We have taken your feedback, spoken with the Challenge Masters, and this is final decision of how we will run Instant Challenge:
 - When the team arrives at the IC area with their guide, the team will check in and then be taken upstairs to the holding room. The team manager will accompany the team. When it is time for the team to move to the IC room, **TEAM MANAGERS OF MULTIPLE TEAMS:** you will be able to do one of two things: 1) walk with the team to the door only if this is **NOT** your last team, or 2) walk directly to the chill out room and wait for your team to arrive after IC. If this **IS** your last team, you will be able to enter the room with your team. An appraiser will be with your team every step of the way within the IC area. Once your team arrives in the chill out room, they will be able to talk about the challenge, and then you will escort them down the stairs. **IF YOU ONLY HAVE ONE TEAM,** you are welcome to go into the IC room with them and then follow them to the chill out room.