

# 2022 Plan for Managing Academic Rodeo and Adjustments to be made if needed for COVID 19

The plan for the 2022 Academic Rodeo is to return to a more normal presentation of contests with all contests onsite. However, we will still limit most contests to Coaches/Sponsors and students only.

## October, November, December 2021

**Submission Contests – Art, Kinder Critters, and Writing** will follow normal formats. Work will be done at school as usual, then submitted by the Sponsors for the contests according to the Timeline for the Contest. Judging will occur with TJC and UT Tyler as planned.

When accepting, sorting or judging entries, Volunteers or Staff should wear gloves.

**Art** and **Kinder Critters** will be judged at the Fairgrounds after entries have been submitted. We plan to display entries at the Fairgrounds for viewing and offer an Open House in February unless conditions deteriorate, limiting the possibilities for viewing of entries and presenting an Open House. Photos of art pieces and Kinder Critters entries receiving awards will be posted the respective contest pages in the Academic Rodeo section of the ETSF website as was done for 2021.

**Writing** will be displayed at the Fairgrounds for viewing or an Open House, depending on our ability to offer the display and an Open House. If entries cannot be displayed physically, at minimum, the pieces receiving awards will be scanned and a PDF posted online on the Academic Rodeo section of the ETSF website.

## **Academic Challenge Quiz First Round Matches** in November **WILL be onsite.**

Only students on the specific teams involved in a match will be allowed in Building E for the match. No one will be present in the audience except the coaches involved.

- When teams arrive for their matches, they will wait in vehicles until signaled by Academic Rodeo Staff to enter.
- Sanitation protocols will be used – spraying with disinfectant, plastic shields on buzzers, etc.
- Unless conditions are severe, there will be only 1 table per team this year.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields.
- Students will disinfect with hand sanitizer before taking seats.
- Students will bring their own pencils to use.

## **Mindset Breaking Experience** Prelims in November **WILL be onsite.**

- Only Students and Coaches of the Teams may be in the building.
- Multiple teams will compete in a time period for each Level of competition.
- Teams will wait in vehicles until time to enter the building and will then go directly to an assigned station in the building.
- Schools bringing more than one team should have other adults to wait with waiting teams in vehicles.

- Sanitation protocols will be used – spraying with disinfectant, plastic shields on buzzers, etc.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields.

## January and February

**Academic Challenge Quiz** matches continue in person.

The same safety protocols will be in place.

## Agriculture Identification

The following protocols will be in place.

- Extra tables may be added in the setup to allow proper social distancing between students. Groups will remain in vehicles until time to compete.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields.
- Volunteers judging the worksheets may be in a different building from the contest.
- Students may need to bring their own pencils and clipboards. If so, this will be communicated to groups prior to the contest.

If conditions worsen, these protocols may be added.

- Students will not be allowed to touch the tables where products are displayed and will have to keep a distance (marked by tape) from the tables.
- Entry and exit signage will keep foot traffic moving in one direction only to prevent close contact.
- It may be necessary for groups to print their own worksheets and/or student labels before attending OR a coach will check-in students upon arrival and receive the labels and worksheets to prepare for the students. IF this is necessary, it will be communicated to Sponsors before the contest date.
- Students will bring their own pencils and clipboards.

## Computer Science

Projects will be submitted according to the Computer Science Timeline in early January.

Judging of interviews will occur on the contest date in February . . .

- Interviews and demonstration of projects will occur in a separate building from other contests occurring that day.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields.
- Tables and seating for judging will be spaced for social distancing.
- Clear barrier shields and/or gloves will be provided for covering computer mouse, keyboards, and other surfaces.

If conditions worsen before the February judging . . .

- Interviews and demonstration of projects will occur in a separate building from other contests occurring that day.
- Students may wait in vehicles to be called for judging, or they may be given a specific time to arrive.

We do not plan to return to virtual judging, but if needed will do so and follow 2021 protocols for that judging.

## Drama Festival

Drama events will occur onsite but may be in a different location. Location will be announced in early January.

### High School:

- No audience will be allowed, except the Director and other students within the group who are also performing.
- Rules for submitting registrations and documentation remain as scheduled.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields except during the actual performance.

### Middle School:

- Only one group will be in the dressing room at one time. Other buildings may be made available for other dressing areas for students, depending on the schedule.
- Students may need to come in costume or at least partially in costume to minimize contact in dressing areas. This will be determined in January.
- There will be no audience other than the Director and other assistants with the Director.
- Equipment used for sound and lighting will have protective barrier sheets covering them and/or students may be required to wear gloves.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields except during the actual performance.

## Engineering Challenge

Engineering Challenge is planned for an onsite contest.

- Groups will wait in their vehicles behind Building E until the actual Check-in Time.
- All touching of Rover will be by students on the team – during weigh-in, incline, and course tests.
- Only the Coaches will be allowed to be with students during testing of Rovers.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields.
- Directional signage will keep all students and coaches traveling in one direction through the building during competition.
- Competition times may allow an additional 15 to 30 minutes between team check-ins depending on the number of teams for additional sanitization of areas.

## Mathletics

Possibilities for an onsite contest include:

- Teams may be limited to 4 members.
- 2 tables per team may be provided for the written test.
- Teams may be asked to remain in their vehicles until time for students to come in and take their seats. Coaches will check teams in upon arrival and then return to vehicle.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields.
- Students may be asked to bring their own pencils.
- Only Top 10 teams may be allowed to stay for Finals and NO audience other than sponsors may be present.

## Pentathlon

- Teams may be asked to remain in their vehicles until time for students to come in and take their seats.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields.
- Students may be asked to bring their own pencils.
- Items for Engineering Build may be “pre-packaged” for each team rather than teams gathering supplies as in the past.
- Teams may be asked to prepare and bring a toolbox containing a glue gun and other resources needed for building that all would use.
- Teams may need to remain seated when other teams are doing the Task Completion portion of the contest.

## Science Fair

Journals and Illustrations will be submitted in early January as scheduled.

Interviews will occur onsite on the contest date.

- NO audience will be present other than Coaches for the group.
- A photo will be taken of each student with project when set-up occurs for use later if needed.
- **IF** there will be no Open House, projects will go home with the student after judging.
- **IF** required by their schools, students should wear masks or face shields.

If conditions worsen.

- Tables for displaying projects will be spread out to allow social distancing while being judged.
- Students may be given a specific judging time and asked to wait in vehicle until time for judging, or a holding room with ample distancing will be made available.
- Directional signage may be present to limit contact when entering or leaving the judging area.

## Spelling Bee

An onsite Spelling Bee will occur

- Only the student and 2 parents may attend. The Sponsor for the group may also attend.
- Check-in will be done in in the contest building. **We are unsure at this time which building that will be.** Students will immediately take their seat and the adults with the student will immediately sit in the designated seats for adults.
- Students for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Contest MUST wait until check-in time to come to the building.

If conditions worsen . . .

- Number of student representatives per campus may be reduced. Sponsors will be notified of this in the first Contest e-mail.

## Youth Fashion Show

Garments and Worksheets will be submitted as usual according to the schedule.

Location of the Fashion Show has not yet been determined.

For the onsite contest . . .

- Only 1 person may come with the student to the Fashion Show. Sponsors for the groups may also attend. No other guests may attend.
- Student seating may be arranged to limit the number of students “on stage” at one time.
- Results will **not** be announced at the end of the contest.

### **Scholarships and Cash Awards**

A decision regarding whether or not Scholarships or Elementary Cash Awards will be awarded for the 2022 Academic Rodeo will be made in November. We were unable to offer these awards in 2021.

### **Awards Celebration**

We do hope to have an onsite Awards Celebration if conditions permit. It may be scaled down in some way and/or divided to reduce the numbers attending.

The location of the Awards Celebration has not been determined.

We can follow the plans used in 2021 for the Drive-Through Awards Pick-up and Celebration if necessary. Details will be available in early January regarding plans for the presentation of Awards.