Welcome to the 2020 Virtual State Science Day
Judge Orientation Goals:

- What is expected of the judges; what to look for within the student projects
- Judging Process
- Judging Ethics
What do we expect from Judges?

We expect judges to evaluate student research projects on the basis of standards using our criteria and to encourage the next generation of scientists in Ohio.
What to look for as a Judge

1. Identified problem and hypothesis or technological design statement
2. Detailed Research Report & Abstract
3. Physical Display
4. Oral Presentation
Engineering Design Clarification

• Original software/algorithm development is considered Engineering Design, if that software is the purpose of the project.
  • If the goal is for instance, to test human subject intelligence or other mental traits, then that would be considered Behavioral Science and the software just a means to an end.

• Physical prototypes designed, built and tested are Engineering Design, if the prototype is the purpose of the project (better mousetrap).

• Equipment built to test (strength, durability, etc.) of various materials is NOT engineering design, it is material science.
  • Testing which type of bait works best in that mousetrap could be animal science.
Detailed Research Report & Abstract

1. Background statement
2. Problem/Hypothesis or Technological Design Statement
3. Methods and materials
4. Results
5. Discussion/conclusion
6. Importance/application
POSTER DISPLAYS

- Project Title
- Abstract
- Background information including objective, *problem and hypothesis*
- Experimental Design (Methods & Materials)
- Results
  - Photos or Figures
- Discussion
Oral Presentation

• Student summarizes research ~ 8 minutes
  ° If they exceed 8 minutes...use judgement

• Unique experience because of the virtual nature

• Please score for quantity of the presentation...not quality of the filming
  ° Some students could have had a question/answer
  ° Coughing, family interruptions, etc. should not be held against them
Technical Report Clarification vs. Meta-Analysis Project

• Every project must complete background research which means students might use information in their project collected from several sources. That is **NOT** Meta-analysis.
What is Meta-analysis???

In Meta-analysis research projects, students utilize large online databases (such as the National Weather Service or the Open Genome Project) to explore and analyze relationships in the data. Meta-analysis projects do NOT require the researcher to perform first-hand physical experiments.

A Meta-analysis project must have a research question and hypothesis that can be tested against the datasets that are being utilized. The research report should contain relevant background research that includes a detailed description of the datasets and their origins. There should be a description of the experimental design that was used to test the hypothesis. The student-generated data analysis should be age-appropriately robust, and communicated through charts and graphs. The report should also include a conclusion and a references page.
Judging Process
JUDGING RATINGS ...

- Maximum of for ALL projects this year!
- Superior scores of 36-40 move on to the State Competition
- Sample scorecard provided (may want to print out)
- All comments go into the computer program...not on paper, not on Youtube
- Please verify your math
- No second judge to confer with; go with gut
- Stay away from 34/35 please
“Sandwich method” for comments

We expect all judges to score the student work based on its merit; however, how the judging is communicated to the student has a strong impact.

One suggestion:

- Compliment the student and their work
- Suggest a possible improvement
- Close with another compliment
Judging Ethics
Judging Ethics

- Listen carefully to students’ complete presentation (they were told max 8 minutes...up to you if you go on after that)
- Be exceptionally courteous to all students
- Judge students against CRITERIA not against other students
- Consider age and grade level
Judging Ethics

Please contact your district judge coordinator if:

◦ You know the student
◦ The project is out of your expertise
◦ There are language issues/barriers that impair communication
◦ Lack of time to devote to student
◦ Any reason/uncomfortable
AFTER YOU FINISH

• Submit form...make sure everything is filled out correctly
• Pace yourself!
• Should spend around 20-30 min/project (watching video, reviewing report and making comments/filling out online form)
Simply Said...Thank you!

This could NOT be possible without our judge dedication. We know that this is unprecedented times and we appreciate YOUR time. Please let us know about the experience when we send out follow up surveys.

Join us next year at local, District and State competitions.
Top 5 Things to Remember:

1. Do NOT judge projects against each other
2. Use the rubric
3. Don’t forget to comment
4. Log in ASAP to get started
5. Finish by June 2, 2020
Need help quick???

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