

ACTIVITY: 7: INTERFERENCE POLICY

Here's why a lot of Destination Imagination participants return every year: only team members may contribute ideas and create the Team Challenge solutions. That means that no one other than team members can contribute to the Central Challenge or Team Choice Elements. Help from non-team members—including parents, friends and the Team Manager—is called "Interference." Make sure team members and parents review their copies of the following Interference Contract and sign them. These contracts are solely to help everyone understand and follow the rules of Interference. Keep the forms for your team records.

Additional information about Interference is included in Rules of the Road.

TM Tip: Later, when your team attends a tournament, you will need to fill out a Declaration of Independence form and bring copies for Tournament Officials. That form also centers on Interference and can be found in Rules of the Road.

INTERFERENCE CONTRACT

TEAM MEMBER: OUR TEAM OWNS EVERY BIT OF OUR TEAM CHALLENGE SOLUTION

1. Every idea for every part of the solution must come from the members of our team. Our parents, friends, teachers and Team Manager must keep their ideas to themselves.
2. When someone offers to help us, or works on our solution in any way, we will say, "No thanks! We can do it ourselves!"
3. If we get stuck and can't figure out how to solve a problem that arises, we will create ideas and come up with another way to do it.
4. When we finish our solution, we can proudly sign the Declaration of Independence and know that the entire solution is ours.

Team Member Signature: _____

TEAM MANAGER(S): MY TEAM OWNS EVERY BIT OF ITS TEAM CHALLENGE SOLUTION

1. I can facilitate the team's understanding of the Challenge and rules, as well as help them to learn skills, but I must keep my ideas to myself, and my hands off the team's solution.
2. Every idea for every part of the solution must come from the members of my team. They can figure it out for themselves even if it means that sometimes they will have to change their plans and do something another way.
3. At the team's request, I may acquire specifically requested materials for team use. At no time may I ever choose materials for the team without the team's input, and I may never select materials or take actions or ask questions with the idea of leading the team to a solution.
4. When my team does not know how to go about researching and/or acquiring information and materials, my role is to teach them the skills they will use to become independent learners for a lifetime. In other words, I may provide the team with multiple resources, but I may not select or lead the team to any aspect of its solution.
5. When my team is ready to turn its ideas into reality, I will stand by and manage. That means I may facilitate discussions and/or disagreements, help my team manage its time to meet its deadlines, make sure team members are working in a safe manner, acquire items requested by the team, and most importantly, ensure that each individual on the team is valued by the others.
6. When my team finishes its solution, I can proudly sign the Team Manager's line on the Declaration of Independence and know that the solution is the team's alone.

Team Manager Signature: _____

Team Manager Signature: _____

PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S): THE TEAM OWNS EVERY BIT OF ITS TEAM CHALLENGE SOLUTION

1. I must keep my ideas to myself and my hands off the team's solution. I understand that completing a DI Challenge can be difficult at times, but I believe the team is capable of handling whatever they encounter and can overcome anything. I understand that, if I interfere, I send the message to the team that I do not trust that they are capable of creating the solution on their own.
2. Every idea for every part of the solution must come from team members. They must figure it out for themselves. That means that sometimes they will do things in a way that will take longer and/or might not be the most efficient or best way (in my opinion). I understand that this is a normal part of the process and I will not interfere.
3. When my my child's team finishes its solution, I will be proud that the team members worked so hard and completed the project with their own hands and minds. I will be proud to say that they did it all by themselves!

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____