

## **ADDENDUM to the PENNSYLVANIA ENVIROTHON RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The following is an **Addendum** to the Pennsylvania Envirothon Rules and Regulations to reflect the **2021 Virtual Competition**.

These rules and regulations will be followed in place of the noted sections:

### **Competition Regulations**

1. For liability reasons and fairness, only registered participants (team members and advisors) are permitted access to the official competition information.
2. Each county team competes as A TEAM. Each team will have one (1) chance to complete each station test (Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Soil and Land Use, Wildlife, and Current Issue).
3. Each test must be completed within the designated timeframe included in the test instructions. Test settings are fixed to automatically end the test when a team submits its test or if the time runs out.
4. Teams will have one (1) chance to open and complete each station test. Advisors/chaperones are **not** permitted to complete the station tests. Teams attempting to access the test more than once could be subject to disqualification. If it is found that an advisor/chaperone attempts to complete the test, the team will be disqualified.
5. **The only device permitted is the computer/tablet on which the team is completing the station tests.** Before each test, smartphones or other devices should be placed out of reach for ALL team members.
6. In the occurrence of technical issues (power failure, no Internet connection, computer crashes), the team must immediately contact a member of the Pennsylvania Envirothon station testing committee (contact information included in the test instructions) to report the issue. Technical issues will be reviewed case by case.
7. The top-scoring 15 teams in the station testing will compete in the oral presentation component. **Teams who score in places 16 – 67 will not participate in the oral presentation component in 2021.**
8. The winning team at the Pennsylvania Envirothon is the team with the highest cumulative score, which includes scores from the five testing stations and the oral component. The oral component will be one-sixth of the total score.
  - a. Station tiebreakers – In the event of a tie at any given station, predetermined tie-breaking question(s) will determine the winner of that station.
  - b. Overall Score tiebreakers – In the case of an overall tie, the Forestry test score will determine the placement for the final scores in the Envirothon.
9. English shall be designated as the official language of the Pennsylvania Envirothon. All written tests and oral presentation scenarios shall be in English.
10. All oral component and test scores are final. Tests and scoring materials will remain the property of the Pennsylvania Envirothon Board of Directors.

### **Oral Presentation Component**

The **2021 Virtual Competition** problem-solving oral presentation component is conducted as follows:

1. The top-scoring 15 teams in the station testing will compete in the oral presentation component. In order to complete the full 2021 State Envirothon, the top 15 teams **MUST** participate in the oral presentation component, or they will receive a zero (0) for 1/6<sup>th</sup> of their score.

2. The scenario for the oral presentation is posted to the Pennsylvania Envirothon Station Training – Oral Component website page on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, no later than 12:00 p.m (noon). It will also be emailed to county Envirothon coordinators (for the top 15 teams) on this day.
3. Advisors shall NOT prepare their team’s presentation, but may provide general guidance, such as review the rubric and clarify the scenario. Questions about the content of the scenario will not be answered by representatives of the Pennsylvania Envirothon (i.e., interpret the scenario on your own).
4. The oral presentation component will take place on May 24 or 25, 2021. Presentations will be pre-recorded, and students will join judges to participate in the viewing of their recorded presentation and a live Q&A session. All five (5) team members must participate.
5. Slide Format - The 2021 Pennsylvania Envirothon will recommend using PowerPoint or Google Slides for the Oral Presentation Component segment of the competition.
  - a. The presentation may not be longer than 10 minutes. Any presentation longer than 10-minutes will not be accepted.
  - b. There is no minimum or maximum number of slides required, but the presentation should be created with the 10-minute time limit in mind. When preparing the presentation, teams should take care to ensure that their solution is clear and concise.
  - c. Although teams should **NOT** state the name of their school during their presentation or on any accompanying slides, they may include the names of the team members.
  - d. Team-created sound effects and video clips are allowed in the presentation.
  - e. Team-created graphics and photos are allowed in the presentation.
  - f. Other photos and graphics may also be included (not team-created), but must be used only in accordance with each photo’s associated usage rights. Each non-original photo **MUST** be cited appropriately to avoid copyright infringement.
  - g. The presentation must be saved in MP4. Presentations will be viewed on computers with Microsoft Office.
6. Referencing Your Team during Your Presentation and Dress Code
  - a. To ensure no bias, perceived or real, teams are assigned a number and must refrain from referencing their school/county during the competition.
  - b. Teams may share the names of their members with the judges during the oral presentation and include the names on the slide presentation.
  - c. Team members are required to wear appropriate clothing that does NOT identify the origin of their school or county. This includes not wearing items with a school, town, or county related logo/name at any time during the oral presentation segment.
7. Oral Presentation Time Limit/Q&A
  - a. Time limits will be enforced, and any submitted presentations that go over 10 minutes will not be accepted.
  - b. Judges will have 10 minutes for Q&A.

## 8. Teacher/Coach Rules

The Pennsylvania Envirothon is a student-only competition. Teachers/coaches shall NOT prepare their team's presentation, but may provide general guidance, such as review the rubric and clarify the scenario. Questions about the content of the scenario will not be answered by representatives of the Pennsylvania Envirothon (i.e., interpret the scenario on your own).

## 9. Presentation Deadline

- a. Pre-recorded presentations must be submitted no later than 8:00 a.m. May 20, 2021.
- b. Presentations submitted after the posted deadline will not be viewed or scored. If a team experiences technical difficulties when submitting their presentation, they must inform Pennsylvania Envirothon via phone or email PRIOR to the submission deadline to determine alternate submission methods.
- c. All team members must participate in the creation of the presentation, and participate in/speak during the presentation recording.

## 10. Scoring

- a. The oral presentation is scored by a panel of judges based on the rubric provided along with the problem scenario.
- b. The oral presentation is worth  $1/6^{\text{th}}$  of the team's total competition score.