Agriculture and Biotechnology Design

A number of notebooks did not follow current rules. The problem and the solution should be more prominent on the display. Most models were very well done. Interviews and presentations were very good. Rules violations occurred when the size restrictions for the display weren't followed or when a three-ring notebook wasn't used. Plagiarism needs to be avoided by students knowing what and how to cite a reference

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Animatronics

The purpose of the device's activity must be specific. Notebooks should be arranged in order, according to the rules. In general, great effort and creativity were shown on the part of students who entered this competition. Some students did not present verbally when they demonstrated their device – verbal presentation was a requirement. Time violations occurred.

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Architectural Model

Follow guidelines for the notebooks. Proofread! Provide a scale for the drawings.

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CAD Architecture with Animation

Completed entries and accompanying interviews were quite good.

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CAD Engineering with Animation

Completed entries and accompanying interviews were quite good.

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Chapter Team

Written test scores were lower this year than in past years. *Robert's Rules of Order* (newly revised) should be studied; this will help students advance past the written phase of the competition and into the oral finals.

For the on-site problem:
1) teams need to address the three given parliamentary actions provided - this is the source of 30 of the total points
2) teams should look carefully at the minutes from the previous meeting, where *referred to a committee* or *postponed to the current meeting* are found – both of which should occur in the meeting that teams demonstrate

3) teams should debate more; many points were lost by teams that didn't adequately debate the main motions and any debatable secondary motions
4) students should spend more time practicing how to properly make and handle secondary motions (errors here are the source of large deductions)

The fifteen minutes allotted for team demonstrations should be viewed as the law. Teams that go over that time limit are almost guaranteed not to place.

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Debating Technological Issues
Participants should make sure quotes, facts and figures used in debate are cited on the documentation summary page.

Excellent points were often made during debate, but they were not always tied into the overall subject/theme.

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Dragster Design
There was wide variety in entries regarding documentation preparation – from excellent work to last minute plans to no plans at all. Follow the guidelines for documentation! Cars and scores were some of the best ever. Very few dragsters were disqualified from racing.
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Electronic Game Design
Participants must have complete cover and title pages (per the rules). Confidence about and participation between partners should be evident. Students must be careful to avoid copyright infringement. Games must be on DVDs, not CDs.

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Electronic Research and Experimentation
Many notebooks lacked sufficient evidence of research by the teams. Some teams gave a very good explanation of the problem they were solving, but the research provided was not enough to back up the problems selected and/or the solution to the problem.

 A notebook is a requirement! Students must indicate a clear topic, have research to back up the topic, and use the notebook to reflect accompanying data. Some notebooks did not convey a solution to the problem noted on the display.

Displays are required and must fit into the designated space restrictions. The finalist team displays were well presented (clear problem, clear solution and enough data to provide information to the judges about what was completed for the event; other entries did a poor job of explaining what was to be accomplished).

A number of entries lacked information about what the team was presenting via the model or solution. Overall, students did a good job speaking and explaining their project. The major reasons for deductions were the lack of connection between the

stated problem, the research, and the lack of experimentation data in the notebook. Some entries had no connection at all within the three areas.

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Engineering Design
Participants must include a completed and signed Plan of Work log. Notebooks continue to show improvement. Students must use three different venues for displays; displays must abide by size restrictions.

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Fashion Design
Participants in this competition should focus on using design and technology processes to convey textiles as a fashion design. The feature is not the runway. Students should place emphasis on complete portfolios (sketches/computer print outs) and pay attention to writing mechanics (grammar, spelling, neatness of work), as well as the overall appearance of the portfolio. A final check of details immediately prior to submission for judging is a good idea. Clothing should be on hangers, one hanger per piece. Drawings should be computer-generated, not drawings using crayons.

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Film
Students did a great job of following TSA guidelines. Notebooks were well done and cover pages were very creative.

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Flight Endurance
Participants must follow rules and guidelines for notebooks, General Rule K, and dress code requirements.

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Imaging Technology
Participants should make sure that the cover of the notebook clearly indicates the entry. A photo could be helpful. References and equipment used must be cited.

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Manufacturing Prototype
Students should read the rules and requirements carefully to avoid deductions for errors in the notebook; all information required must be included. Dimensions should be included on all drawings.

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Medical Technology
Students should review the rules and requirements carefully, and understand the difference between diseases and problems. Students must properly cite photos, text etc.; a reference list does not equate with proper citation. The model must be representative of the solution.

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Music Production
Participants should divide musical piece into categories. The cover/title page is important. Students made good use of graphics and creative thinking. Nice headers and footers were evident for the report.

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On Demand Video
Participants must use required two-column script. Easy points were lost for not including a cover page, a title page, or a table of contents. Proofreading is imperative, and organization and creativity count.

Radio Controlled Transportation
Participants must follow regulations for batteries and motors.

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SciViz
Participants should always cite and credit internet sites and policies for graphics used. "Fair Use" is not an acceptable claim. Anything not personally made needs permission. Do not include the student name on the notebook. Be sure to change the title page after the state competition. Obtain photo releases if people are included in videos.

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Structural Engineering
Rules violations occurred for having the center of the structure blocked, or for using the incorrect pitch.

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System Control Technology
In some cases, the problem statement and the solution statement did not match. Students should stated and identify all parts of the problem clearly.

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Technical Sketching and Application
Some unnecessary dress code violations occurred (wearing a hat, sunglasses).

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Technology Bowl
Students should study TSA history and facts, and emerging technologies.

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Technology Dare
Participants must follow the rules and not try to "work around" regulations.

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Transportation Modeling
There were a number of issues related to the screw eyes and the CO2 holes. Follow the specs!