

General Scoring Policy:

1. All teams who participate and compete according to the rules must be scored and ranked.
2. Teams/devices that do not meet the requirements in the event rules will be allowed to compete if possible and are to be scored and ranked below those who met all of the specifications. They will be awarded event points in relation to their rank. Event Supervisors may, at their discretion, allow students to modify any device before it is impounded to bring it into compliance with the rules. That discretion, if extended, must be made available to all competitors equally. Any modification must be completed, and the device impounded, before the expiration of the impound period. Supervisors and Officials may not provide assistance regarding the type of modifications or how to accomplish them prior to, or at any time during the tournament day. If any team is Ranked Below Others, the event supervisor MUST inform the student (and remind the student to inform their coach) as soon as a problem occurs and be sure to list the reason on the score sheet.
3. Teams making an honest attempt to participate that cannot be assigned a raw score because of time, mechanical failure, wrong dimensions, etc., will be listed as a "P" for Participation for the raw score on the score sheet and will be awarded N points. "N" is equal to the number of teams registered for the tournament. (e.g. If 26 teams are registered then any team that cannot be assigned a raw score receives 26 pts.) Any device, which, in the judgment of the Event Supervisor, is a safety hazard to competitors, judges, or spectators, will not be allowed to compete and will be listed as a P (Participation) for the raw score on the score sheet and will be awarded N points.
4. If a team does not show up or does not make an honest attempt to participate, the team will be listed as a No Show or "NS" for the raw score on the score sheet and awarded N+1 points. This includes teams who may be present but display no preparation for the competition.
5. Teams should be Disqualified or "DQ" only for misbehavior (to include excessive use of improper or vulgar language or cheating). Put DQ as raw score and award N+2 points on the score sheet. Also, note on the score sheet the reason why teams were disqualified. Event Supervisors may remove from competition any student(s) whose personal or ethical behavior does not adhere to the Science Olympiad Code of Ethics. This action will disqualify the affected student(s) from participation and scoring in that event only. If any team is DQed the event supervisor MUST, inform the student as soon as a problem occurs and notify the head coach. If it occurs after students have left notify the team coach immediately.
6. Provide raw scores and any supporting documentation when turning in the score sheet (answer sheets, master answer key, etc.).