

Regional and State Guidelines for Technical Paper and Oral Competition

In general each paper should have only a single author and presenter. In certain cases with agreement of the Regional and State Director, presentations of team projects may be allowed. But the judging rules are the same as for single presenters. The time constraints are: 10 minutes to present and 5 minutes for questions. The written manuscript and oral presentation carry equal weight in the overall scoring. Although the project need not be entered in a science fair, the paper MUST reflect actual science experimentation by the student, or theoretical work of the student in an area of pure mathematics or physics, or the development of a scientific computer model. Papers that are simply literary 'search' papers are not acceptable for competition.

Rules for the Technical Paper Competition

1. The 2021 Entry Form is available online and should be submitted online at <https://www.nmas.org/nmjas-paper-competition-form.html>.
2. The \$15 Entry Fee can be paid online by PayPal or may be paid by Purchase Order or check.
3. The first, second and possibly third place winners of Regional Competitions will be asked to submit an electronic copy of the manuscript to the State Director for judges at the State Competition. Before submitting the paper to State Competition be sure to review suggestions by judges for ways to improve the paper and make changes accordingly. There is no further entry fee for the State Competition.
4. All papers must include a Cover page with the following information: Title of paper, student's name, grade, school name, school address, student's home address and email address; and the name, address and signature of the teacher or sponsor who endorses the paper. This page is separate from the Title page of the paper.
5. For the necessary components and formatting requirements of your scientific paper see *Formatting Rules for Technical Papers* which can be accessed at https://www.nmas.org/uploads/2/4/3/3/24330698/formatting_rules_for_technical_papers_21.pdf
6. A student may secure help in structuring, proofreading, and typing the paper. However; all assistance must be noted in the acknowledgments.

Rules for the Oral Competition

1. The 2021 Regional & State oral competitions will be held virtually on Zoom.
2. If there are more than 12 papers submitted in any division, the judges will select the top 10 to 12 entries for the oral competition from the written papers. Students will receive notice as soon as possible if judges eliminate their papers from the oral competition.
3. Presentation time limits will be strictly enforced. Each presenter has 10 minutes maximum for the presentation and 5 minutes after the presentation for judges' questions. Although other presenters, parents, teachers, and friends may attend the session, only the judges may ask questions.
4. PowerPoint must be used for the oral presentations.

5. Requirements for PowerPoint presentations are listed separately on the NMJAS website.
6. Procedures for Zoom presentations are also listed separately on the NMJAS website.
7. Copies of the current Judging Forms are available on the NMJAS web site so there should be no confusion between judges' expectations and presenters' preparations.
8. The order of oral presentations will be determined by random drawing. Failure to appear for the competition on time and ready to present may result in disqualification.
9. In order to promote professional courtesy and to minimize distractions, all presenters are strongly requested to stay for the entire paper session.

SPONSORS: It is your responsibility to see that the rules are followed. Use this sheet as a checklist so that there are no omissions or misunderstandings. Sign the title page after you have checked this list carefully. If you have questions, feel free to contact your Regional Director or the State Director. But please.....do so well before the date of the competition.

Rules revised: 8 December 2020