



## 2021 Forestry Challenge Rules

Any changes from last year's rules are underlined and italicized

### **I. Participant Eligibility**

1. Students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 are eligible to participate. Community college students and 8<sup>th</sup> graders may participate if the facility can accommodate them, as determined by the Forestry Challenge (FC) Coordinator.
2. Teams will consist of two to five students from the same school, homeschool, tribe, or scouting group. More than one team may enter from each school as space permits. However, there may be a need to restrict the number of students per school, depending on the facility's capacity.
3. An adult advisor must accompany each team. The advisor can be a teacher, staff member, or approved parent from that school. One advisor can supervise more than one team from the same school, as housing arrangements permit.
4. For schools bringing only one adult, an additional adult of the opposite gender must be available on standby to ensure proper overnight supervision. Schools will be notified the day after the registration deadline if additional adults are required to assure correct ratios.
5. Each participant must arrive with all applicable and signed Liability / Medical / Media Release Forms in order to participate. These forms must be turned in at registration or received prior to the event.
6. Only registered participants with signed forms will be allowed on site.
7. Chaperones and students will check in together unless prior arrangements are made with the FC Coordinator.
8. At least one team advisor must be on site with their students at all times and will be responsible to assure that team members display proper conduct during the event and at the host facility.
9. *All participants must comply with the FC COVID-19 policy.*

## **II. Participant Behavior**

1. Participants will report any illness or personal emergency to the Coordinator or designated staff.
2. If participants break or damage the property of the FC or the host site, they are responsible for reporting the damage and paying for its repair.
3. All students must attend and fully participate in all scheduled activities.
4. Although advisors must attend all activities to properly supervise students, they are not allowed to actively participate in field testing or focus topic presentation preparation.
5. Students must report to and stay in their assigned cabins or dormitories at the designated time at the end of each day. Facility housing will be described in advance, and if it does not meet the needs of one or more students, the advisor must ask for alternate arrangements in advance of the start of the event.
6. No students or chaperones are allowed to leave the host site without approval.
7. Tobacco, drugs, and alcohol are prohibited during all parts of the event.
8. Participants are expected to behave in a professional manner, consistent with behavior appropriate to the workplace. Harassment, bullying, and any form of discrimination is NOT appropriate workplace behavior. Any observance or reporting of such actions will be thoroughly investigated and disciplined. Disciplinary actions can include disqualification and/or dismissal from the event and host site.

## **III. Registration Fees and Deadlines**

1. Schools that pre-register by June 30, 2021, may receive a discount on the registration fees listed below. Schools that pre-register after June 30 will be expected to pay the registration fees listed below.
2. A completed registration form (available online) must be submitted 12 days before the start of the event.
3. Registration fee due dates and full amounts are as follows:
  - Shasta FC fees are \$120 per person, due September 29
  - Santa Cruz FC fees are \$215 per person, due October 13
  - El Dorado FC fees are \$215 per person, due October 27
  - San Bernardino FC fees are \$215 per person, due November 10

4. Registration fees are due upon arrival to the event and must be paid for each person attending, including teachers and adult chaperones. Fees for advisors' infants and small children may be modified on a case-by-case basis.
5. Teachers will be asked to use the online registration fee calculator as an indicator of attendance numbers for their school. This form can also be used as an invoice to initiate payment by their district.
6. Registration fee totals will be considered final the Friday before the event based on the registration fee calculator or subsequent updates provided to the FC Coordinator.
7. Student or chaperone substitutions of the same gender are allowed between the Friday prior and up to the start of the event.
8. There will be no refunds for students or chaperones who cancel after the Friday before the event, and registration fees for persons who do not attend are non-refundable.

#### **IV. Competition Components and Expectations**

1. The FC has two parts: a Field Test and a Presentation. The two parts will be scored separately. The Field Test will be worth 60% and the Presentation will be worth 40% of the total score.
2. The Field Test is completed as a team and is comprehensive in nature, with many questions using props and tools such as tree specimens and forestry equipment. One test key will be provided for each school after the testing period, to be returned by the end of the testing day. The FC Coordinator or designee will be available to answer questions.
3. Test questions will be developed using the FC Learning Objectives and reference materials linked to the Objectives as a guide but are not necessarily limited to those items. Knowledge of basic ecological concepts and information presented during the event may be tested as well.
4. The use of personal electronic devices such as cell phones is not allowed during field testing, Friday presentation prep time, and Saturday morning while in the waiting area. Devices will be confiscated if deemed necessary by authorized staff and volunteers.
5. Students will not be allowed to use their reference materials, including cellular devices, during the Field Test. All materials needed during the Field Test, including identification keys, reference materials, calculators, and equipment, will be provided at the testing stations.

6. Any written and electronic materials teams bring to the event and gather while at the event may be used during presentation prep time. Laptop computers will be used, and there will be equal access to wireless internet when available. Hotspot devices will be allowed as determined by the FC Coordinator.
7. Students will not be allowed to review presentation materials once the first presentation period begins and will be asked to gather in one area to wait until their presentation time begins.
8. Each team's Field Test and Presentation scores will be totaled, and overall place awards will be given accordingly. All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

### **V. Other**

1. Transportation to, from, and during an event will be the responsibility of each participating team unless transportation is provided during an event.
2. Students may attend more than one regular event during the fall season. If a team with one or more repeating students places in the top 5, that team will not displace a team that is competing for the first time that season.
3. Students and advisors will be asked to complete an evaluation form at the conclusion of the event.
4. Grievances must be submitted in writing to the FC Coordinator by the end of the review period immediately following the Field Test or the Presentation portion of the event. Grievances will be reviewed by the Coordinator and discussed with involved judges and/or volunteers. The Coordinator's decisions are final.
5. FC rules are subject to change by the Coordinator. Any changes will be explained in advance to all teams and advisors.
6. Host site/facility rules will be enforced in addition to FC Rules.
7. Any infraction of any of the FC Rules may result in disqualification and/or dismissal from the event and the host site.