

To: 2021 Envirothon Team Advisors

From: Nature Coast Envirothon Steering Committee

Date: November 9, 2020

Subject: 2021 Nature Coast Envirothon Rules & Regulations

Thank you for serving as an adult advisor to teams competing at the **2021 Nature Coast Regional Envirothon** to be held on **February 17th, 2021**. This year, with all the uncertainties, we have chosen to hold the event *Virtually on Zoom*. Please use the online link to register your teams. Each team must submit a separate registration form. The registration deadline is **Friday, January 15th, 2021**.

All materials will be updated and current as of **November 30th, 2020.** The study materials are available online at http://connectplus.pasco.k12.fl.us/do/eec/?page_id=10.

Teachers and advisors virtual meeting will be held the **day before the event** to go over procedures and give an opportunity to ask questions to minimize any team confusion on the day of the event. On the day of the event, we will have a morning virtual registration and orientation meeting with all teams and advisors, starting at 8:30am. We will give out the test links, passwords and testing schedule. We will go over the guidelines for this new testing platform (www.testmoz.com) and our expectations from both the teachers and students participating. The competition will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. and teams will have 25 minutes to compete their first category test. In years past, we have split the teams up evenly between the 5 different categories, this year all teams will be testing in the same category at the same time.

This year, we will be allowing each school to register a maximum of $\underline{10}$ teams, but there will need to be a 5 team to 1 teacher ratio. So, if you have two teachers at a school you can each sign up 5 teams. A pre-test can be found on the website that may be used to determine school teams.

Team restructures or substitutions are allowed prior to registration. Teachers/advisors are not allowed to help the teams during competition and testing. Teachers/advisors you will need to make sure all electronic are not within students reach or on their person. The only exception will be the testing computer for each team competing. Each team, will need to be connected to zoom during all testing with the cameras on. In the cases where some of our testing computers don't have cameras the teacher will need to position their computers so all teams can be seen. Teachers/advisors will be responsible for monitoring students while they are testing. Students are not allowed to take screenshots, pictures, writing down questions, or discuss the questions with advisors after the competition. While it may be tempting to see what kind of questions they are being asked we need to ensure test integrity each year.

Ask your students to bring a lunch or work with your Food and Nutrient Services to provide school lunches since testing may cause some problems with the students scheduled school lunch times.

The following reminders/rules are provided to ensure that the competition is fair, and all teams have a good and enjoyable day.

- Work with your schools to setup a testing room(s) that won't have disruptions and has at least one computer per team. Each room should have a maximum of 5 teams to 1 teacher ratio.
- Dress appropriate
- Students may <u>not</u> carry calculators, palm pilots, laptops, cellular phones, cameras, smart watches, pagers, and similar electronic devices during the competition. **If a student is caught having any of these items in view during the competition, the team will be disqualified**.
- Possession of personal medications must be consistent with your school policy.
- There will be no alternate or fusion teams this year.
- All eligible competing teams must consist of high school students, all of whom reside in the same County and are present (no zooming in). Teams consisting of less than five members will be allowed to compete but are not eligible to win in any of the competition categories.
- We ask that you remind all students this is an education-based competition, and their behavior, actions, and language should be geared accordingly. Horseplay, disruptive behavior, and foul language will not be tolerated and may result in a team's disqualification.
- The winners of each county that are moving on to the state competition must be the SAME 5 team members that competed together at the regional competition.

If everyone follows these simple rules, we should have another great and <u>truly memorable</u> Nature Coast Envirothon competition.

Thank you,

The Nature Coast Envirothon Steering Committee