

FLORIDA
State Science &
Engineering Fair

2007-2008
RULES
SUPPLEMENT
to
International Science &
Engineering Fair
Rules

2007-2008 FSSEF OFFICIAL RULES SUPPLEMENT

The intent of this supplement is to reduce the chance of a student *failing to qualify* for either the *Florida State Science and Engineering Fair, (FSSEF)*, or the *International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)*. In some cases these *FSSEF Rules* are more restrictive than the *ISEF Rules*.

It is the responsibility of the **Regional Science & Engineering Fair Directors, Scientific Review Committees, and Institutional Review Boards** to develop a complete knowledge and understanding of the *ISEF & FSSEF Rules*. The **Regional Director** *MUST* make every effort to insure that each person and committee involved in science research or intending to participate in an affiliated science fair receive copies of both *ISEF & FSSEF Rules Supplement* documents and *follow ALL the rules* outlined within them.

All of the RULES, REGULATIONS, and PROCEDURES of the *ISEF* are in effect at each affiliated regional science fair and at the *Florida SSEF*.

If anyone at the school or regional fair level needs to consult with someone concerning ISEF Rules or this FSSEF Rules Supplement they are encouraged to contact:

Nancy Besley, Executive Director
Florida Foundation for Future Scientists
University of Central Florida / C.E.C.S
PO Box 160160
Orlando, FL 32816
(407) 823 – 4347
e-mail beslevn@ocps.net

Or

Sharon Suits, Chairperson
FSSEF SRC
700 SW 2nd Ave.
Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 462-5000 ext#283
e-mail SuitsS@okee.k12.fl.us or ssuits@embarqmail.com

SAFETY AND DISPLAY

There will be *NO* electricity available for display lighting purposes. Electricity will only be available on a pre-paid fee basis and may only be used if it a necessary part of the experimental process.

Abstract

All abstracts for the 2008 FSSEF **MUST** be on the *approved 2008 SSEF Abstract form* which is available at www.floridassef.net.

Bibliography

- If a student uses procedures taken from a published study, laboratory standards, or equipment manual, a complete citation **MUST** be included with the *Research Plan*, or the procedure **MUST** be written in complete detail into the research plan.
- If a student uses humans in their project a reference to the protection of human subjects must be cited in their bibliography.

Non-Human Vertebrates

- If the project involves use of non-human vertebrates a **MORTALITY REPORT MUST** be submitted along with all other required forms to the Regional and State SRCs whether or not any deaths occurred. This form is available from the FFFS website at www.floridassef.net.
- For all projects using vertebrates the bibliography **MUST** include an animal care reference.

Potentially Hazardous Biological Agents

- For **ALL** projects involving potentially hazardous biological agents, a detailed description of *aseptic techniques* utilized and *disposal methods for media and cultures MUST be included in the Research Plan*. The only acceptable methods of disposal are those outlined on page 21(PHBA #9) of the 2008 ISEF rules with one variance, the ISEF SRC has approved the use of the CDC method of 10% household bleach concentration in lieu of a 10% concentration of sodium hypochlorite. These procedures must be thoroughly **outlined in the Research Plan or cited in the Bibliography**.
- For all projects using PHBAs the bibliography **MUST** include a **standard procedures reference**.
- A student researcher utilizing any organism classified above BSL 1 or procedures requiring facilities above a BSL 1 may be interviewed by the FSSEF SRC prior to qualifying for participation in the SSEF.

Use of Hazardous Substances, Equipment, or Procedures

- Projects involving the use of *hazardous chemicals, activities, or devices MUST* be reviewed by the local SRC prior to experimentation.
- Contact the related state agency for documented permission and legal requirements.
- When potentially hazardous chemicals are being used in the research corresponding **MSDS** citations **MUST** be made in the Bibliography for any substance classified by OSHA as a potential health or physical hazard.

Collection of Organisms or Artifacts

- Any project involving **collection of protected organisms**, whether plants or animals, **MUST** include documentation from appropriate governmental agencies in their paperwork submission to the SRC.
- Projects involving **archeological** or **paleontological** excavations **MUST** be accompanied by appropriate documentation from the state organization or governmental agency responsible for oversight of such procedures. This documentation must be submitted with other required paperwork to the SRC.

Animal specimen collection: Melissa Tucker, Fla. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
(386) 758 – 0531 melissatucker@myfwc.com

Plant specimen collection: Richard Weaver, Division of Plant Industry, (352) 372 -3505 ext 401
State Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services weaverr@doacs.state.fl.us

Paleontological collection: Florida Fossil Permit <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/vertpaleo/vppermit.htm>

Archaeological collection: Florida's Unmarked Burial Law
<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/archaeology/FS872/> or <http://www.cr.nps.gov/linklaws.htm>