

11 November 2019

FCC Jr Update - A note about competition day

All:

We are very excited about the growth in the Junior program this year – almost double last year’s participation. However, that presents some challenges for us and our facilities. The committee has been hard at work on plans for the best way to accommodate all of your excellent teams and models.

So, here is a quick overview of how things will work in January – those of you who have participated in the past, please note the changes. I will update you with the complete details in a few weeks. And, these plans are still somewhat in flux as we work out schedules, processes and volunteer duties.

1. The Junior competition will run in the morning on Saturday, 25 January. Check-in for the teams and models will be at 7:30 am. The judging will begin at 9 am. We plan to begin the awards ceremony at about 11:30 am and conclude the Junior event around 12 noon.
2. We have set aside space for about 48 teams/models for the juniors. This, again, is double last year’s number. However, *it may still be necessary for us to limit the number of teams from a single school coming to UTA*. We will make every effort to accommodate at least 5 teams per school and we hope to be able to allow at least 8. Let’s plan for 8 right now. However, we will need a good count of teams before we can make the decision, so please update the online system. And, thank you for your understanding.
 - Suggestion for those organizations with more than the allowed number of teams – you can hold an in-school competition to determine which of your teams will come to UTA. Or, you can select by grades/scores in class. If you need help in planning an in-school competition, feel free to contact me.
 - Go ahead and enter all of your teams in the online system. We will score all the essays you submit and you will be able to download the scores and judges’ comments at the end of the competition. And, we will prepare participation certificates for all the teams and students entered into the system.
3. We are busy rounding up sponsors and special awards for the junior teams. We plan to be awarding 10-15 prizes to the teams. I will send more details on the categories of special awards as we get closer to the event.

Thanks again for your patience and understanding. Our goal is to have the best possible competition for the FCC Junior group and to alleviate the crowding some of you experienced last year.

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