

Trial/Pilot Event

Contact the organizers of your tournament to find out what trial/pilot events will be held.

Mystery Engineering 2007

1. **DESCRIPTION:** This event is designed to test the student's ability to think on their feet. At the competition, they will be given "building materials" and instructions to build a structure to meet certain parameters. The specific scoring criteria will be identified in the instructions. Criteria could include height, weight, or strength – to-weight ratio. The students will not know the assignment until they enter the competition. Typically, students will be provided with unusual building materials for with to meet the event parameters.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 2

APPROXIMATE TIME: 50 minutes

2. **EVENT PARAMETERS:** Students will be provided with all materials and tools. Nothing may be brought into the event.
3. **THE COMPETITION:**
 - a. Each Team of students will be given identical building materials. If the structure is required to support a load, the load will be available to the students so they may incorporate it into their construction plans. The students may remove the load until immediately prior to the testing of the structure.
 - b. The Team of students will have a maximum of 40 minutes to construct the specified structure. The Event Supervisor may choose a shorter time frame.
 - c. Only those materials and tools provided may be used to build the structure. No other materials or adhesives may be used or be part of the finished structure.
 - d. Unless specifically stated in the instructions, structures must be freestanding and may not be attached to a tabletop, floor, ceiling, wall, or other support.
 - e. If possible, this event should occur in a large room with all Teams competing at the same time. Visibility barriers may be used. Since students will not know the type of structure to be built ahead of time, no one other than the Event Supervisors and contestants will be allowed in the building area. No cameras or video recording devices will be allowed into the building area prior to or during the event. Pictures may be permitted after the event concludes.
4. **SCORING:** All structures will be ranked according to the following rubric:
 - a. The criteria specified in the instructions will be measured as accurately as possible by the Event Supervisor using instruments of his choice.
 - b. Devices that do not meet the primary criteria will be ranked according to a secondary criteria after **all** those that do meet the primary criteria.
 - c. In the event of a tie, the structure with the best secondary criteria will be the winner.

For questions concerning this event contact:

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