



March, 2008

Dear Science Fair Judge:

Thank you for agreeing to be a judge at the 2008 Beal Bank Dallas Regional Science & Engineering Fair. To all veteran judges – welcome back! To all newcomers – we know that you will be inspired by the effort put forth by our exhibitors. All judging will take place at the Automobile Building in Fair Park on Saturday, March 29, 2008, according to the schedule below.

NEW THIS YEAR - We've tried to make some improvements to the judges area this year. Tables organized by science category will be provided for you to eat/rest/work at. You will be assigned a tentative science category at check-in, but final judging groups in each category will not be fixed until end of orientation. After check-in, please find your table and grab some breakfast. Enclosed is an explanation of the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) criteria which should be used to evaluate all projects. Please familiarize yourself with these prior to the Regional Fair. We will provide pencils and scoring forms, but you should bring anything else you need (clipboard, calculator, pens, etc.).

Judging Schedule for Saturday, March 29, 2008 **Automobile Building, Fair Park**

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| 7:30 a.m. | Judge Check-in. A light breakfast is provided. |
| 8:00 a.m. | Judging Orientation. |
| 9 a.m. – Noon* | Round One of Judging
Round One Interviews with exhibiting students. (All judges participate.) |
| Noon | Students are dismissed from the Automobile Building. |
| 12:30 p.m. | All Round One judging results must be completed and turned in by 12:30 p.m. |
| Lunch | Judges may enjoy a complimentary lunch <i>after</i> turning in their Round One results. |
| 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.* | Round Two of Judging
Round Two judging (for Captains and any other Round One judges who wish to participate). All judges (except Grand Prize Judges) may leave after completion of Round Two. |
| 4:00 p.m. | Grand Prize Judges' Orientation. |
| 4:30 p.m. * | Final Round of Judging
Grand Prize Judging begins. |

* The schedules are approximate and may vary.

Judging Format

Because of the huge number of projects in the Fair and the need to do a thorough and fair evaluation, the judging process is broken down into several components. The projects are divided up among judging groups to ensure enough time for you to review every project and interview every student at least once. Your judge group will be decided at the Judge Orientation, so it is important to be punctual. We will attempt to assign you to your preferred science category, but flexibility is appreciated!

- **Round One of Judging**

Round One judging focuses on a group of projects within a science category to narrow the field down to the top projects in that group. Each judge will be part of a three-member judging group and will individually interview each student, record comments and scores. Your judging group members will then compare results and pick the best three projects in your group, in no particular order. These results are passed on to Round Two judges.

- **Round Two of Judging**

During Round Two, based on the project displays and Round One scores, judges will select the First-, Second-, and Third-place, by science category, and up to six Honorable Mentions. There are no interviews in this round. **We encourage you to give out six honorable mentions whenever possible. The more students we are able to reward, the better..**

- **Final Round of Judging**

Grand Prize winners will be selected by a new team of Grand Prize (Final Round) Judges who interview students with the top project in each science category.

First and Second Round judges will not be involved in this phase.

Dress Code

Please wear appropriate business attire and comfortable shoes – you will be doing a lot of walking..

Parking

Although free parking is available, we are at the mercy of other events going on in Fair Park simultaneously and the DART construction work. Please consult the fair website DallasScienceFair.org just before the fair for parking recommendations. After parking, enter the Automobile Building on the South side. Handicap parking is available immediately outside the South (main) entrance and in front of the main entrance to the Music Hall.

If we have your email address, an email reminder will be sent just before the fair. Your participation is essential to the success of The Beal Bank Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Please call us if you have any questions or if you will be unable to judge. The Fair Secretary's phone number is (214) 768-2495.

We very much look forward to seeing you on Saturday, March 29, 2008!

Sincerely,

Fred Olness
Fair Director
Southern Methodist University

Randall Scalise
Fair Director
Southern Methodist University

Simon Dalley
Fair Director
Southern Methodist University