Rules

2003-2004 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 the FSSEF.

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 / S.D.E.S.
PO Box 160160
Orlando, Fl 32816
(407) 823 – 4347
e-mail nbesley@mail.ucf.edu

or

Sharon Suits, Chairperson
FSSEF SRC
700 SW 2nd Ave.
Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 462-5000 ext#283 or #284
e-mail SuitsS@ocsb.okee.k12.fl.us
Abstract
Student abstracts for FSSEF MUST be on the approved ISEF Abstract form which is available at www.sciserv.org.

Bibliography
If a student uses procedures taken from a published study, laboratory standards, or equipment manual, a complete citation MUST be included in the Research Plan Attachment, part D, or the procedure MUST be written in complete detail into the research plan.

Non-Human Vertebrates
If the project involves use of non-human vertebrates a MORTALITY REPORT MUST be submitted with Form 5 to the Regional and State SRCs whether or not any deaths occurred. This form is also available from the FFFS website at www.fffs@ucf.edu.

Potential Pathogens
For ALL projects involving microorganisms, a detailed description of aseptic techniques utilized and disposal methods for media and cultures MUST be included in the Research Plan. Autoclaving at or above 121 degrees C for 30 minutes or more must be the documented method of disposal unless the research is conducted at an institution with adopted documentation indicating disposal by incineration. In cases where the incineration procedure has been adopted, this procedure must be thoroughly outlined in the Research Plan or cited in the Bibliography.

ALL MICROBIOLOGY PROJECTS involving cultivation of organisms on growth enhancement media MUST BE TREATED AND DOCUMENTED AS THOUGH THEY INVOLVED PATHOGENS.

Use of Controlled or Hazardous Substances
- Projects involving the use of controlled or hazardous substances MUST be reviewed by the SRC prior to experimentation.
- Contact the related state agency for documented permission and legal requirements.
- When chemicals are being used in the research corresponding MSDS citations MUST be made in the Bibliography.

Collection of Organisms or Artifacts
- Contact the related state agency for documented permission and legal requirements

- Any project involving collection of protected organisms, whether plants or animals, MUST include documentation from appropriate governmental agencies. The documentation would have the same requirements as those listed for vertebrate animals on page 17 - 4a) iii of the ISEF Rules.

- 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.