



## DELAWARE VALLEY SCIENCE FAIRS, INC.

TO: All Regional Fair Directors, DVSF Participants, Teachers, and Parents  
FROM: Henry Disston  
DATE: February 19, 2020  
RE: DVSF Schedule

Here is the schedule for the 2020 Delaware Valley Science Fairs at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA. Go to our website for directions and GPS address. Please distribute this information to those students who are going on to participate in DVSF. Note: You do not need a separate Registration Form for DVSF. We use the one you completed for your regional fair.

### Tuesday, April 7th

**Set-up** will open at 9:00 AM and continue throughout the day until 8:00 PM. You will be setting-up in Exhibit Hall A. When you arrive, you must pick up your packet at the registration tables to obtain your project number, badge and forms that need to be completed. Badges must be worn at all times in order to get on the exhibit floor. **Do not lose your badge and be sure to keep it visible when you arrive on Wednesday.** It is difficult and time consuming to have them replaced. Attached to this schedule you will find the **Check-in Procedures**. Please read them! You must have your project approved by the DVSF Display and Safety Committee (blue jackets) before you leave. You are permitted to have someone else set up your project, but make sure they check-in and get it approved. Also, make sure that whoever sets up your project gives you your badge and packet of information.

You must have a copy of your abstract. Please bring several with you. We cannot give you the one from our files and do not have a copier on site to make copies.

**IMPORTANT:** Attached is the Check-in Procedure Sheet. Please review these guidelines. They may be different from your local fair. For those students who worked in an outside laboratory, research institution, or industrial setting, you must display your **Form 1C**. If you did a continuation project, you must display your **Form 7**. These forms are required and very helpful for the judges.

**Please note:** Electrical hook-up is very expensive; therefore, we cannot provide electricity at your table. We will provide a separate location to accommodate your electrical needs. The best thing to do is not use electricity for your display. Remember, you will be judged on the science, not the show.

Because of the tight security, there is no need to worry about your project and your equipment (computers, etc.).

No one will be permitted to set up on Wednesday morning.

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### Wednesday, April 8th

**This is Judging Day!** Judges will arrive in the morning and after a brief meeting, will start looking at your project. You should arrive at the Expo Center **no earlier than 11:30 AM** so that you can be at your project at 12:00 noon when the interviews start. Judging could go until 5:30 PM. You cannot leave before everyone is dismissed. If you do, you will not be eligible for any awards. Winners' names and project numbers will be posted in the lobby and exhibit hall area after dismissal. They will also be posted on our website ([www.dvsf.org](http://www.dvsf.org)) later that night. To find out exactly what you have won, you need to attend the Awards Ceremony on Thursday (see below).

Only Judges and Participants are permitted on the floor during judging. However, there will be a designated area for teachers and parents in the Lobby area. **In case of emergencies**, 'Runners' will be available to get messages back and forth to the students. Several organizations will be offering free workshops in classrooms down the hall. See our website ([www.dvsf.org](http://www.dvsf.org)) for more information. Light refreshments and program books will be provided for teachers and parents in the afternoon. Internet access will be available (Wi-Fi) for a charge.

Students are permitted to bring food. The Expo Center will also have a concession stand for the students. There will be a charge for this as determined by the Expo Center's catering service.

Note: Unfortunately, the Fairs will not be open to the public on Thursday. Because of this, you will take your project with you after the judging. Make sure you have your Red Property Removal Pass. We ask that you do this in a calm and orderly fashion. Please be patient and things will proceed a lot better. Thank you!

### Thursday, April 9th

**The Awards Ceremony** will take place at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in the evening starting at **5:30 PM** in Exhibit Hall D. All are welcome! Please try to get there a little early because we would like to start on time. Keep in mind that Rt. 422 West bound always has heavy traffic that time of day. If you cannot attend, you should make arrangements to have someone pick up your award(s) that night. Sending the awards out is expensive, time consuming, and will be delayed until end of May. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Special Awards will be presented first. The Category Awards will then be presented at approx. 7:00 PM; starting with Grades 6-8 and moving on to Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11 and finally, Grade 12. Medal Winners and 1<sup>st</sup> place Team members will be asked to stay to the end when we will have a short meeting about the trip to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Phoenix, Arizona.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at: 215-895-5840 or [disstonh@drexel.edu](mailto:disstonh@drexel.edu). Also, check our website ([www.dvsf.org](http://www.dvsf.org)). **Good Luck!**



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## Delaware Valley Science Fairs (DVSF) Check-in Procedure Sheet - 2020

Your project must be checked in after it has been set up. You cannot leave until your project has been approved by DVSF Display and Safety. One of the Fair Officials (blue jackets) will sign the yellow Display Approval Form. Please complete the red Property Removal Pass and have it ready to be signed. Security will not allow you to remove your project board or equipment without it, so please take red Property Pass with you. The yellow form stays with your project.

Projects must adhere to the following safety regulations. These regulations are taken from the **International Rules for Precollege Research: Guidelines for Science Fairs**. Anything which could be hazardous for display is prohibited. Go to: <https://student.societyforscience.org/intel-isef-display-and-safety-regulations>.

### **\*\* Important \*\***

For continuation projects: Abstracts and Display Boards must reflect the current year's work only. The project title may mention years (for example, "Year Two of an Ongoing Study"). Supporting data books from previous research may be exhibited on the table, properly labeled as such. A Continuation Project Form (7) must be displayed.

### **Unacceptable for Display**

- 1 - Live or dead organisms, including plants, animals, preserved vertebrates/invertebrates (including embryos), dried plant materials, microbial cultures, fungi, and taxidermy specimens and parts.
- 2 - Human or animal food, including candy
- 3 - Human/animal parts or body fluids (such as blood, urine, etc.) (Exceptions: Teeth, hair, dried animal bones, histological dry mount sections, and completely sealed wet mount tissue slides).
- 4 - Soil or waste samples, either living, dead, or non-manufactured state (these samples are allowed if permanently encased/sealed; NOT in baggies). Sand, rocks, wood or manufactured construction materials used in building the project or display may be displayed if they pose no hazard or risk.
- 5 - Sharp items, including but not limited to, syringes, pipettes, or other similar devices.
- 6 - Laboratory or household chemicals including water. - If a small amount of water is integral to the functioning of the apparatus, this small amount will be allowed.
- 7 - Awards, medals, business cards, logos, institutional crests, or trademarks.
- 8 - School names, accomplishments, self-promotions, endorsements, acknowledgments of mentors/companies. (Acknowledgments may be included in the research papers or in a notebook but **not on the project board or abstract**).
- 9 - Completed informed consent/assent forms for human participant are NOT to be displayed and should NOT be present at the project display.
- 10 - QR Codes, Postal addresses, World Wide Web, email and/or social media addresses, and phone numbers

11 - Photographs or other visual presentations that depict: **a)** animals in other-than-normal conditions (i.e., surgical techniques, dissection, necropsies, other lab techniques, improper handling techniques or improper housing conditions, etc.), **b)** humans, other than self, family or persons for whom you have a written Informed Consent, or **c)** any offensive photographs or visual depictions as determined by the Fair officials.

12 - Hazardous substances or devices (including firearms, weapons, ammunition, reloading devices, flammable materials, and drones or any flight capable apparatus unless the propulsion power source removed.

13 - Dry ice or other sublimating solids

14 - Batteries with open tops

15 - Any apparatus with unshielded belts, pulleys chains or moving parts with tension or pinch points may not be operated.

16 – Glass or glass objects unless deemed to be integral and necessary part of the project.

17 – Any Apparatus deemed unsafe by DVSF.

Lasers (Class II) must be approved by the Display and Safety Committee. Class III and IV may not be operated.

High Voltage equipment (in excess of 12 volts) must be shielded to prevent shocks. All wiring must be insulated.

DVSF reserves the right to remove any items that do not comply with the display rules.

\* Under no circumstances are you to return parts to your exhibit that have been removed!

**An abstract must be displayed**, preferably on the board. This is important, since the judges look at these first. A data book and research paper are not required but are very strongly recommended. A project data book is your most treasured piece of work. Accurate and detailed notes make a logical and winning project!

**Maximum size of project: 30 inches deep, 48 inches wide, 108 inches high including table**

Those students who worked in an outside laboratory or research institution must display a copy of **Form 1C. The name of the institution must be blocked out.**

**Note: DVSF cannot provide you with a copy of your Abstract, Form 1C, or Form 7 from our files. You are required to bring your own. We will not have a copier on site.**

During the interview, the judges will want to ask you questions about your project and you should make a brief, appropriate response. This competition is not like Junior Academy of Science where you make an extended, formal presentation. Be prepared to share briefly what your project is about but also be prepared for questions. **It is an interview!**

If you have questions, read the International Rules & Guidelines 2019-2020. These are available on our web site ([www.dvsf.org](http://www.dvsf.org)) under 'Rules'. If you still have questions, contact Henry Disston, DVSF Executive Director at Drexel University (215-895-5840) or [disstonh@drexel.edu](mailto:disstonh@drexel.edu).