

Trial/Pilot Event Geographic Information



DESCRIPTION: Contestants will use a hand-held GPS device or app to follow a series of waypoints, then enter a computer lab to relate their travels using Google Earth.

A TEAM OF UP TO 2

APPROXIMATE TIME: 50 MINUTES

EVENT PARAMETERS: Contestants must supply a hand-held GPS unit or smart phone or tablet with a GPS app, a pen or pencil, and a clipboard. A portion of this event is held outside, so dress appropriately.

THE COMPETITION:

1. The contestants will be given a sequence of waypoints to follow to a finishing location.
2. At each waypoint, the contestants will obtain proof that they visited the waypoint.
3. Contestants will be timed from the moment that waypoints are provided until arriving at the finishing location.
4. Upon returning from the field, contestants will enter a computer lab to utilize Google Earth to mark the locations visited, identify related features, and to submit an electronic map of the area.

Timing will be kept to the nearest second then converted to a decimal (ie, 22:15 = 22.25; 23:20=23.33).

SCORING:

1. Each correct waypoint in the proper sequence will be given an assigned value.
2. Total time will be included in a formula that will be added to points from questions to determine the total score:

$$\text{Points from sequence \& questions} + \frac{[60 - \text{time to complete course}] \times \text{Points from questions}}{100} = \text{TOTAL SCORE}$$

Example: A team earns 62 points for questions and finishes in 42 minutes 15 seconds.

$$62 + \frac{[60 - 42.25] \times 62}{100} = 73.00 \text{ total points}$$

REFERENCE:

www.geocaching.com

www.geocachingworldwide.com

www.brillig.com/geocaching

National Science Education Standards: Earth and Space Science, Content Standard D: Structure of the Earth System

(Grades 5-8) Earth and Space Science, Content Standard E: Origin and Evolution of Earth's