

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 and pen or pencil and either:

- a hand-held GPS unit and digital camera
- a smart phone or tablet with a GPS app and camera app.

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 (ie, take a selfie; obtain a trinket from a cache).
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. Possible tasks include to assess the locations visited, identify related features, and/or answer questions about earth science, science history, and/or science topics relevant to the local area or state.

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

revised 05/01/16