

California Envirothon Rules

1. Each school may have up to two teams registered at one time. In the event that space for the California Envirothon event becomes limited, the Envirothon steering committee reserves the right to limit the number of teams from each school and the number of schools participating in the event each year. This will occur on a first come first serve basis.
2. Only students in grades 9 through 12 are eligible to compete in the California Envirothon. If the current winning team has enrolled students that have graduated after the California Envirothon event, they are still eligible to compete at the National Event. In the event that the winning team cannot send the same students that won the California Event, a named alternate may be inserted into the winning team. That named alternate must have been approved by the steering committee. If the first place team still cannot go, then the second place team will go on to the National Event.
3. Each team must consist of five members from the same school, organization, or club and must be sponsored by a California Resource Conservation District or an Association of RCD's. Each team is encouraged to have one alternate. That alternate could act as a volunteer for the event. **Any substitution to the competing team must receive approval from the Registration Subcommittee of the California Envirothon Steering Committee at least two weeks prior to the event.**
4. To compete in the California Envirothon, each team must submit a pre-registration form, along with a non-refundable fee. These forms, for the current year, will be sent to all member RCD's and all team advisors from the previous two years' events. Final registration forms will be sent to all team advisors who submitted pre-registration forms. Final registration forms must be typed, must contain both team members and advisors names, and must be accompanied by final registration fees, which are non-refundable. LATE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
5. Each team consists of five students and one advisor. If a team is a coed team, there must be a chaperone for each gender accompanying that team to the competition. Advisors will be responsible for their team's conduct at the host facility during the event. Any conduct deemed inappropriate by the Steering Committee of advisors or students, will be grounds for disqualification and dismissal from the event site. **TEAM MEMBERS AND ADVISORS MUST ATTEND ALL SCHEDULED EVENTS.** No team member or advisor may leave the California Envirothon site without first obtaining permission from the Steering Committee.
6. Advisors and/or Chaperones may not travel with, or speak to, their respective teams once the station testing has started. Provisions will be made for advisors to visit the test sites and view tests.

7. The five station testing, preliminary orals problem and the final orals problem, will be conducted and judged by resource professionals and educator's from the private sector, government or natural resources agencies when possible. **No person involved with a team may be a judge or serve on any part of the Steering Committee.** All judges decisions are final.

8. Study materials, suggested resources, and reading lists available at the California Envirothon website (<http://www.caenvirothon.com/>). Resource Conservation Districts are encouraged to provide each team with additional resource and training materials. Team Advisors should contact the Steering Committee directly in the event they are unable to access the Envirothon website.

9. All resource materials must be checked in upon arrival at the host site. Use of these materials or any other material other than what is provided at each test site is strictly prohibited, with the exception that each team may use a calculator. All materials that are checked in upon arrival will be returned at the end of competition.

10. The five station tests will be comprehensive in nature. Each station will be 30-45 minutes in length, including a brief orientation at each station. Teams will be given ONE hour to prepare the final problem solving oral presentation. The oral presentation will be a maximum of 15 minutes in length, followed by 5 minutes of questions by the judges. All five members of the team must participate orally in the presentation. Materials for visual aids will be provided to the teams. No other materials or props may be used. Judges will be instructed to reduce the points awarded for teams violating this rule.

11. During the competition, all team members and advisors must wear the California Envirothon T-shirt provided to them upon arrival. No school or team identification, either written or stated is permitted. The final three teams will receive new shirts for their final orals presentation.

a. Team shirts are not mandatory during entertainment events such as ice cream social, dance, volleyball games, etc., HOWEVER, no clothing or identification reflecting team or student name may be worn during these events.

b. Under California Envirothon rules, competition is defined from the time the team checks in upon arrival, until such time the winning team is identified.

c. NAME TAGS MAY NOT BE WORN AT ANY TIME BY COMPETING TEAMS.

d. The final three winning teams will receive new shirts for their final orals presentation.

12. All judges will be approved by the California Envirothon Steering Committee by the meeting one month prior to the event. A brief biography on each judge will be available in the program.

13. Each of the five test stations will be equally scored 1/7 each and the final problem will be scored 2/7. (see [Judges' Scoring Sheet](#) for Team Presentations) Scoring for the California Envirothon will be as follows:
- a. Each of the five test stations will be worth 1/7 of the score.
 - b. Preliminary oral presentations will be 2/7 of the score.
 - c. The results of 13A and 13B will be totaled together to determine the top three teams to advance to the final round.
 - d. In case of a tie, the tie breaker shall be based on the Current Issue score, Aquatics score, Forestry score, Soils score or the Wildlife score until the tie is broken.
 - e. Preliminary oral presentation scores will only be used to determine team placement for the final round.
 - f. Final team placement will be accumulative totals for five station test scores plus final oral presentation scoring only.
 - g. The high and low score will be thrown out for the oral presentations.
14. Any grievance may be submitted in writing by an advisor to the California Envirothon Steering Committee's "Grievance Committee" up until one hour after the close of the first day of competition. On the last day of competition the Committee will accept written or oral grievances up to 15 minutes after the 1st place team is announced. After that time all decisions are final.
15. Awards for the California Envirothon will be at the discretion of the California Envirothon Steering Committee.
- a. Each team member of the top three teams will receive an individual award.
 - b. The first place team and their Advisor will both receive the California Envirothon perpetual trophy for display. (which will be returned each year for passing on to the succeeding first place team.).
 - c. All team members and advisors will receive certificates of participation.
 - d. The team that places first at each station will receive an award.
16. All team members and advisors will be required to complete an evaluation form of the Event. Resource professionals, volunteers and guests will be requested to complete an evaluation form of the Event.
17. Tobacco, drugs and alcohol are strictly prohibited during the event. Rules applicable to the host site will be strictly observed.
18. Fees for housing, meals and transportation will be the responsibility of each team. Every effort will be made to keep these fees to a minimum. The sponsoring Resource Conservation District is encouraged to help their teams with fund-raising efforts.
19. All participants of the California Envirothon are expected to conduct themselves in an ethical manner appropriate to this youth education environment. The Steering Committee reserves the right to exclude

participation from future events. Refer to Rule 5.

20. Any infraction of the California Envirothon rules could result in disqualification and dismissal from the event and the host site. All rules are weighted the same. All decisions of the Envirothon Steering committee are final.

Rules and Regulations of the California Envirothon are subject to change by the California Envirothon Steering Committee. Any and all changes will be explained in advance to all registered teams and advisors. Canon Envirothon Rules and Regulations will govern any questions which are not covered by the California Rules. However the Canon Envirothon Rules do not supersede any California Rules.

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