



# COLORADO

## Hello Up Close Teams!

Congratulations on a wonderful season! We saw some great solutions at all of the regional tournaments that rocked our (micro)world! While our challenge this year has been a lot of fun, there have been a few problem areas. We wanted to highlight a few things that we saw multiple teams stumble over to give you the best performance at the affiliate tournament that we can.

### Close Up Specific Problems

- While we normally love to see stories set in locations that are out of this world, for this year's task the challenge specifically clarifies that the microworld must be a real earth based environment. So, if you feel like you may be floating too far off in to space or going somewhere straight out of a fantastical fiction story, you may need to bring the story back to Earth.
  - *For this Challenge, a Microworld is a real, Earth-based environment that is too small for humans to see clearly without using a microscope. (TC A.7)*

### General Challenge Requirements

- This year has definitely been a learning year for DI! We love to see all of the new faces that have decided to embark on a new creative journey, but it does mean learning how to deal with some of the standard requirements that you will see associated with every challenge.
- One of these little details is the matter of the expense report. While it may seem like a trivial detail, the intent of having an expense report is to keep the playing field level. We don't want a team to win simply because they had access to more expensive materials to build with. So, please do spend some time making sure to fill the expense report out! It will certainly make the life of your prep appraiser easier and cause us less headaches on the back end.
- Something that has been said before, but always needs to be said again is that you should always make sure to give proper attention to creating your Team Choice Elements. They are not factored in to the main challenge, but actually count as their own special category. They end up being worth 15% of your final score! So, to that end, don't just make it something that you choose last minute, but make it something that the team is really excited to present to the appraisers. It can also help to make sure that your TCE is not already a different scored element, because that is considered double dipping.
  - *A Team Choice Element must not be a specific item that is required in the Central Challenge that is already being evaluated. A Team Choice Element may be a single unique part of a required item, as long as an Appraiser can identify it by itself. Or, the Team Choice Element may be a larger item that includes a required element, as long as the Appraisers can clearly identify the required element as a single unique part of the Team Choice Element. (RotR VII.B.6)*

### Other Items to Note

- The campus has a strict no-tolerance policy in terms of weapons, so please note that no three-dimensional weapons of any kind (team created or not) will be allowed
- Any scores not picked up by 3:00pm will be added to the final score packets that will be handed out after awards

If you are feeling unsure of anything or have any questions, please reach out to us so that we can help. Good luck! Have fun! We look forward to seeing you on April 2nd!

Hope to see you up close soon,  
Isaiah, Jennifer, and Kira