APPRAISERS AND TOURNAMENT HELPERS

**APPRAISERS** are the people who make up the *Appraisal Teams* that evaluate the teams’ preparations and solutions that are presented at the tournaments, or who help make that process possible. Appraisers are registered in advance on the Texas DI website.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPRAISERS:

* minimum age is 18
* available for training (approximately 3 - 4 hours)
* available to remain with the appraisal team through all Tournament performances (approximately 8 hours)
* work with Challenge Master to reflect a POSITIVE and ENCOURAGING attitude to all children and adults encountered at Tournament

**TOURNAMENT HELPERS** are the people who do not receive training prior to the tournament and get an assignment to help where needed from the Volunteer Coordinator.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR TOURNAMENT HELPER:

* preferred age 18 or over, but may be a mature high school student
* available on day of tournament, either part-time or full day
* provide name and contact information to Volunteer Coordinator, preferably in advance
* whatever help you provide, reflect a POSITIVE and ENCOURAGING attitude to all children and adults encountered at Tournament

REWARDS FOR APPRAISERS AND ALL-DAY HELPERS:

* everyone helping all day is provided with snacks, beverages, and a hot lunch (at tournament)
* an *Official’s* Tournament T-shirt
* a Certificate for hours of community service / continuing education
* Satisfaction in making this day possible for all of these children

**WHAT WOULD I DO AS AN APPRAISER?**

There are Scoring and Non-Scoring “jobs” on the Appraisal Team. Some of the positions available are:

**Non-Scoring:**

* + **PREP AREA :** Greet teams, helping to relax the DI team immediately prior to performance, making sure all are present, taking up the Tournament Data forms, checking paperwork and explaining procedures, guiding team into final area before performance
	+ **ANNOUNCER**: Talks with DI team and introduces them to the appraisers and the audience; may explain the challenge to audience; tells team when to begin; may also serve as timer
	+ **TIMER**: Uses stopwatch to mark any time requirements in the challenge

**Scoring**: Using a rubric for scoring, provide a numerical value to specified points on the Appraiser Score Sheet. Consistency is an important asset in this position.

Remember, all appraisers get training so everyone knows what to expect and is prepared. Refer to [www.gfwdi.org](http://www.gfwdi.org) for information on Appraiser Training.

If you are not available to train on our Greater Ft. Worth date, arrangements can be made for you to train in another region and appraise at the GFW Tournament. We try to place people in positions that are fun and compatible.

**WHAT WOULD I DO AS A TOURNAMENT HELPER????**

Tournament Helpers may be asked to work the check in desk for Instant Challenge or at the Volunteer Desk. They may be door-keepers (so that a team’s performance is not interrupted), or may direct or escort teams from one area to another,. Helpers monitor teams in holding rooms or in chill-out rooms (Instant Challenge), provide support in Rising Stars, assist in hospitality, help transport materials/supplies to various sites, or perform any service you negotiate with the Volunteer Coordinator

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**SO WHO DO I ASK TO BE AN APPRAISER???**

***NOT TEAM MANAGERS! NOT PARENTS!*** They want to watch their own teams/children perform. However, they can help find good candidates.

* People who are interested in Destination Imagination but don’t know much about it. Try other teachers, especially those that teach G/T programs, new teachers, student teachers, librarians, art teachers, long-term substitute teachers, school administrators, or reach out to youth directors from church, and/or retired teachers’ associations.
* Professionals that would have a special interest in a particular challenge (i.e. pilots for flight challenges, police officers for criminal justice, engineers for structure or instant challenges).
* Graduates from your school’s ISD that participated in a creative problem solving organization while they were in school, or THEIR parents!
* Retired folks who are active and have a little time (maybe someone from church or a civic group).
* College students in need of community service hours

**WHO CAN BE A TOURNAMENT HELPER???**

Parents and family can be helpers. Once the Team Challenge schedule is published, about 2 weeks before tournament, family can volunteer for a half day shift that does not conflict with the team’s performance time. Helpers who cannot attend training can provide service for the full day, or for a half day. Team supplied Helpers must work a full day.

**REGISTRATION as Appraiser/Tournament Helper**

* To register as an APPRAISER, go to [www.gfwdi.org](http://www.gfwdi.org) and click on REGISTRATION in the green bar, then on APPRAISER. If you registered in the past, use the same user name and password to LOG-ON. If not, click CREATE AN ACCOUNT, provide the requested information, then SAVE. You will receive an **email with a link** WHICH YOU MUST USE TO COMPLETE your registration. Now you can LOG ON with that information. Follow the directions and answer your preferences, remembering that you are helping with GFW Regional Tournament.
* To register as a TOURNAMENT HELPER, email your name and cell phone number to monicapadilla@ems-isd.net. Please tell us if you are representing a team (full day commitment) or if you are volunteering for a half day.