

OCTOBER 2011

TO ALL SCIENCE FAIR ADVISORS:

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALTHOUGH THE SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR IS SENDING YOU MATERIALS FOR THE REGIONAL FAIR VIA EMAIL, ALL MATERIALS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE BY USPS OR HAND DELIVERY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT THE DATE FOR THE REGION V FAIR (MARCH 10) IS EARLIER THAN USUAL, WHICH MAY LEAD TO SCHEDULING PROBLEMS FOR SOME OF YOU.

IF THIS IS SO, PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE REGION V COMMITTEE SO THAT WE CAN STAY ON TOP OF ANY PROBLEMS THAT MAY ARISE.

LAST, REMEMBER THAT YOU MAY DOWNLOAD ALL SCIENTIFIC AND SAFETY REVIEW FORMS FROM WWW.SCIFAIR.COM.

October 2011

Dear Science Fair Advisor,

The **54th** South Shore Regional Science Fair (SSRSF), Massachusetts Region V, will be held:

Saturday, March 10, 2012

Bridgewater State University Science Building

Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, Ma.

(If snow causes poor road conditions on the morning of the fair, registration and set-up will be postponed 2 hours until 9:30 a.m. If snow **closes the college**, the fair will be held on Sunday, March 11. Information regarding closing may be obtained at 508-531-1777.)

Close to 200 students from around the South Shore attend the Regional Science Fair where they discuss their scientific work with qualified judges and interact with other students from various schools who share their interest in science. The top 40* winners are entitled to go on to the **Massachusetts State Science and Engineering Fair**, held May 3 - May 5, 2012 at M. I. T. Our top two winners are sent (pending funding) to the International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) to be held this year in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 13th - 18th, 2012.

Last year the South Shore Region was well represented at the ISEF in Los Angeles. Over the past 40 plus years our Region V students have been extraordinarily successful at both the State and International levels, winning top honors and establishing a reputation for excellence for student scientists in our region.

I have enclosed the following, which you should read carefully:

1. Rules for Eligibility in the SSRSF
2. Rules for Student Science Fair Projects
3. Check list for a successful science fair

To be eligible to enter the South Shore Regional Science Fair, the Massachusetts State Science and Engineering Fair or the International Science and Engineering Fair each student must complete the Teacher-Supervisor Research Plan and Safety Review Student Plan 1A, Approval Form 1B and Form 1 (see Massachusetts State High School Science and Engineering Fair Individual Research Plan) and any other forms necessary for their project **prior to the start of experimental research.**

All students doing research in a restricted area must submit all necessary forms to the South Shore Regional Science Fair Safety Review Committee prior to the start of research, and receive confirmation of clearance prior to start of any experimental research. If the project is changed in any way, the paper work must be resubmitted for clearance.

*** The number of students continuing with the MSSEF is determined by the number of projects at the Regional Fair but will be at least 40.**

Please note that the date for the Region V Fair (March 10) is earlier than usual, which may cause problems for some of you. If so, please contact the Region V Committee so that together we may deal with such situations.

The MSSEF will be held from May 3rd to May 5th, 2012. The Workday for the State Fair is March 31st. This is the day when the Operating Committee and other executives of the MSSEF meet to assign projects to judges and produce other materials for the fair. This early date is the main reason for the date chosen in Region V.

All projects in the following areas of study require approval from the SSRSF Safety Review Committee (SRC) and the completion of additional forms before experimentation begins: **potentially hazardous biological agents, vertebrate animals, human animal tissue, human subjects, hazardous chemical agents or devices, or research performed in an industrial setting** (see Rules for Science Fair Projects).

No student may submit a project as an individual project that was begun as a team project in a summer program or any other program.

Any project including methods learned in a previous year must be considered a continued project and must include any previous year's abstract and forms as required.

Registration materials will be sent to you at a later date with map, schedule of events and additional information. Also please note that the deadline for payment of the Registration Fee of \$ 10 per project (Maximum: \$ 150) is February 17, 2012. (Invoice is included.)

We take pride in offering our students an opportunity to explore their interest in science by attending the fair. We hope that you and your students will be able to join us this year for a very special event - the 54th South Shore Regional Science Fair.

Sincerely,

Daniel T. Adams, Ph.D.
Director, SSRSF RegionV

A reminder that the South Shore Regional Science Fair will accept TEAM PROJECTS for the 2012 fair.

Please be advised that, subject to funding and to a sufficiently high ranking, the South Shore Regional Science Fair may send one team to the 2012 ISEF. More information will be forthcoming.

Teams must conform to the following rules:

Teams must have at least two and no more than three members

Each team must have a student leader

No more than three teams will be allowed per school

Once declared as a team project, the project may never become an individual project in that year or any subsequent year

On the day of the fair, all members of the team must be present or the project will not be judged

Awards will be shared among team members. Example: if \$ 100 is awarded to a particular project, this amount must be divided between or among team members

RULES FOR ELIGIBILITY
South Shore Regional Science Fair - Region V

Each senior high school in Region V (Southeastern Massachusetts) may enter five (5) student exhibitors directly into the South Shore Regional Science Fair. If a high school holds a local school fair, the total number of entries into the regional fair may be five (5) plus 10% of that school's entries in the local fair. The total number of entries from a school cannot exceed fifteen (15). A registration fee of ten dollars (\$ 10) per project to a maximum of \$ 150 is required. This is payable by check made out to:

“South Shore Regional Science Fair: Massachusetts Region V” and sent to:

Mr. John Young
20 Liberty Road
Marshfield MA 02050-4728

The deadline for this payment is February 17, 2012.

If the ninth grade is not in the high school, a maximum of two (2) ninth grade student exhibitors from each junior high school within a town may enter the regional fair.

Participants in the South Shore Regional Science Fair must be recommended by a school faculty sponsor (department head, science fair advisor, science coordinator, etc...) and fit into one of the two categories below:

- 1) is a winner of his/her local school fair or
- 2) is a student who has completed an outstanding science or math project, but has no local fair in which to compete.

Before starting work, obtain the proper confirmation forms especially those needed for projects involving recombinant DNA, human subjects, tissues, vertebrates, pathogens and controlled substances. If you have not received this information, please contact:

Mrs. Mary Young
20 Liberty Road
Marshfield MA 02050-4728
781-834-7102
339-793-3339

Dr. Daniel T. Adams
P.O. Box 142
W. Bridgewater 02379
508-588-1993

INVOICE

Date: September 2011

To: School Name: _____
School Address: _____
Contact Person: _____
(Science Department Head)

From: South Shore Regional Science Fair: Massachusetts Region V

2012 Registration Fee for South Shore Regional Science Fair: \$10 (ten dollars) per project
Massachusetts Region V (Maximum: \$ 150)

Terms: Payable on receipt to
"South Shore Regional Science Fair: Massachusetts Region V"

Number of projects _____ × \$ 10 = \$ _____ enclosed

Mail to: Mr. John Young, Treasurer of S.S.R.S.F.
20 Liberty Road
Marshfield MA 02050 - 4728

RULES FOR SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

The South Shore Science Fair has adopted the following rules set by the Massachusetts State Science and Engineering Fair Committee. These are issued to prevent cruel and abusive treatment of animals during the preparation of science projects.

1. Students are strongly urged to select plants or invertebrate animals for scientific investigation. Among the animals, invertebrates are especially suitable because of their variety and availability.
2. No experiments using vertebrates (even discarded tissue or organs) shall involve surgery, drugs, anesthetics, ionizing radiation, or carcinogens.
3. A student who plans to work with potentially hazardous biological agents, recombinant DNA, vertebrates, human subjects, tissue, pathogens and/or controlled substances must obtain and complete compliance forms and have them approved by the Region V Scientific Review Committee (SRC) PRIOR to the start of the project. Students must pay careful attention to rules involving human subjects. Obtain forms from the web site: scifair.com.

If you have specific questions, please contact:

Mary Young
20 Liberty Road
Marshfield MA 02050-4728
781-834-7102
Email: scifairV@aol.com

These forms have to be submitted in March WITH the registration form for the South Shore Regional Science Fair.

4. Each student submitting a project using vertebrates must have a teacher-supervisor who is qualified in the proper care of animals. The supervisor must assume the primary responsibility for compliance with these guidelines.
5. If vertebrate animals are used for experimental purposes, such experiments must be pre-planned and conducted in such a manner that respect for basic animal life and all humane considerations are fully understood and observed by the student.
6. Students using animals for investigation must provide for the proper housing, food, water, exercise, cleanliness, handling, and protection from environmental extremes at all times.
7. Any project which does not conform to these guidelines, or which in any way involves cruel and abusive treatment of an animal, will be excluded from the fair.
8. No ingestion of ANY chemical by humans is allowed.
9. Hypodermic needles may not be used.

Any student or teacher who is unsure of a project's compliance with the guidelines should submit a description of the project to Mrs. Mary Young at the address given above.

WELCOME TO THE SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR
1ST REGISTRATION PACKET

CHECK LIST FOR A SUCCESSFUL FAIR EXPERIENCE:

PRIOR TO JANUARY 1ST

- Have students complete Research Plan forms prior to any data collection (download forms from www.scifair.com).
- Have students conducting projects requiring prior approval by a Safety Review Committee fill out the necessary extra forms (See enclosed form “Rules for Science Fair Projects”).
- Send copies of forms for all projects requiring prior approval to the SRC (send to Mary Young, contact information enclosed). **All mailings must be in the SRC's hands by January 1, 2012.**
- Check for project approval online at www.scifair.com.

By February 28th

- Email SSRSF Chair, Dan Adams (zjadajada@aol.com), with the name, project title, and area of project of all students that you may be registering for the fair.

By March 2nd

- Registration forms for each project received by the South Shore Regional Science Fair Registration Committee. (Include Safety Review Forms for each student.)

By February 17th

- Registration fee (\$10 per project, \$150 maximum) (form and instructions enclosed) received by South Shore Regional Science Fair Treasurer.

IF YOUR FAIR DATE MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO MEET THE MARCH DEADLINES, CONTACT DR. ADAMS ASAP.

BE SURE TO CHECK ALL ENCLOSED PAGES FOR IMPORTANT FAIR INFORMATION!

Clarification of Policies, South Shore Regional Science Fair

1. In all matters pertaining to the good order of the South Shore Regional Science Fair (SSRSF), the decisions of the SSRSF Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
2. All materials relating to the judging process are the exclusive property of the SSRSF Committee.
- 3. All mailings must be in the hands of the SRC Committee by January 1, 2012.**
4. Students and advisors must keep in mind that the program for the 2012 SSRSF is as follows:
 - 7:30-8:30 AM Registration, setting up of projects and safety checks
 - 8:30 AM -1:00 PM JUDGING OF PROJECTS
 - 1:00-2:00 PM LUNCH. Exhibitors must provide for their own lunch. Local restaurants are available.
 - 2:00-4:45 PM Fair open to the public. Exhibitors should remain near their projects.
 - 5:00-6:00 PM AWARDS CEREMONY
 - 6:00-6:45 PM Dismantling of projects. No student is to take down his or her project prior to 6:00. Award winners register for the Massachusetts State Science and Engineering Fair at MIT, May 5 to May 7. Bring a pen. ISEF winners need to remain for further information.
5. Student exhibitors are expected to be present for **all** activities. Any deviation from this expectation should be brought to the attention of the SSRSF Committee **as soon as possible** and **no later than one week prior to the fair**. The SSRSF Committee will take whatever action it deems appropriate in response. It is possible that such deviation may affect student place in the award standings as well as other outcomes that may accrue to the student.
6. Student exhibitors must understand that the judging process begins at 8:30 A.M. However, it **does not end when a student has been judged three times**. Rather, the process is not complete until **all judging cards have been returned to the Judging Committee**. In addition, there are donors of several special awards who require that their own representatives inspect the projects so that they make recommendations of candidates deemed worthy of consideration by the SSRSF Awards Committee. Therefore, students who are not present for the entire judging until they are released by the SSRSF Committee may jeopardize their final standing as well as their eligibility for special awards.
7. Emergencies do arise that cause a student to leave the fair before it is completed. The SSRSF Committee will make every effort to accommodate such a student as to placement and awards but cannot guarantee that either standing or awards or both of these will not be affected by such absence.