

SPECIAL NOTICE – ISEF RULES APPLY TO ALL FAIRS

International Rules for Precollege Science Research: Guidelines for Science and Engineering Fairs / 2007-2008

lists all of the rules for the Intel ISEF and all affiliated fairs. This booklet is available at the Science Service web site <http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/document/Rule2008.pdf>. If hard copies of this handbook are required and cannot be accessed on the Internet, please contact the Regional Science Fair Director. Strict adherence to each of the International Rules is necessary for the protection of the student, the teacher/sponsor, and any experimental subjects. *Federal laws or regulations mandate all of these rules*, and in many cases these are referenced.

To assure compliance with all of the rules, certification forms are provided in the International Rules. A general outline of the rules is given on pages 4-10, with the Intel ISEF Display and Safety Regulations listed on pages 6-8. Please note the rules for ALL PROJECTS on pages 9-10. *Each project* must have the following completed Forms: **Checklist for Adult Sponsor, Form (1)**, p. 29; the **Student Checklist (1A)**, p. 30; **Research Plan** (described on p. 31); and **Approval Form (1B)**, p. 32, for *each* individual or team member. Projects continued for a second or third year must also complete the **Continuation Projects Form (7)**, p. 41, and include copies of all previous years' forms.

Any projects conducted in a research institution must have a signed **Registered Research Institutional/Industrial Setting Form (1C)**, p. 33. Other forms may be required for specific types of projects, although many projects do not require other forms and/or approvals. Each of the forms indicates when it is to be used. See the specific headings for the rules which give details of any specific additional forms for each type of project. To assist in determining if additional forms are required there is an "Intel ISEF Rules Wizard" on the ISEF web site at <http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/students/wizard/index.asp>. Students should ***always retain the original forms*** in their project notebooks and ***send copies with entry forms***. All required forms are available on-line, linked from the ISEF web site http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/about/rules_regulations.asp. These forms may be completed on the computer before they are printed, except for required signatures which must be obtained after printing

PLEASE USE THE NEW 2007-2008 FORMS FOR ALL PROJECTS. ISEF REQUIRES USE OF CURRENT FORMS (available @ <http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/document/form2008.pdf>).

An Institutional Review Board (IRB) at the local school level must review every project involving humans in any aspect (subjects, respondents to a questionnaire, or any other direct involvement). Pages 11-12 of the International Rules describe the composition and function of the IRB. Specific rules and the list of required forms for human subjects are listed on pages 13-16 of the International Rules. Please note that **all** subjects younger than 18 years old must have a parent/guardian's informed consent **before** participating in the experiment, unless the IRB waives informed consent for surveys or questionnaires and justifies that decision on the **Human Subjects Form (4)**, p.36.

Projects requiring a review by a Scientific Review Committee (SRC) may be reviewed by a local SRC. This allows for direct contact and supervision, and will save time in processing research plans when necessary. The local SRC and the IRB may have the same membership, provided that it is properly constituted (see pages 11-12 of the International Rules). An SRC requires at least three persons, including at least one biomedical scientist (Ph.D., M.D., D.V.M., D.D.S., or D.O.) and a science teacher. One member must be familiar with proper animal care procedures. One member is designated as the chairman. (See page 12 in the International Rules.) If a local SRC cannot be formed, students' projects may be reviewed by the Regional Science Fair SRC, but additional time would be required for review and approval. It will be much easier for students if there is a local SRC. The Operational Guidelines for Scientific Review Committees & Institutional Review Boards is available from Science Service for those who need them. A summary of duties is listed at http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/aff_fairs/aff_review.pdf. If you need a hard copy of these Guidelines and cannot access them on the Internet, please contact the Regional Science Fair Director. The ISEF requires that you follow these Guidelines. The Regional Science Fair or its Director should approve the composition of the committees. This must be done in writing before the SRC's or IRB's review project forms. If the local fair has an SRC or IRB, the membership should be reported to the Regional Science Fair Director as soon as possible. At the conclusion of a local fair, please provide the Regional Science Fair Director with statistical information regarding the number and types of projects reviewed by your committee, and their disposition, in order for the Regional Science Fair to be able to complete its reports to ISEF.

All photographs or videos of persons must be accompanied by releases signed by a responsible adult, either a parent/guardian of a juvenile or the individual(s) if they are of legal age, for each individual in the photograph or video.

The ISEF Student Handbook is an excellent resource for students. It may be accessed on the Science Service website at <http://www.societyforscience.org/isef/document/hbk2008.pdf>. It answers many questions that students typically ask. It also serves as a guide for step-by-step action in completing science projects. Additional resources and links are also available on Science Service's home page.