

Kansas Envirothon Competition Rules

A. Participation Requirements

1. Participation in the Kansas Envirothon events is open to students 14-19 years old and enrolled in grades 9 through 12 or equivalent home school ranking in the current school year.
2. All teams must be affiliated with their local conservation district.
3. Each team will consist of five students from the same school, home-schooled group or local organization.
 - a. Any team that is classified under a home-schooled group or local organization must have prior approval from the Kansas Envirothon Committee in order to compete in the Envirothon program.
 - b. Schools, home-schooled groups or local organizations that draw students from multiple counties will be allowed to have Envirothon team members who reside in adjoining counties. Such teams will represent the county in which the school or organization is based.
4. An adult team advisor representing the school, home-schooled group or local organization will accompany the team(s) during organized competition activities.
 - a. Advisors will be responsible for the behavior of team members and ensure that teams display proper conduct during the competition and at the host facilities.
 - b. A District staff member can participate as a team advisor; however, they will fulfill only those duties and not be allowed to be part of testing preparation, grading, tabulation or oral presentation judging at any time.
 - c. Teams must arrange for chaperones for male and female team members if overnight travel is required. Those individuals must be at least 21 years old.
5. Conservation Districts will be responsible for registration and certification forms being submitted by team advisors by the deadline and payment of fees for the teams from their county for the competition year.
6. All participants (team members, advisors, volunteers and staff) must submit a completed Attendees Release Form prior to the start of competition.
7. Participants or sponsoring organizations will not be excluded due to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or gender identity. Any accommodations will be considered with prior notice.
8. Use or possession of illegal drugs, tobacco, vaping and alcohol are prohibited during any part of Envirothon competitions. No weapons of any kind are allowed. Rules applicable to the local area or host facilities will also be enforced.

B. Competition Rules

1. Regional Competitions

- a. Teams may participate in only one regional competition.
- b. A limit of three teams per school or organization may participate in regional events.
- c. Certification of team members is not required for regional competitions.
- d. Teams with fewer than five members will be allowed to compete at Regional events.
- e. Teams will be tested in Aquatic Ecology, Current Environmental Issue, Forestry, Rangeland, Soils/Land Use and Wildlife at Regional events, with each test worth 100 points. No notes will be allowed during testing. Three tie-breaker questions will be placed at the end of each test (each worth different points) and labeled as such. Students may use a clipboard provided by the committee only.

2. Kansas Envirothon “State” Competition

- a. One team from each school or sponsoring organization may compete in the Kansas Envirothon.
- b. Members of each team participating in the Kansas Envirothon will be certified by the team advisor. Up to five team alternates may be listed on the certification form. Any changes or substitutions other than replacing a team member with an alternate are not allowed without a compelling reason and prior approval of the Kansas Envirothon Committee.
- c. No extra team members (more than five per team) will be allowed to participate in the Kansas Envirothon.
- d. Teams with fewer than five members may be allowed to participate with approval of the Kansas Envirothon Committee.
- e. Teams will be tested in Aquatic Ecology, Current Environmental Issue, Forestry, Soils/Land Use, Rangeland and Wildlife, with each test worth 100 points. Three tie-breaker questions will be placed at the end of each test (each worth different points) and labeled as such. No notes will be allowed during testing. Students can use a clipboard provided by the competition only.
- f. Teams are required to participate in the Oral Presentation component, which will be worth 100 points. Specific requirements and the oral presentation scenario will be posted on the Kansas Envirothon website each year.
- g. The Kansas Envirothon champion team will represent Kansas in the NCF Envirothon competition. If for any reason that team cannot participate in the NCF Envirothon, the second-place team will be the Kansas representative.

3. General Rules

- a. Possession or use of electronic devices of any kind by team members or advisors is prohibited during Envirothon competitions, unless provided by the committee.
- b. Advisors may observe the training sessions during the regional competitions **only if the host permits**, but no photo or video taking is permitted. Advisors will not be allowed to have contact with team members during testing. Notes taken from training sessions will not be allowed during testing. Teams can use a clipboard provided by the competition only. Upon arrival at the state competition, the advisors will be separated from their students immediately and until the end of testing has finished. (Advisors may not participate in training sessions during the state competition and will not have contact with team members during testing or Oral Presentation rounds).
- d. Team will forfeit any points for missed tests. No alterations to the test schedules will be allowed.
- e. Any accommodations for health and/or mobility will be considered.
- f. Overall team placements will be determined by the cumulative point totals from the resource tests and the oral presentation.
- g. Awards as determined by the Kansas Envirothon Committee will be presented to winning teams at the Kansas Envirothon.
- h. Infractions of these rules or cheating in any form may result in penalties or disqualification from any events.
- g. Judges’ decisions are final.
- h. Envirothon competitions will adhere to the rules of the Kansas State High School Activities Association when applicable.
- i. Expenses for transportation, meals and lodging for Envirothon competitions will be the responsibility of the teams and/or local conservation district.
- j. These rules are subject to change at the discretion of the Kansas Envirothon Committee. Any changes will be explained to teams and advisors prior to the start of competition.

Oral Presentation Rules

Overview

Oral Presentations are the ultimate challenge in Envirothon competition. Team members are required to work together to develop and stage a ten-minute presentation on a scenario related to the current issue topic for the year. In Kansas, Oral Presentations are not used at regional events but are a mandatory element at the Kansas Envirothon competition. Presentations will need to be on a USB drive and handed in on the day of competition. Advisors will be asked to email the presentation ahead of time. Presentations not submitted by the stated deadline will receive a ten (10) point deduction on their oral presentation score.

The Process

1. Oral Presentation is required for all teams competing in the Kansas Envirothon competition. 100 points are possible for a ten-minute presentation.
2. Presentation notes may only be printed on 3x5 index cards. These will be collected at registration and given to the team before their presentation time.
3. Visual aides may consist of digital media including power point presentations (ex: Microsoft, Canva and pdf) created by the team. No movies or video clips will be included in the power points. These visual aides are intended to be used as an adjunct to the Oral Presentation and not as the actual presentation. Please bring a copy to registration on a USB drive, we will return it to you after the competition.
4. Each team will also be given a team number at the time of registration. The team will only identify themselves by this number when giving their presentation.
5. It is the Kansas Envirothon Committee's intention that this presentation be researched, written and the power point prepared by the team members. Follow-up questions from the judges may be used to further assess the student's actual knowledge of the subject.
6. A portion of each team's presentation score will be based on equal participation of **ALL TEAM MEMBERS**. Each team member is expected to take an active role in the oral presentation.
7. Scoring will be based on the *Team Presentation Scoring and Judging Criteria*
8. Teams will receive the judges' scoring sheets.

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