



## 2012-2013 Middle School Competitive Events Guide Updates At-A-Glance

This list is in no means inclusive of every change in the new middle school guide. This is just a first look at the new middle school events released in June 2011. Please be sure to complete your chapter affiliation in a timely manner in order to get the most up-to-date rules and guidelines.

- **A new scoring rubric.** The new rating form/rubric provides a way for TSA members to better prepare for competitions, for advisors to carefully assist them in the process, and for judges to effectively evaluate participants and their entries with consistency.

The rating forms/rubrics in the guide are comprised of clear and concise descriptors for three levels of performance (minimal, adequate and exemplary) for the evaluative criteria for each competitive event. It is the hope of national TSA that the CRC initiative and the new rating forms/rubrics will provide numerous benefits to the TSA community, not the least of which is an enhanced educational experience for our greatest asset – TSA student members.

- **New Themes.** See <http://www.tsaweb.org/Themes-and-Problems> for the complete list.
- **New Events.** These include Community Service Video, Promotional Design and Transportation Systems.
  - Community Service Video - Create and submit a finished video, capable of being played on a standalone DVD player that depicts your local TSA chapter's service with the American Cancer Society, national TSA's service partner.
  - Promotional Design - Participants create and produce a color pin design that is appropriate for trading at the national TSA conference.
  - Transportation Systems - Participants apply and document the engineering design process, mathematical principals and scientific concepts used in the research, design, construction, testing and evaluation of a rubber band-powered boat. Performance ratings of the boat will be based on a combination of speed and payload capability measurements.
- **Returning Events with New Names.** Zap It! Has been dropped, and the event is again called Electrical Applications. Technical Writing is now Essays on Technology. Electronic Gaming is now Video Game Design. Engineering Structure has assumed its original name as Structural Engineering.
- **Deleted Events.** Graphic Design, Lights, Camera, Action, Robot TOBOR, TSA Cup: Marine Design Challenge