

PROBLEM PROCEDURES FOR PROBLEM 5: **THE OSTRICH FACTOR**



Approximately 15 minutes before the team's scheduled competition time, the Staging Area Judge will meet all team members and the coach in the pre-staging area (if a pre-staging area is used, otherwise in the staging area) to review all pre-competition requirements. At this time, team members will bring props, scenery, the membership sign, and present two copies of its list as described in the long-term problem.

The Staging Area Judge will also check for non-penetrable foot coverings, and require team members to put on shoes/sneakers if they do not comply with requirements; answer any team questions; identify the Head Judge for the coach so they can meet for scores at a designated time after the team performance; and introduce them to the Timekeeper/Staging Area Judge.

The staging area will be the team's designated starting point for its timed performance. Adults may assist the team in carrying equipment to the Staging Area, which will be adjacent to the performance area. However, after props, etc. are placed in the Staging Area, no one may assist the performing long-term members in any way until the performance is completed.

Each team will have 3 minutes to clear the pre-staging area. The 3 minutes are in addition to the 8-minute presentation time. If no pre-staging area is used, the team must remove its props, scenery, etc. from the staging area

within 3 minutes after its competition time begins.

The Judge will introduce the team to the audience, request silence from the audience, and indicate if the team will allow videotaping and/or flash photography without special permission of the team. The Timekeeper will ask if the Judges and the team are ready to start, and will then say "Begin." The team members then move their props for the timed performance without assistance.

It is the team's responsibility to complete the problem within the 8-minute time limit. Judges will not call time, but an overtime penalty will be assessed if the team takes more than 8 minutes.

After the performance, the Judges will meet with the team to discuss its solution, ask questions or request a demonstration. The team will then quickly remove its solution from the performance area. The team is responsible for bringing materials to clean up the area to make sure it is left clean and dry for the next team. Adults may assist in this cleanup.

After the team's competition, if not previously informed, the coach should ask the Head Judge when to check back for the team's long-term raw scores. The Head Judge will identify the specific area and time to meet. When the Head Judge meets with the coach the Judge will note the time on the scoresheet. The coach will have 30 minutes to return if additional questions or concerns arise. *

-- Marietta Kehler, International Problem Captain

