



## Elementary Division - Quick Rules Guide - 2009

The official Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) Guidelines and Regulations can be obtained through the School Science Coordinator. The Following rules are based on the ISEF Regulations, but have been simplified for elementary use. The Indian River Regional Science & Engineering Fair (IRRSEF) does enforce safe research for all participants. All accredited fairs must adhere to the safety guidelines provided by ISEF. Accordingly, ISEF regulations will be the final authority on questions regarding health and safety of participants.

### DISPLAY AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

1. **NO** organisms, living or dead, including plants, animals, and microbes are to be displayed. This does not include the materials (wood and paper) of which the project is constructed.
2. Photographs depicting vertebrate animals (including humans) in other than normal conditions must be in a notebook to be presented only during certification and judging. All pictures of human subjects **MUST** be accompanied by a consent form (4B or 4B/Photo) which grants permission to use the pictures.
3. **NO** soil or waste samples are allowed. Rocks and minerals that have no special hazardous chemicals must be displayed in a covered and secured case.
4. **NO** nonfunctional apparatus or chemical containers, empty or otherwise, may be displayed, unless it is original to the project.
5. **NO** human or animal parts, histological sections, or wet mounts.
6. **NO** gases under pressure or super-cooled gases, including dry ice.
7. **NO** small objects that are not encased or attached to the project.
8. **NO** loud, disturbing, or distractive sounds will be produced by a project's equipment
9. **NO** bright or distractive lights.
10. **NO** liquids.
11. **NO** human or animal food
12. **NO** sharp or sharp-edged items (*i.e.*, syringes, needles, pipettes).
13. **NO** flames or highly flammable display materials. **NO** temperatures in excess of 75°C.
14. **NO** batteries (dry, wet, or gel cell).
15. **NO** unshielded high-voltage equipment, large vacuum tubes, or ray generating devices.
16. **NO** uninsulated wiring or connectors.
17. **NO** bare wire or exposed knife switches.
18. **NO** car or motorcycle batteries.
19. **NO** awards, medals, business cards, flags, or acknowledgments may be displayed.
20. **NO** unshielded belts, pulleys, chains, or moving parts that pose a hazard **MAY BE OPERATED** (display only).
21. **NO** lasers (or other scientific instrumentation) which do not meet ISEF standards (Class II, student-operated, sign, protective housing, power disconnect). **NO** Class III or IV lasers operated. Lasers **MUST** have original undamaged label.
22. **NO** glass allowed except computer monitors, television screens. Picture frames should be acrylic.
23. If deemed unsafe or unnecessary by consensus of the IRRSEF Display and Safety Committee, the item or items must be removed.

### **HUMAN SUBJECTS**

- All projects involving human subjects **must be reviewed** and approved by the IRRSEF Display and Safety Committee before experimentation begins.
- Informed consent (signed forms) **must** be obtained for all human subjects used in research projects.

### **NONHUMAN VERTEBRATE ANIMALS**

- Research **must be reviewed** and approved by the IRRSEF Display and Safety Committee before experimentation begins.
- Alternatives to the use of vertebrate animals for research **must** be explored.
- All animals **must** be legally acquired from reputable animal breeders or dealers.
- The use of wild animals will not be permitted for science projects at the Elementary School level (including behavioral and observational studies).
- Proper animal care must be provided daily, including weekends, holidays and vacations. It is highly recommended that the daily care routine be documented in the student's log book.
- Experimental procedures that cause unnecessary pain or discomfort are prohibited.
- Experiments designed to kill vertebrate animals are not permitted.
- Students may not perform euthanasia.
- Alcohol, acid rain, insecticide, herbicide, and heavy metal toxicity studies are **prohibited**.

### **PROJECTS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS**

The following areas of research are permitted under ISEF rules, but are not recommended at the Elementary School level. If students insist on conducting their research in any of these areas, they **must** meet with the IRRSEF Display and Safety Committee and obtain written approval prior to the start of any experiments.

- Research involving **Recombinant DNA**
- Research that utilizes **Controlled Substances** (including prescription drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and explosives)
- Research involving **Hazardous Substances or Devices** (including hazardous chemicals, radioactive materials, firearms, carcinogens, and pesticides).
- Research involving **Human and Animal Tissue** (e.g., human teeth, human blood or other body fluids including saliva and urine).
- **Microbiology** Microorganisms (bacteria, molds, etc.) collected, isolated, and/or cultured from any environment are considered to be potentially pathogenic (see ISEF rules). Consequently, they are not appropriate for science projects at the Elementary School level.