

Greetings from the 2010 Operations Challenge Committee

The 2010 Texas State Championship will be held in Corpus Christi this year. With the TRA CReWSers winning the National Competition in 2009 we will be able to send four teams from Texas to the WEF competition in New Orleans, **pending funding**.

Enclosed is an information pack with some important dates and your registration forms the "**RULES AND REGULATIONS**" for this year's competition will be provided in a few weeks. Please read the complete packet carefully. If you have any general questions, I will try to answer them for you. Specific details on the competition will be made available to you at the Pre-Competition meeting.

Please Submit and electronic copy of your teams registration form to the following emails:
bennettj@trinityra.org, lisat@tx.net, rharris@pro-ops.net, cheryl@weat.org

A hard copy along with your entry fee should be mailed to the address on the form.

Keep in mind as you prepare for this year's competition that, education, teamwork, pride, and professionalism is what the Operations Challenge is all about.

Be prepared to demonstrate your team sprit, professionalism, and dedication.

If you need any information or if I can assist in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,

John Bennett
WEAT PWO Director

Office: (817) 430-4657
Cell: (817) 822-5673
E-mail: BennettJ@trinityra.org

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

WATER ENVIRONMENT



ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

OPERATIONS CHALLENGE

April 14th & 15th 2010

***PROMOTING EXCELLENCE AND PROFESSIONALISM IN
WASTEWATER OPERATIONS***

Information Packet

I. SCHEDULES:

Tuesday: April 13

8:00 am – 3:00 pm - Move in equipment, Exhibit Hall

Wednesday: April 14

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Pre-Competition Meeting/ Process Control Test – Room TBD

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm - Laboratory event – Competition area

Thursday: April 15

9:45 am - Team Check in at Safety Event

10:00 am – 2:00 pm - Competition

2:15 pm – 3:00 pm - Texas Shoot Out

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm - Awards ceremony at Safety Event

Friday: April 16

8:00 am - 11:00 am - Equipment take down and removal from exhibition area.

II. LOCATION

Texas Water 2010 WEAT/AWWA Joint Conference, Corpus Christi, Texas.
Competition will be held in the American Bank Center Exhibit area.

III. PURPOSE

To recognize excellence and professionalism in wastewater treatment, operations, maintenance, laboratory, safety and collection systems personnel.

IV. NATURE OF THE COMPETITION

All teams will compete in all events. Each event will be judged and scored separately against established criteria. The scores of all events will be totaled and the champion team will be selected based on the scores.

Five separate competitive events will be held:

1. **Pump Maintenance:** Teams will be required to do various maintenance procedures and electrical tasks on a Wilo Emu system.
2. **Collection System:** Teams will be required to cut out a section of an 8" PVC sewer pipe with water flowing through it, drill and install a 4" service saddle in the replacement pipe, cut and install the replacement section with couplings and program an auto sampler.
3. **Safety:** Teams will be required to rescue a downed co-worker from a simulated manhole. Team members will set up a retrieval system, two members will perform a permit required confined space entry, place retrieval harness on the downed co-worker and remove him from the manhole.
4. **Process Control:** Teams will solve problems from four of eight types of operational wastewater technologies. The four types will be announced when you pick up your packet on April 13th
5. **Laboratory:** Perform all steps of a BOD analysis using **ORION(subject to change)** equipment following all method requirements as outlined in Standard Methods 18th edition 5210B, with the exception of using transfer pipettes instead of wide bore volumetric for planting seed correction series and sample.

Each event will be timed separately and all team members are expected to participate. Further details, such as supplied equipment specification, equipment to be supplied by competitors, and examples of judging criteria is supplied in this packet.

Process Control will be the first event for each team, immediately following the pre-competition meeting on Wednesday April 14th at 10:00 am

V. AWARDS

Awards are provided as follows:

Overall Champion Team:

- Opportunity to represent Texas at the national WEF conference in October 2010
- Entry fee and travel expenses, as outlined in WEAT team travel procedures, will be paid by WEAT.
- Trophy Plaque
- Team Jackets

Overall Second Place Team:

- Trophy Plaque
- Team Jackets
- Opportunity to represent Texas at the national WEF conference in October 2010

Overall Third Place Team:

- Opportunity to represent Texas at the national WEF conference in October 2010
(If Operations Challenge Budget Will Allow)

Overall Fourth Place Team

- Opportunity to represent Texas at the national WEF conference in October 2010
(If Operations Challenge Budget Will Allow)

The Awards Ceremony will be held following the events for the day and will be presented at the Safety Event.

Winners of Each Event:

- Trophy for the event

Each Team Member:

- Commemorative Texas Operations Challenge T-shirt and certificate of participation plus eight hours of general training credits from the TCEQ.

VI. ELIGIBILITY

1. A maximum of 6 teams will be accepted for the 2010 competition.
2. Entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis until the maximum is reached.
3. Teams must be composed of no less than four members.
4. Teams must be composed of the same four individuals for all five events.
5. Members of a team may come from the same employer or from multiple employers.
6. Individual team members must meet the qualifications described below.

VII. QUALIFICATIONS

Individual team members will be persons actively employed by a responsible operating wastewater entity or its agent, at a facility site on a day-to-day basis. Furthermore, they must be actively employed in the operations/maintenance of the collection system, treatment facility, or laboratory facilities provided for them.

The intent is that team members will be those actually involved in wastewater operations, laboratories, pretreatment, or maintenance functions. Individual entrants will be checked for compliance with this intent.

VIII. JUDGING

- Each event will be scored by the time required to perform the event, plus timed penalties for procedural and safety violations. The final time, adjusted for penalties, will be converted to a "point" score. The best time for each event is worth 1 point, next best time 2 points, etc. Total points scored for all five events will rank the teams.
- Judges will be trained volunteers from the WEAT membership and sponsors. Judges cannot compete or assist teams. Judges from the same employer as the team or team member will abstain from judging their "home" team. (When possible)
- Teams will compete concurrently in each event. There will be one or more judges per team per event, with a separate head judge for each event.
- Team captains will be informed of their teams infractions immediately following the completion of their event. However, they will not be told of their overall penalty time. This information will be made available upon written request after the competition.
- Disagreement with a judge's ruling will be handled as follows:
The team captain will speak with the event judge; any team member wanting to communicate with a judge must do so through his team captain in order to reduce confusion. All team members except for the Captain are required to leave the event area while a challenge to the judge's decision is being made. Failing resolution with the event judge, a team may petition the Event Coordinator, for the particular event in question to act as an arbitrator. Any protest of the Event Coordinator's decision must be made immediately, in writing to the Chair of the Operations Challenge committee. Attempts will be made to settle the protest as soon as is practical. There will be a fifteen (15) minute time limit for protest. Protest will not be accepted after fifteen (15) minutes past completion of event being protested. It is requested that throughout this process courtesy and professionalism be extended to all parties involved. Failure to render courtesy to judges and event staff can result in penalty time being assessed to, or disqualification of, the offending team.

IX. EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

The Water Environment Association of Texas and its conference exhibitors will supply all equipment required for the competition except for calculators, tape measures and personal items such as safety shoes, gloves, safety glasses and hard hats as specified in the specific event rules. The contestants must supply these items.

X. COMPETITION TIMING

Each team will be allowed 20 minutes for each event from the time the team is scheduled to start. This includes a maximum of 5 minutes, prior to the competition of the event, for the team to make preparations for that event. Teams will be expected to assist event coordinators and judges in resetting the event for the next team as required.

**WEAT Operations Challenge 2010
Team Entry Form**

(Please Type or Print Neatly)

Utility: _____

Team Name: _____

Team Member/Captain: _____ DL #: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Day Phone # _____ Email _____

Team Member: _____ DL #: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Team Member: _____ DL #: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Team Member: _____ DL #: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Part 2. Optional Coach Designation

The following individual is designated as "coach" and will receive copies of all mailings sent to the Captain.

Name: _____ DL #: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Day Phone # _____ Email _____

Part 3. Entry Fee

Enclosed is a team entry fee of \$ **200.00**. We understand that this entry fee does not cover travel or hotel expenses of team members. No teams will be allowed to participate until this fee is paid in full.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Team Captain/Manager/Supervisor

Printed Name: _____

| For WEAT Use Only | \$Received | Date Received | Check # |
|-------------------|------------|---------------|---------|
|-------------------|------------|---------------|---------|

**Water Environment Association of Texas
Operations Challenge 2010**

This form is required for each team member competing in the Texas Water 2010 Operations Championship. Have form available at pre-competition meeting

I, _____, will participate in the Texas Water 2010 Operations Championship competition. I acknowledge that while participating in any and all events, which make up the Operations Championship, I will encounter the risk of injury or accident. I hereby accept and assume all such risks and danger incidental to my participation in the 2010 Operations Championship. I agree that Texas Water 2010, the Water Environment Association of Texas (WEAT), American Water Works Association, Texas Section, Operations Championship Committee and any and all suppliers of products and equipment for Texas Water 2010 Operations Championship are not liable for any injuries I may sustain resulting from any and all such risks and danger. I hereby release, acquit and discharge Texas Water 2010, WEAT, Texas Section AWWA the Operations Championship Committee and any and all suppliers of products and equipment for the Texas Water 2010 Operations Championship from all claims and demands of whatever nature, actions and causes of action, damages, cost, loss of service, expenses and compensations on account of or in any way growing out of personal injuries and/or property damage having already resulted or to result at any time in the future as a result and by reason of my participation in the Texas Water 2010 Operations Championship.

Signature: _____

Name (Please Print): _____

Date: _____

This form must be completed by each team member

Please bring a copy of this form to the pre-competition meeting on April 14th:

Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the event.

**Water Environment Association of Texas
Operations Challenge 2010
T-shirt Order Form**

Team Utility: _____

Team Name: _____

Team Member Name (**Please Print**)

T-shirt Size
(M, L, XL, etc.)

1. _____
Team Member

Size

2. _____
Team Member

Size

3. _____
Team Member

Size

4. _____
Team Member

Size

5. _____
Coach

Size

Please return completed form with your Team Entry Form and payment to:

Attn: Cheryl Smith
Association Manager
Water Environment Association of Texas
2619 Jones Road, Suite C
Austin, Texas 78745
Phone: 512-693-0060 Fax: 512-693-0062
Email: cheryl@weat.org
Website: www.weat.org

THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

END OF DOCUMENT