



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF NORTHERN SAMAR

August 10, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 310, s. 2026

**CONDUCT OF THE 2026 DIVISION SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY
AND MATHEMATICS FESTIVAL (DSTMF)**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent; Chiefs, Curriculum Implementation Division and School Governance and Operations Division; Education Program Supervisors; Public Schools District Supervisors; Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads; and All Others Concerned

1. The Schools Division of Northern Samar, through the Curriculum Implementation Division, shall conduct the 2026 Division Science, Technology and Mathematics Festival (DSTMF) on September 4-6, 2026, in Pambujan, Northern Samar. The festival provides a division-wide venue for learners to demonstrate scientific literacy, mathematical reasoning, strategic thinking, collaboration, research competence, creativity, and innovation.
2. The festival specifically aims to:
 - a. strengthen learners' understanding and application of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics concepts;
 - b. provide equitable, grade-appropriate opportunities for written, team-based, game-based, investigative, and research competitions;
 - c. recognize outstanding learners, teams, schools, districts, coaches, and research mentors; and
 - d. identify eligible entries and representatives for succeeding regional or national activities, when applicable and subject to the governing guidelines.

3. The following official event information shall be observed:

Event Detail	Official Information
Event Dates	September 4-6, 2026
Contest Venue	Pambujan National High School, Pambujan, Northern Samar
Billeting Areas	Pambujan National High School and Pambujan I Central School
Registration Deadline	August 28, 2026
Registration Platform	Official DSTMF Portal

4. The festival shall include the Elementary and Secondary Science/Math Olympiad, Elementary and Secondary Sci-Dama, DAMATH, STEMAZING, and the Science and



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- Technology Fair. The specific categories, grade-level eligibility, team composition, materials, test formats, scoring systems, safety requirements, judging criteria, ranking procedures, and tie-breaking rules shall be governed by the enclosed DSTMF 2026 Consolidated Contest Guidelines and Mechanics.
5. Elementary Science /Math Olympiad entries shall be submitted by district and shall consist of the duly selected district winners or officially constituted district teams for the applicable categories. Secondary Science /Math Olympiad entries shall be submitted by participating schools in accordance with the category and grade-level requirements. Entries for Sci-Dama, DAMATH, STEMAZING, and the Science and Technology Fair shall follow the eligibility and representation rules stated in the consolidated mechanics.
 6. Under the approved DSTMF special arrangement, eligible Key Stage 2 learners may participate in the Science and Technology Fair under the Life Sciences and Physical Sciences categories. Such entries shall comply with the same research integrity, prior-review, ethics, risk-assessment, safety, documentation, poster-display, and judging requirements applicable to the category.
 7. **All entries shall be registered through the official DSTMF Portal not later than August 28, 2026.** District and school coordinators shall ensure that names, grade levels, schools, districts, contest categories, coaches, research advisers, and other required information are complete and accurate before final submission. Only entries validated through the portal shall be included in the official master list. Requests for corrections or substitutions after the deadline shall be subject to the applicable contest mechanics and approval of the organizing committee.
 8. **A registration fee of one hundred pesos (PHP 100.00) shall be collected from each learner-participant and coach.** Payment shall be made at the Division Cashier's Office. A photocopy of the official receipt shall be submitted to the Division STMF Technical Working Group (TWG), through the assigned Education Program Supervisors, Dr. Nelida M. Lobos and Dr. Emily M. Adrayan, for validation and proper documentation.
 9. The final room assignments, contest schedule, billeting assignments, registration instructions, and other operational advisories shall be issued through the official DSTMF Portal and authorized division communication channels. Participants shall not proceed to a billeting room or contest area unless it has been officially assigned by the host and organizing committees.
 10. Delegations assigned to the billeting areas at Pambujan National High School and Pambujan I Central School shall bring their own bedding, personal hygiene supplies, prescribed medicines, reusable water containers, and other personal necessities. Coaches and chaperones shall supervise their learners at all times, observe room assignments and quiet hours, maintain cleanliness, safeguard school property, and comply with the billeting and host-school rules. Learners shall not leave the venue or billeting area without the knowledge and permission of their designated coach or chaperone.



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11. School heads, district supervisors, coaches, research advisers, and activity personnel shall ensure compliance with the DepEd Child Protection Policy, learner safeguarding measures, health and safety standards, ethical research requirements, and relevant disaster risk reduction and emergency procedures throughout the activity. Science Fair projects involving regulated materials, human participants, vertebrate animals, microorganisms, hazardous devices, or other identified risks shall present the required prior approvals and safety documentation before display or judging.
12. Travel, meals, contest materials, supplies, and other authorized incidental expenses of participants, coaches, and designated personnel may be charged against School Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses, local funds, Special Education Fund, or other available sources, subject to the usual accounting, auditing, procurement, and liquidation rules and regulations. No learner shall be excluded solely because of inability to personally shoulder participation-related expenses; schools and districts are encouraged to mobilize lawful support mechanisms when needed.
13. This Memorandum shall serve as authority to travel, subject to existing DepEd policies and the approval of the proper authorities.
14. The organizing committee may issue written supplemental instructions concerning venue use, security, emergency arrangements, contest-room assignments, billeting, and other administrative matters, provided that these do not alter the substantive eligibility, scoring, ranking, safety, or judging provisions of the consolidated contest mechanics without proper division approval.
15. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum are directed.


GAUDENCIO C. ALJIBE JR., PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

DepEd Northern Samar

RELEASED

By: 

Date: 11 AUG 2026



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DIVISION SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MATHEMATICS FESTIVAL

Contest Guidelines and Mechanics

Science Olympiad • Sci-Dama • STEMAZING • Science and Technology Fair

Rationale

The 2026 Division Science, Technology and Mathematics Festival (DSTMF) provides division-wide opportunities for learners to demonstrate scientific literacy, curiosity, reasoning, computation, strategy, research competence, innovation, collaboration, and problem-solving. Its competitions offer grade-appropriate written, team, game-based, investigative, and research challenges for elementary and secondary learners.

The Science Olympiad covers science vocabulary, science history, technology, environmental science, and the major science domains aligned with the Revised K to 10 and Strengthened Senior High School standards. Sci-Dama integrates science concepts, mathematical operations, accurate recordkeeping, and strategic play. STEMAZING challenges two-learner teams to solve science- and mathematics-based tasks across checkpoint stations. The Science and Technology Fair provides a structured venue for ethical, safe, and original learner research and innovation.

Objectives

The DSTMF competitions aim to:

1. strengthen learners' understanding of essential science concepts across grade levels and domains;
2. develop the ability to analyze evidence, interpret data, and solve problems using scientific principles;
3. apply science and mathematics concepts through accurate computation, logical thinking, and strategic play;
4. engage in collaborative investigation, solution design, evidence-based argument, and clear presentation;
5. conduct original research and innovation in accordance with scientific, ethical, and safety standards;
6. provide an equitable and standardized measure of grade-level science proficiency;
7. recognize outstanding learners, teams, schools, and districts; and
8. encourage sustained interest and future engagement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

PART I. ELEMENTARY SCIENCE OLYMPIAD MECHANICS

Grades 1-6 • District Entries

Eligibility and District Representation

1. The elementary-level contests are open to officially enrolled learners in Grades 1 to 6 from schools under the Schools Division of Northern Samar.



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2. Entries shall be submitted by district. Each individual contestant must be the duly selected district-level winner for the specific contest category and grade level in which the learner will compete.
3. Each district shall officially endorse its contestant(s), coach(es), and Science Super Quiz team within the registration period stated in the event memorandum.
4. A contestant shall compete only in the grade-level category corresponding to the learner's current enrollment.
5. Contestants shall present a valid school identification card or other proof of enrollment when requested by the organizing committee.
6. Any substitution must be officially endorsed before the contest begins. Substitutions shall not be allowed after a test has started.
7. Requests for reasonable accommodations shall be submitted during registration so appropriate arrangements may be made without changing the competencies assessed.

Contest Categories and Test Structure

Grade level	Contest	Items	Maximum score	Time
Grade 1	Science Spelling Bee	20	60	60 minutes
	Science History			
Grade 2	Science Spelling Bee			
	Science History			
Grade 3	Science Quiz Bee			
	Technology Quiz			
	Environmental Science Quiz			
Grade 4	Science Quiz Bee	30	90	
	Technology Quiz			
	Environmental Science Quiz			
Grade 5	Science Quiz Bee			
	Technology Quiz			
	Environmental Science Quiz			
Grade 6	Science Quiz Bee			
	Technology Quiz			
	Environmental Science Quiz			

1. All elementary contests shall use separate, grade-appropriate multiple-choice test forms.
2. The Science Spelling Bee for Grades 1 and 2 is a written multiple-choice contest in which learners identify the correctly spelled science word or term; it is not an oral spelling round.



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3. All main tests shall be administered as paper-and-pencil examinations. Answers shall be recorded on official machine-readable answer sheets and checked using ZipGrade or an equivalent scanning system.
4. The 60-minute time limit excludes the reading of directions and completion of identification details.

Science Super Quiz

Participants	Team composition	Items	Maximum score	Time
One team per district	Three learners: one each from Grades 4, 5, and 6	30	90	60 minutes

1. Each district shall field one team composed of exactly three officially endorsed learners: one Grade 4 learner, one Grade 5 learner, and one Grade 6 learner.
2. Team members may quietly confer only with their own teammates during the test. Each team shall submit one official answer sheet, and the score recorded on that answer sheet shall be the team score.
3. No member substitution shall be allowed after the Science Super Quiz has started.

Elementary Scoring System

Response	Points	Scoring rule
Correct answer	+3	Three points are added.
Incorrect answer	-1	One point is deducted.
Blank answer	0	No point is added or deducted.
Multiple or unclear marks	0	The response is treated as blank.

Score formulas: Total score = (3 × number of correct answers) – number of incorrect answers. The maximum is 60 points for a 20-item test and 90 points for a 30-item test.

Elementary Test Administration and Conduct

1. Contestants and teams shall report to the assigned venue at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start and proceed to the designated testing room.
2. The organizers shall provide the official question booklet, machine-readable answer sheet, and scratch paper when required. Contestants shall bring a school identification card, at least two No. 2 pencils, and an eraser.
3. Calculators, mobile phones, smartwatches, notes, books, and other unauthorized materials are prohibited unless a written contest advisory expressly allows them.



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4. Individual contestants shall work independently. Science Super Quiz members may confer only within their own team and shall not communicate with another team.
5. Only answers marked on the official answer sheet shall be scored. Latecomers may be admitted at the proctor's discretion but shall not receive additional time.
6. Contestants who finish early shall remain seated and quiet until the time limit ends or the proctor authorizes dismissal. All question booklets, answer sheets, and issued scratch paper shall be returned.
7. Cheating, impersonation, tampering with test materials, disruptive behavior, or refusal to follow proctor instructions may result in disqualification after documentation and confirmation by the organizing committee.

Elementary Ranking, Winners, and Tie-Breaking

For every individual contest and grade-level category, the three learners with the highest total scores shall be declared 1st Place, 2nd Place, and 3rd Place. For the Science Super Quiz, the three teams with the highest team scores shall be declared 1st Place, 2nd Place, and 3rd Place.

When a tie affects any of the top three places or their order, the following procedure shall apply:

1. The tied learners shall be called back for an additional paper-and-pencil multiple-choice tie-breaker round. For the Science Super Quiz, all members of each tied team shall be called back.
2. The first tie-breaker set shall consist of five contest-appropriate multiple-choice items and shall use the same scoring system: +3 for a correct answer, -1 for an incorrect answer, and 0 for a blank answer.
3. If the tie remains, another five-item tie-breaker set shall be administered. Additional sets shall continue until the top three places and their order are determined.
4. Tie-breaker scores shall be used only to rank the tied learners or teams and shall not be added to their original contest scores.
5. Potential top-three contestants and teams shall remain available until the official announcement that no further tie-breaker round is required.

Elementary award basis: Elementary winners are determined by rank. The top three learners in each individual contest and the top three Science Super Quiz teams shall receive the corresponding placement awards.

PART II. SECONDARY SCIENCE OLYMPIAD MECHANICS

Grades 7-12 • School Entries

Eligibility and Participation

1. The secondary Science Olympiad is open to officially enrolled Grade 7 to Grade 12 learners of participating secondary schools under the Schools Division of Northern Samar.



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2. Each participating school may endorse a maximum of three contestants per grade level, or a maximum delegation of 18 contestants across Grades 7 to 12.
3. Contestants shall compete individually and only in the category corresponding to their current grade level.
4. Schools shall select their contestants through a school-level screening process or another fair and documented selection procedure.
5. The school head shall endorse the official contestants and coach(es) within the registration period stated in the event memorandum. Any substitution must be officially endorsed before the contest begins; substitutions shall not be allowed after the test has started.
6. Contestants shall present a valid school identification card or other proof of enrollment when requested by the organizing committee.
7. Requests for reasonable accommodations shall be submitted during registration so that appropriate arrangements may be made without changing the competencies assessed.

Coverage and Test Format

Contest mode	Individual, written, grade-level examination
Test forms	Separate test forms for Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12
Number of items	40 multiple-choice questions
Time limit	60 minutes, excluding the reading of directions and completion of identification details
Maximum score	120 points
Item design	Grade-appropriate, contextualized, and PISA-inspired items of varying difficulty

Distribution of Items

Science domain	Number of items
Earth and Space Science	10
Matter and the Science of Materials (Chemistry)	10
Force, Motion and Energy (Physics)	10
Life Science (Biology)	10

1. Questions shall be aligned with the learning standards and competencies appropriate to each grade level. Prior-grade competencies may be included when they are prerequisites for the target concepts.



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2. Items may use short passages, diagrams, tables, graphs, experimental descriptions, real-life situations, or other scientific stimuli. Some items may require more than one reasoning step.
3. All items shall have one best answer. Contestants shall record their answers only on the official answer sheet.

Secondary Scoring System

Response	Points	Scoring rule
Correct answer	+3	Three points are added.
Incorrect answer	-1	One point is deducted.
Blank answer	0	No point is added or deducted.
Multiple or unclear marks	0	The response is treated as blank.

Score formula: Total score = (3 × number of correct answers) - number of incorrect answers. With 40 items, the maximum possible score is 120 points.

Contestants are responsible for making clean and final marks on the machine-readable answer sheet. Erasures must be complete; stray, double, or ambiguous marks may not be recognized by the scanning system and shall be scored as blank unless the technical committee confirms a clear intended response during verification.

Secondary Test Administration

Before the Test

1. Contestants shall report to the assigned venue at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start and proceed to the room designated for their grade level.
2. The organizers shall provide the official question booklet, machine-readable answer sheet (e.g., ZipGrade-compatible), and scratch paper, when needed.
3. Contestants shall bring their school identification card, at least two No. 2 pencils, an eraser, and an approved calculator, if needed.
4. Only a stand-alone, non-programmable scientific calculator may be used. Calculators are subject to inspection, and sharing calculators during the test is prohibited.
5. Proctors shall verify identities, explain the directions, and instruct contestants when to begin. The 60-minute test period shall start only after the directions have been given.

During the Test

1. Contestants shall follow all instructions of the proctor and work independently.
2. Only answers marked on the official answer sheet shall be scored. Answers written only in the question booklet or scratch paper shall not be credited.



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3. Latecomers may be admitted at the discretion of the room proctor but shall not be given additional time.
4. A contestant may leave the room only for an emergency and with the permission of the proctor. No question booklet, answer sheet, or scratch paper may be taken outside the room.
5. Contestants who finish early shall remain seated and quiet until the time limit ends or until the proctor authorizes dismissal.

At the End of the Test

1. Contestants shall stop writing immediately when time is called.
2. The answer sheet, question booklet, and all issued scratch paper shall be submitted to the proctor.
3. The proctor shall account for all testing materials before contestants are dismissed.

Rules on Conduct and Disqualification

1. Mobile phones, smartwatches, tablets, laptops, earphones, notes, books, and other unauthorized materials are prohibited inside the testing room. All electronic devices must be switched off and kept in the location designated by the proctor.
2. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, communicating with another contestant, copying or allowing another contestant to copy, using unauthorized materials or devices, impersonation, tampering with test materials, and obtaining or sharing leaked test content.
3. Disruptive behavior, refusal to follow reasonable proctor instructions, or any act that compromises the integrity of the competition may be grounds for removal from the testing room.
4. A suspected violation shall be documented by the proctor and reviewed by the organizing committee. Disqualification shall take effect upon committee confirmation, and the contestant's coach or school representative shall be informed of the decision.
5. Falsification of identity, grade level, enrollment status, or official endorsement shall result in the invalidation of the contestant's score and may disqualify the school entry concerned.

Secondary Ranking, Awards, and Recognition

Participants shall be ranked within their respective grade levels based on total score. Medal classifications are performance-based and are not limited to a fixed number of recipients; every contestant who reaches a stated score range shall receive the corresponding recognition.

Recognition	Score range / basis
Gold Medal	110–120 points
Silver Medal	99–109 points
Bronze Medal	89–98 points



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Recognition	Score range / basis
Merit Certificate	79–88 points
Certificate of Participation	All eligible official contestants who participate in good standing

School Recognition

The organizing committee may confer a School Excellence Award. To ensure a common basis of comparison, the school composite score shall be the average of the highest official contestant score from each of Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12. A school must have at least one official contestant in every grade level to qualify. If school composite scores are tied, the school with more medal-level awardees shall rank higher; if still tied, the recognition shall be shared.

PART III. SCI-DAMA CONTEST MECHANICS

Grades 3–10 • Individual Strategic Board Competition

Eligibility and Participation

1. Sci-Dama is open to officially enrolled learners in Grades 3 to 10 under the Schools Division of Northern Samar. Elementary entries in Grades 3 to 6 shall be endorsed by their respective districts, while secondary entries in Grades 7 to 10 shall be endorsed by their respective schools.
2. Each player shall compete individually and only in the category corresponding to the learner's current grade cluster or grade level: Water Patrol for Grades 3–4, Power Patrol for Grades 5–6, and the assigned grade-specific category for Grades 7–10.
3. Each district may field one Water Patrol contestant and one Power Patrol contestant, both of whom must be district-level winners. Participating secondary schools shall endorse their Grade 7–10 player(s). All players and coaches shall be registered within the period stated in the DSTMF 2026 event memorandum.
4. A substitution must be officially endorsed before the competition begins. No substitution shall be allowed after a player's first scheduled game has started.
5. Players shall present a valid school identification card or other proof of enrollment when requested by the organizing committee.
6. Only the approved category board, chips, conversion references, and official Sci-Dama score sheet shall be used during play.

Sci-Dama Categories

Grade	Category	Science focus	Board type
3 and 4	Water Patrol Sci-Dama	Water consumption	Type A
5 and 6	Power Patrol Sci-Dama	Electric power consumption	Type A



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Grade	Category	Science focus	Board type
7	Electro Sci-Dama	Electric power consumption	Type A
8	Dama Sci-Notation	Scientific notation	Type A
9	Temperature Humidity Index (THI)	Temperature and relative humidity	Type B
10	Thermo Sci-Dama	Thermodynamics	Type A

Elementary Participation and Required Materials

1. The Water Patrol contestant may be an officially enrolled Grade 3 or Grade 4 learner. The Power Patrol contestant may be an officially enrolled Grade 5 or Grade 6 learner. Only the district winners shall be eligible to join the Sci Dama for elementary competition.
2. Each elementary player shall bring or be issued one organizer-approved Sci-Dama board, a complete set of 24 category chips in two contrasting colors, and a printed official score sheet. The announced no-board-and-chips, no-play policy shall apply unless the Technical Committee provides standardized sets for all players.
3. Boards, chips, and score sheets are subject to inspection before play. Only the official Water Patrol and Power Patrol values and starting positions may be used.
4. Calculators are not permitted in Water Patrol and Power Patrol. All elementary computations shall be performed manually on the official score sheet.

Board and Playing Materials

1. Board Type A shall be used for, Grade 7 Electro Sci-Dama, Grade 8 Dama Sci-Notation, and Grade 10 Thermo Sci-Dama. Its operation squares use addition (+), subtraction (-), multiplication ($\times$), and division ($\div$).
2. Board Type B shall be used for Grades 3–4 Water Patrol Sci-Dama, Grades 5–6 Power Patrol Sci-Dama Grade 9 THI Sci-Dama. On this board, the multiplication signs are replaced with addition signs and the division signs are replaced with subtraction signs; only addition and subtraction are used.
3. The board shall measure 32 cm $\times$ 32 cm and contain 8 $\times$ 8 squares. Each set shall have 24 chips in two contrasting colors, with 12 chips per player. Each chip shall measure approximately 2 cm in diameter.
4. Chip labels and values shall follow the official DSTMF 2026 layout for the applicable grade-level category.
5. The players shall agree on the board and chip set to be used. If they cannot agree, the set shall be determined by a coin toss under the facilitator's supervision.

Official layouts: The organizer-approved category board diagrams, THI conversion table, and prescribed score sheets are integral operational references. Facilitators shall ensure that identical approved materials are available to both players.



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Elementary Chip Values and Starting Layout

Category	First set: rows 7-5	Opposing set: rows 2-0
Water Patrol Grades 3-4	25, 50, 85, 110 70, 105, 30, 5 45, 10, 65, 90	90, 65, 10, 45 5, 30, 105, 70 110, 85, 50, 25
Power Patrol Grades 5-6	30, 55, 90, 115 75, 110, 35, 10 50, 15, 70, 95	95, 70, 15, 50 10, 35, 110, 75 115, 90, 55, 30

Placement: Values are listed from left to right across each player's three home rows. The first set occupies rows 7, 6, and 5; the opposing set occupies rows 2, 1, and 0. The official Cartesian-coordinate board diagram shall control if any placement question arises.

Movement, Capture, and Dama Rules

1. The chips shall be placed in their official starting positions before the game begins. The first player shall be determined by drawing lots or tossing a coin.
2. An ordinary chip may move one square diagonally forward to an adjoining vacant square. It may not move horizontally or vertically.
3. A legal capture is compulsory. A chip may capture diagonally forward or backward, to the left or right, by jumping over an opposing chip into a vacant square. Passing is not allowed, and the captured chip shall be removed from the board.
4. When more than one capture is available, the traditional dama priority rules on dama, mayor dalawa or mayor tatlo, mayor tatlo over dalawa, and mayor dalawa or tatlo over dama shall prevail.
5. A red chip becomes a dama upon reaching (0,7), (2,7), (4,7), or (6,7). A blue chip becomes a dama upon reaching (1,0), (3,0), (5,0), or (7,0).
6. A dama may move to any unoccupied square along an unobstructed diagonal path and may capture one or more chips. A dama's score is doubled when it captures an ordinary chip or chips and quadrupled when it captures the opponent's dama. An ordinary chip's score is doubled when it captures a dama.
7. Touch-move rule: once a player touches a chip during the player's turn, that chip must be moved if it has a legal move. A player who only intends to adjust a chip must announce the intention before touching it.
8. Move first before writing: the player shall physically complete the move on the board before recording it on the score sheet. A move shall never be written in advance or without being executed on the board.

Timing and Game Completion

1. Each game shall last a maximum of 20 minutes.
2. For Grades 7-10, each move, including the corresponding computation and score-sheet entry, shall be completed within one minute. A player who exceeds the limit shall receive a warning and must move when directed by the facilitator.
3. For Water Patrol and Power Patrol, the player shall complete the physical move and record the move notation within one minute. Score computations may be



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completed after the game, subject to review and confirmation by the arbiter before the score sheet is signed.

4. Only one official score sheet shall be used by both players, alternately. A player's one-minute period starts when the score sheet is received from the opponent.
5. For Grades 7–10, a multiple capture and its score-sheet recording shall be completed within the same one-minute period. If the computation is unfinished, the player shall pass the score sheet and may continue recording only when it returns on the player's next turn. Water Patrol and Power Patrol shall follow the elementary after-game computation rule stated above.
6. The facilitator shall not announce that the game has entered its final minutes.
7. During the dying seconds, a compulsory capture shall still be completed when the player's one-minute period has begun or the player has already received the score sheet.
8. The game ends when the 20-minute limit expires; a player resigns; a player has no chip that can legally move; a player's chip is cornered; repetitive moves are made by one or both players; both players agree to a draw; or another condition recognized by the arbiter makes continued play impossible.
9. The defaulting period shall be five minutes for Water Patrol and Power Patrol and 10 minutes for the Grade 7–10 categories. A player who has not appeared within the applicable period shall be declared a no-show for that game.

General Computation and Match Scoring

1. For Grades 7–10, running totals shall be strictly maintained throughout the game. For Water Patrol and Power Patrol, move notation shall be recorded during play and score computations may be completed after the game before the score sheet is verified and signed.
2. For every capture, the values of the capturing chip and captured chip shall be processed using the operation symbol on the landing square. In a noncommutative operation, the capturing chip shall be treated as the minuend or dividend, as applicable. The captured chip shall then be removed from the board.
3. For multiple captures, the required operations shall be performed and recorded in sequence using the official category score sheet.
4. At the end of the game, the prescribed values of the remaining chips shall be added to the respective player's running total according to the category-specific scoring guide.
5. The player with the lower final score shall win the game and receive one match point. Each player shall receive 0.5 match point for a draw; the losing player shall receive zero match points.
6. Incorrect score-sheet entries are the responsibility of both players. A player who notices an error shall raise a hand and call the facilitator immediately after the clock is stopped and before the protesting player makes the next move.
7. Once both players have reviewed and signed the score sheet, the recorded result shall be final and unappealable.



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Category-Specific Scoring Guides

Grades 3–4 — Water Patrol Sci-Dama

1. Use the official Water Patrol values and the addition and subtraction operations on Board Type B. Every capture shall be computed according to the operation symbol on the landing square and recorded on the official score sheet.
2. At the end of play, add the values of all remaining ordinary chips to the player's running total. The value of a remaining dama shall be doubled.
3. The player with the lower verified final score wins. Calculators are not allowed.

Grades 5–6 — Power Patrol Sci-Dama

1. Use the official Power Patrol values and the addition and subtraction operations on Board Type B. Every capture shall be computed according to the operation symbol on the landing square and recorded on the official score sheet.
2. At the end of play, add the values of all remaining ordinary chips to the player's running total. The value of a remaining dama shall be doubled.
3. The player with the lower verified final score wins. Calculators are not allowed.

Grade 7 — Electro Sci-Dama

1. Add or subtract only chips with the same units. When the minuend is less than the subtrahend, no score shall be recorded for that operation.
2. Maintain the running score and add the values of the remaining chips at the end of the game.
3. Convert all kilowatt-hour values to pesos at the official rate of 1 kWh = ₱10.
4. The final score shall be expressed in pesos.

Grade 8 — Dama Sci-Notation

1. Apply the four fundamental operations using scientific notation and record each result in proper scientific-notation form.
2. A stand-alone, non-programmable scientific calculator may be used. Calculator sharing is prohibited.
3. Add the prescribed values of the remaining chips to the running total to obtain the final score.

Grade 9 — Temperature Humidity Index (THI)

1. Only addition and subtraction are used on Board Type B.
2. Add or subtract only chips with the same units. When combining percentage chips, complete the percentage operation first, then convert the result to degrees Fahrenheit using the official table below.
3. When the minuend is less than the subtrahend, no score shall be recorded for that operation.
4. Add the converted values of the remaining chips to the running total to obtain the final score.



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Humidity (%)	°F	Humidity (%)	°F	Humidity (%)	°F
0	78	35	85	70	93
5	79	40	86	75	95
10	80	45	87	80	97
15	81	50	88	85	99
20	82	55	89	90	102
25	83	60	90	95	105
30	84	65	91	100	108

Grade 10 — Thermo Sci-Dama

1. Maintain separate running totals for grams (g), degrees Celsius (°C), and the product column (g·°C).
2. Add or subtract only chips with the same units. When the minuend is less than the subtrahend, no score shall be recorded. Chips with different units shall not be added or subtracted.
3. Division operations receive no score.
4. Multiplying chips with the same units receives no score. Multiplying a gram value by a Celsius value shall be recorded in the g·°C product column.
5. At the end of the game, add the remaining gram and Celsius chips to their respective totals. Multiply the final gram total by the final Celsius total, then add that product to the running g·°C total to obtain the final score.

Competition Format and Tie-Breaking

1. Players shall complete a double elimination schedule. They may be divided into groups when the number of entries or program schedule requires it.
2. When groups are used, the top two players from each group shall advance to the championship round. When a category uses one complete round-robin group, the final standings and prescribed tie-breakers shall determine the category ranking.
3. For Grades 7-10, ties in the standings shall be resolved in this order: (a) head-to-head result; (b) greater number of wins; (c) quotient or point system; and (d) rematch, if the tie remains.
4. For Water Patrol and Power Patrol, ties shall be resolved in this order: (a) head-to-head result; (b) Sonneborn-Berger score, computed by adding the match points of every opponent defeated and one-half of the match points of every opponent drawn; and (c) a 10-minute rematch if the tie remains.
5. A facilitator whose own player qualifies for the championship round shall be replaced by a facilitator who has no player in that round.



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Conduct, Warnings, and Arbitration

1. Coaches shall not enter the playing room, scrutinize the score sheet, or view it during active play.
2. Coaches, teammates, spectators, and other players shall not suggest, signal, or dictate a player's move.
3. Misbehavior—including delaying tactics, repeated unnecessary questioning, disrespect toward officials or opponents, or rude language—shall result in a warning.
4. For Water Patrol and Power Patrol, violations also include improper chip arrangement, incorrect writing of a move or operation, writing before moving a chip, and failure to move after the one-minute warning.
5. For Water Patrol and Power Patrol, the first confirmed violation shall result in a warning and the second violation shall result in forfeiture of that game. For Grades 7–10, a player who accumulates three warnings shall lose the game. A warning issued to a coach for interference or misconduct shall be charged to the coach's player.
6. No snacks shall be served or taken during active play. Players shall use only the scheduled break for snacks.
7. Players, coaches, and spectators shall not conduct post-game analysis, replay completed or unfinished games, or discuss game positions within a 10-meter radius of the playing area.
8. For a player-raised complaint, the facilitator shall stop the clock and settle the issue. Coaches may observe the settlement when called, but must leave the playing area immediately afterward.
9. The facilitator shall not correct an error unless a player raises a timely complaint. A complaint must be made before the protesting player's succeeding move.
10. The decision of the arbiter on gameplay, computation, warnings, and the signed game result shall be final and unappealable.



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PART IV. STEMAZING GUIDELINES AND MECHANICS

Elementary and Secondary • Two-Learner Team Challenge • 180 Minutes

Nature and Categories of the Competition

STEMAZING is a collaborative challenge that engages learners in physical exploration, scientific research, and mathematical investigation. Teams apply science and mathematics concepts, analyze real-world data, develop practical solutions or outputs, and communicate evidence-based findings within a controlled station-based course.

Category	Eligible key stages	Team composition	Grade-level restriction
Elementary	Key Stage 2 — Grades 4–6	Two learners	Only one learner from any one grade level; e.g., Grades 4 and 6
Secondary	Key Stages 3 and 4 — Grades 7–12	Two learners	Only one learner from any one grade level; e.g., Grades 8 and 10, or Grades 11 and 12

Team Eligibility, Registration, and Substitution

1. Each official team shall be composed of two currently enrolled learners who satisfy the category and grade-level restrictions above. The number of official entries and the qualifying or endorsement pathway shall follow the DSTMF 2026 event memorandum.
2. Teams shall complete official registration not later than two weeks before the competition, or by the deadline stated in the event memorandum. Registration shall include the required team, school or district, grade-level, and coach information, together with proof of grade level when required.
3. A replacement may be allowed only for a valid reason and upon official endorsement by the competent school or district authority before the competition begins. The replacement must satisfy the same category and grade-level requirements.
4. Each team shall have an officially designated coach. Coaches may observe from the audience area but shall not enter stations, handle the team's output, give signals, supply answers, or otherwise assist during the competition.
5. The organizer shall issue team identifiers or badges. Only registered team members may enter and attempt the stations.

Pre-Competition Requirements

1. A mandatory orientation shall be conducted approximately one week before the competition. It shall cover the mechanics, course flow, station procedures, scoring, equipment restrictions, safety rules, emergency procedures, and participant questions.



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2. Required participant documents shall include the prescribed participant and parent or guardian consent, medical certificate, and equipment checklist. Other forms announced by the Technical Committee shall be submitted by the stated deadline.
3. Personal and team equipment shall be inspected before the event. Prohibited, unsafe, undeclared, or noncompliant equipment shall not be used.
4. Competition officials shall report at least one hour before the event. Learners, coaches, and permitted audience members shall report at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start. Late arrival shall be assessed by the Technical Committee under the announced event procedure.
5. A final participant briefing shall be held approximately 30 minutes before the start. Questions about the rules or station flow shall be raised during this briefing; once the competition begins, only procedural or safety clarifications may be entertained.

Materials, Venue, and Officials

1. Learner-supplied materials may include:
 - a. ICT tools or laptops with chargers, when required by the announced challenge design;
 - b. extension cords, when necessary and permitted; and
 - c. a personal pocket Wi-Fi device, subject to the station instructions and the prohibition against outside communication.
2. The Technical Committee shall prepare, as required by the course design:
 - a. team badges, station markers or QR printouts, scoring and data forms, maps or route guides, activity tables, and digital timers;
 - b. science laboratory equipment, Casio scientific calculators, measuring tools, yarn or ribbons, tangrams, and writing materials;
 - c. a QR-reading device when QR use is permitted; and
 - d. first-aid and emergency equipment, required personal protective equipment, and other station-specific safety materials.

The venue shall use the school grounds or another designated controlled area with checkpoint stations, investigation areas, presentation space, a rest or first-aid area, and an emergency assembly area. Access shall be limited to the Technical Committee, Board of Judges or panel, authorized officials and photographers, and competing learners. Coaches and audience members shall remain in their designated area.

Course Design and Station Procedure

1. The course shall contain three to ten stations, with at least one station in each difficulty category: Easy, Average, and Difficult. Each category or phase may contain one to four stations; the Difficult category shall have the fewest stations.
2. Elementary challenges shall predominantly address mathematics competencies, while secondary challenges shall predominantly address science competencies. All challenges shall require application of relevant concepts, use of evidence or real-world data, development of a solution or output, and communication of findings, as appropriate.



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3. Station distribution may be adjusted to the challenge, resources, and venue, provided that the category maximums and the 100-point total are preserved. Each station should accommodate at least five teams simultaneously whenever practicable.
4. Teams shall begin at Station 1 and proceed according to the official route or rotation. Teams may start at intervals. Simultaneous starts may be used when resources permit; otherwise, batches and a controlled waiting area shall be used.
5. Each station shall have a stated time limit. Teams shall activate and deactivate the provided digital timer as directed. Completion time shall be recorded for tie-breaking but shall not change a station score.
6. The station marshal shall validate the submitted answer, output, recorded data, or completion status before the team proceeds.
7. A team that leaves or discontinues a station may not return to it. Returning to a discontinued station shall result in disqualification.
8. The entire competition shall run for 180 minutes. Teams shall stop all work when the overall time is called.
9. Communication with coaches, spectators, or any other outside party during the competition shall result in automatic disqualification.

Scoring and Assessment

Difficulty category	Maximum category score	Usual maximum per station	Scoring rule
Easy	30 points	10 points	Correct or completed output earns the allotted points; incorrect or unfinished direct-answer work earns 0.
Average	30 points	15 points	Objective items are scored according to the number correct.
Difficult	40 points	20 points	May include a written proposal and/or oral presentation or argument.

Category cap: The competition total is always 100 points. If a difficulty category has only one station, that station may exceed the usual per-station maximum, but it may never exceed the category maximum.

Assessed output	Criterion	Points	Administration
Written proposal — 20	Content, thematic relevance, and organization — 8	20	If used without the oral component,



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Assessed output	Criterion	Point s	Administration
	Feasibility of solution/output based on scientific, mathematical, or technological principles and valid assumptions — 6 Relevance of data — 6		multiply the written-proposal score by 2.
Oral presentation / argument — 20	Discussion, arguments, and delivery — 8 Content and organization — 5 Ability to answer questions — 7	20	Two-minute presentation followed by five-minute question-and-answer period. One point is deducted for each additional minute. If used without the written component, multiply the oral score by 2.

For judged outputs, each judge shall first record an individual score. The panel shall then confer and arrive at a consensus score. Station results shall be verified in real time, and final totals shall be checked by the panel chair and the Technical Committee.

Ranking, Tie-Breaking, and Awards

1. The team with the highest cumulative score shall rank first, followed by the teams with the next highest cumulative scores.
2. If teams have equal cumulative scores, the team with the shorter total recorded completion time shall rank higher.
3. If both cumulative score and total completion time are tied, the affected teams shall answer a do-or-die tie-breaker question under the direction of the Technical Committee.
4. The Top 5 teams in each category shall be recognized during the awarding or closing program.
5. The decision of the Board of Judges or duly constituted panel shall be final.

Safety, Emergencies, and Post-Event Duties

1. The organizer shall establish safe zones, required personal protective equipment, hydration and rest arrangements, and station-specific safety instructions. Learners shall comply immediately with all safety directions.
2. Station masters, a medical team, a safety officer, and technical support personnel shall be assigned and briefed. Procedures shall cover medical incidents, adverse weather, equipment or technical failure, evacuation, and a lost or separated team.



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3. Every incident shall be reported, documented on the prescribed form, responded to promptly, and reviewed after the event for corrective action.
4. When the competition ends, teams shall clean their assigned main hall, waiting-room, or work area and return issued materials as directed.



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PART V. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FAIR GUIDELINES AND MECHANICS

TUKLAS Research Competition and STEM Innovation Expo • DSTMF 2026

Coverage and Research Categories

The DSTMF Science and Technology Fair adopts the pertinent National Science and Technology Fair 2026 rules for TUKLAS research projects and the STEM Innovation Expo. Research advisers and learners shall select the category that most accurately describes the project.

Category	Scope	Selected subcategories / concerns
Life Science (LS)	Living organisms and life processes	Animal sciences; biomedical and health sciences; cellular and molecular biology; microbiology; plant sciences; translational medical science
Physical Science (PS)	Non-living matter, energy, materials, phenomena, and systems	Astronomy; chemistry; Earth and environmental sciences; energy; engineering technology; statics and dynamics; sustainable materials and design; environmental engineering; materials science; physics
Robotics and Intelligent Machines (RIM)	Design and use of machine intelligence and automation	Biomechanics; cognitive systems; control theory; machine learning; robot kinematics
Mathematics and Computational Science (MCS)	Mathematical relationships, models, simulations, and computer-based solutions	Algebra; analysis; combinatorics; graph/game theory; geometry/topology; number theory; probability/statistics; computational biology, chemistry, mechanics, and physics
STEM Innovation Expo (STEMIE)	Creative, market-viable innovation addressing major issues	Food safety; water conservation; renewable energy; cybersecurity; road safety; health; disaster mitigation; agriculture; environment

Eligibility and DSTMF Special Arrangement

- Under the national baseline, the competition is open to Grades 9–12 learners from public and private high schools who have not reached 20 years of age on or before May 1 of the current school year.
- DSTMF 2026 special arrangement: Key Stage 2 learners in Grades 4–6 may also participate in the Science and Technology Fair, but only under the Life Science and Physical Science categories. This local accommodation does not remove any research ethics, safety, pre-approval, documentation, exhibit, or judging requirement.



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3. Key Stage 2 entries are DSTMF-level entries. They shall not be endorsed to a higher-level Science and Technology Fair unless a subsequent official issuance expressly authorizes their eligibility and advancement.
4. A project may be entered by one learner or by a team of two to three learners from the same school. Each learner may be included in only one research project and only one category.
5. The number of entries to be endorsed by a school or district and the local qualifying pathway shall follow the DSTMF 2026 event memorandum. Every entry must carry the required official endorsement.
6. Research shall cover no more than 12 months of continuous work and shall not include research activities conducted before January of the previous school year. For School Year 2025–2026, the allowable research period is one to twelve months from January 2025 to January 2026.

Classification: The Technical Committee and Scientific Review Committee (SRC) may reclassify an entry when another category more accurately describes the project. A Key Stage 2 project may be reclassified only between Life Science and Physical Science.

Required Pre-Experiment Review and Approvals

All research plans shall be reviewed before experimentation. Projects involving human participants, vertebrate animals, potentially hazardous biological agents, human or animal tissue, hazardous chemicals or devices, controlled substances, or work in a regulated institution require the applicable prior approvals and qualified supervision. Experimentation shall not begin until every required pre-approval has been secured.

Document / form	When required	Completion timing
Form 1 — Checklist for Adult Sponsor; Form 1A — Student Checklist; Form 1B — Approval Form; Research Plan	All projects	Before experimentation
Form 1C — Regulated Research Institution / Industrial Setting	Work conducted in a regulated institution, industrial setting, or work site other than home, school, or field	After experimentation, by supervising adult
Form 2 — Qualified Scientist	Human participants, vertebrate animals, potentially hazardous biological agents, hazardous or controlled substances, as applicable	Before experimentation



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Document / form	When required	Completion timing
Form 3 — Risk Assessment	Hazardous chemicals, activities, devices, and covered microorganisms	Before experimentation
Form 4 and Human Informed Consent	Research involving human participants	Before experimentation
Forms 5A / 5B — Vertebrate Animal	Vertebrate-animal research at school/home/field or a regulated research institution	Before experimentation and institutional approval as applicable
Forms 6A / 6B — Potentially Hazardous Biological Agents / Human and Vertebrate Animal Tissue	Microorganisms, rDNA, tissue, blood, blood products, body fluids, and covered cultures	Before experimentation
Form 7 — Continuation / Research Progression	Continuation or progression in the same field as a previous project	Before experimentation; attach prior abstract and research plan

Research Plan, Data Logbook, Paper, and Abstract

Research Plan

1. Rationale and scientific or societal importance;
2. research question or problem;
3. goals, expected outcomes, or hypotheses;
4. detailed procedures and experimental design for data collection;
5. risk identification and safety precautions;
6. data-analysis procedures; and
7. a bibliography of at least five major references in APA style, including an animal-care reference when vertebrate animals are used.

Project Data Logbook

The data logbook shall contemporaneously document planning, research design, drawings, procedures, data collection, analysis, inferences, conclusions, changes, and difficulties. A hard-bound notebook and permanent ink are recommended; pages shall remain intact, entries shall be dated, measurements shall include units, and the supervising adult shall sign applicable research-activity entries.



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Research Paper

Project type	Required organization
Science project	Introduction; Methods; Results; Discussion; Conclusions; References
Engineering project	Introduction / engineering problem and goal; Methods / design and testing; Results; Discussion; Conclusions; References
Mathematics and Computational Science project	Introduction / research question; Framework; Findings and supporting arguments; Conclusions; References

The references section shall not exceed one page and shall use APA style. Methods for science and engineering papers shall explain what was done but shall not contain a separate materials list. Continuation projects shall clearly distinguish the current year's work from earlier work.

Abstract and Research Integrity

1. The abstract shall contain no more than 250 words and shall state the purpose, procedures performed by the learner researcher(s), key observations/data/results, and conclusions.
2. The abstract shall not contain tables, charts, graphs, images, acknowledgments, a bibliography, references to mentors or institutional facilities, or work or procedures performed by a mentor.
3. For a continuation project, the abstract shall summarize only the current year's work; any reference to prior work shall be minimal.
4. Scientific fraud and misconduct are prohibited. Plagiarism, presenting another person's work as one's own, fabrication or falsification of data, and other fraudulent practices shall result in disqualification.

Entry Submission and SRC Screening

1. The official entry shall include three hard copies and one digital set of the properly sequenced, category color-coded research manuscript, all required forms and approvals, the research plan, abstract, data logbook or required scanned copy, media release consent, and other documents stated in the event memorandum.
2. The school head shall endorse the entry. The report of the lower-level fair or qualifying process shall be attached when required.
3. The division SRC shall screen the manuscript, forms, certifications, pre-approvals, and data logbook against national laws, ethical requirements, safety rules, and the NSTF/ISEF-based checkpoints. The SRC shall issue a Review and Recommendation Report (RRR).
4. Only entries cleared by the SRC may proceed to final judging. The SRC may require corrections or clarifications; its qualification decision shall be final and irrevocable.



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5. Qualified entries shall resubmit the digital manuscript, revised requirements, and presentation materials by the announced deadline, with revisions traceable to the RRR.

The SRC shall have at least three members per category. Members shall have at least three years of STEM research experience and/or graduate degrees in STEM-related fields, possess appropriate disciplinary diversity, understand applicable laws and current ethical and safety rules, disclose conflicts of interest, preserve confidentiality, and remain independent of participating entries.

Project Poster Display and Safety

1. The project poster shall be printed on photo paper, mounted in a self-standing trifold setup, and placed on the provided table. It shall measure 48 inches wide by 48 inches high. Tarpaulins are not allowed.
2. The display shall summarize the current year's work and include: Abstract; Background; Objectives; Significance; Methodology; Results and Discussion; Conclusion; Recommendations; Bibliography; and photo, illustration, and graphic credits.
3. Photographs of persons other than the learner researcher(s) require a signed photo release; a guardian must also sign when the subject is under 18. Every borrowed image, chart, table, graph, illustration, and background image shall carry a credit line.
4. Awards, medals, business cards, flags, nonessential logos, storage media, brochures, booklets, endorsements, giveaways, acknowledgments, learner contact information, QR codes, and active internet or email connections are not allowed unless an item is an integral approved part of the project.
5. Living organisms; soil, sand, rock, or waste samples; taxidermy or preserved animals; human or animal food, parts, tissues, or body fluids; raw plant material; chemicals including water; hazardous substances or devices; dry ice; sharps; flames or highly flammable materials; open-cell batteries; and unapproved glass objects are prohibited at the display.
6. Unsafe heat-producing, moving, distracting, exposed, inadequately shielded, or otherwise hazardous apparatus is prohibited. The SRC and Display and Safety Committee may remove or modify any display or project component for safety or fair-integrity reasons.
7. The official research logbook shall contain the signed abstract, Form 1, Form 1A, research plan, Form 1B, and all other applicable ISEF/NSTF forms. The Technical Committee may inspect it during screening and judging.

Conduct of the DSTMF Science and Technology Fair

1. Learner researchers and their adviser shall register and submit the required revised soft-bound, color-coded manuscripts with tags or another clear indication of revisions made in response to the RRR. Formal attire is encouraged during final judging.
2. Learners shall set up their project poster displays. The Technical Committee shall inspect every display before judging and may require immediate correction to comply with the prescribed format and safety rules.



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3. Qualified projects shall undergo on-site evaluation and final presentation or defense through the STEM Congress or the equivalent DSTMF judging session.
4. Only the learner researcher(s) may present and answer questions. Advisers, coaches, parents, and other adults shall not prompt, supply answers, or participate in the defense.
5. The Board of Judges shall deliberate after completing all evaluations. Its decision shall be final and irrevocable upon announcement.
6. After the fair, winning entries shall incorporate the SRC and Board of Judges recommendations, resubmit the revised manuscript and requirements for final quality assurance, and undergo mentoring or mock-presentation activities when scheduled.

Judging Criteria

TUKLAS criterion	Weight	Core consideration
Creative Ability	30%	Originality in the question, approach, analysis, interpretation, equipment, or design; ingenuity rather than gadgeteering
Scientific Thought / Engineering Goals	30%	Clear and researchable problem or objective; sound plan, variables and controls; adequate data; limitations; relevant design, feasibility, and testing
Thoroughness	15%	Completion, coverage, replication, notes, awareness of alternatives and literature, and complete dated logbook detail
Skill	15%	Laboratory, computational, observational, and design competence; appropriate independence and transparent assistance
Clarity	10%	Understanding, orderly explanation, clear data and results, effective display, and forthright presentation

STEM Innovation Expo

Criterion	Weight
Originality and Creativity	35%
Community Connection and Impact	20%
Market Attractiveness	20%
Project Pitching	15%
Utilization of Patent Information	10%



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Project Poster Display Special Award

When a separate Best Poster or project-poster award is conferred, the official criteria are: Logical Organization of Material — 35%; Clarity of Visuals and Adherence to Format — 30%; Supporting Documentation Displayed — 10%; and Interview — 25%.

Ranking, Awards, and Advancement

1. Each project shall be evaluated by three members of the Board of Judges using the applicable official criteria.
2. Winners shall be determined from the sum of the rankings assigned by the three judges. The individual entry or team with the lowest total rank shall place highest.
3. If total ranks are tied, the Board of Judges assigned to the category shall deliberate and break the tie. Its decision shall be final and irrevocable.
4. The Top 5 individual and Top 5 team projects in each applicable research category shall be recognized at the division level. For advancement, only nationally eligible entries shall be considered: the Top 2 eligible individual and Top 2 eligible team projects in each national category shall proceed to the Regional Science and Technology Fair, subject to complete requirements and official endorsement.
5. Special awards such as Best Poster, Best Presenter(s), Best Shoutout, and duly sponsored honorable awards may be conferred without altering the official category rankings.

Final Provisions

The organizing committee may issue necessary procedural clarifications or adjustments in response to venue, safety, security, or force-majeure conditions, provided that such changes are communicated to all participating schools and districts and applied uniformly. Any amendment affecting eligibility, scoring, coverage, awards, ranking, Sci-Dama boards, STEMAZING stations, research categories, or Science Fair requirements shall be issued in writing before the start of the applicable competition. These guidelines shall govern the DSTMF 2026 Science Olympiad, Sci-Dama, STEMAZING, and Science and Technology Fair unless superseded by a subsequent official memorandum or written advisory from the Schools Division Office.

References

- Department of Education. (2026a, February 10). *National Science and Technology Fair for School Year 2025–2026* (DepEd Memorandum No. 006, s. 2026). https://www.deped.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/DM_s2026_006r.pdf
- Department of Education. (2026b). *STEMazing guidelines: National Festival of Talents 2026* [Contest guidelines].



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DSTMF 2026 Contests Schedule and Technical Working Groups

Science Olympiad (Elementary)

Grade Level	Contest	TWG	Schedule
1	A. Spelling B. History	1. Ariel Valila (Catubig III) 2. Judy Rose Honoridez (Palapag III)	Day 1, A. 1 - 2 pm B. 2:30 - 3:30 pm C. 4 - 5 pm
2	A. Spelling B. History	1. Mat Banagbanag (Capul) 2. Vivien Salomon (San Roque)	
3	A. Science B. Techno C. Envi Sci	1. Daisy Monares (Las Navas I) 2. Archelle June Catapan (Pambujan I) 3. Eileen Almaden (Victoria)	
4	A. Science B. Techno C. Envi Sci	1. Mannylyn Orane (Mapanas) 2. Mercy Rebadomea (Catubig I) 3. Josephine Saludario (Lope de Vega)	
5	A. Science B. Techno C. Envi Sci	1. Ruth Monta (Pambujan II) 2. Welsa Sarominez (Silvino Lubos) 3. Suchita Dela Cruz (San Antonio)	
6	A. Science B. Techno C. Envi Sci	1. Ederlyn Alonzo (Catubig III) 2. Leonila Salazar (Capul) 3. Harleen Baldostamo (Las Navas III)	
(3 learners, 1 from each grade level)	Science	1. Josephine Saludario (Lope de Vega) 2. Suchita Dela Cruz (San Antonio) 3. Ariel Valila (Catubig III)	Day 2, 8 - 9:30 am
(2 learners, 1 from each grade level in Key Stage 2)	STEMAZING (Elementary)	1. Katrina Pinca (Laoang II) 2. Ederlyn Alonzo (Catubig III) 3. Ariel Valila (Catubig III) 4. Girly Castillo (Pambujan II) 5. Quirico Nalic (Lapinig) 6. Nelia Giray (Pambujan II) 7. Regine Muñoz (Pambujan I) 8. Rica Delorino (Laoang I)	Day 3, 7 - 11 am

Sci Dama (Elementary)

Grade Level	Contest	TWG	Schedule
3	Sci Dama	Chief Arbiter: Christian Martires (Lavezares II)	Day 1, 1 - 4 pm



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4		Co-chair: 1. Roger Gloriane (Palapag III) 2. Joey Morales (Pambujan I) 3. Junjie Largo (Lavezares I)	Day 2, 7 - 5 pm
5			
6			

Science Investigatory Project (Elementary)

Grade Level	Contest	TWG	Schedule
4 - 6	Life Science (Individual)	Chairperson: Stephanie Tomada (Catubig II)	Poster Presentation: Day 1, 1 - 5 pm
4 - 6	Life Science (Team)	Co-chairperson: Shella Amor (San Isidro II)	Oral Presentation and Q&A: Day 2, 7 am - 5 pm
4 - 6	Physical Science (Individual)	Members: 1. Aileen Generalao (San Isidro I) 2. Yasmin Severino (Lapinig)	
4 - 6	Physical Science (Team)	3. Annabelle Versoza (Catarman III)	

Science Olympiad (Secondary)

Grade Level	No. of Participants per School	TWG	Schedule
7	3	1. Russian Kim E. Recluta (Landusan NHS) 2. Erlis V. Corot Jr. (Catarman NHS)	Day 1, 1 - 2 pm
8	3	3. Janus Keeve S. Ada (Polangi NHS) 4. Kim Paul A. Mungcal (BBCMAIS)	Day 1, 2:30 - 3:30 pm
9	3	5. Keziah Jem B. Remoreras (Lipata NHS) 6. Bernard B. Balleto (Veriato NHS) 7. Roemar Corong (Bantayan NHS)	Day 1, 4 - 5 pm



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10	3	1. Leizel Lagarto (Pambujan NHS) 2. Jairo C. Gorda (Polangi NHS) 3. Janice M. Justiniane (Catubig VNHS)	Day 2, 7 – 8 am
11	3	4. Mary Jobelle M. Tonacao (ETBMSF) 5. Jean C. Luspe (Lope de Vega NHS)	Day 2, 8:30 – 9:30 am
12	3	6. Melody Bernan (Dancalan IS) 7. Danna Dee O. Macalos (Hibubullao NHS)	Day 2, 10 – 11 am

Sci Dama (Secondary)

Grade Level	Contest	TWG	Schedule
7	Electro	Chief Arbiter: Dendo Balanquit (SRPVHS)	Day 1 – 2, 7 am – 5 pm
8	Scientific Notation	Arbiters: 1. Arman Galero (Laoang NTHS) 2. Rogelio Roy Evasco (Pambujan NHS)	
9	THI	3. Jerry L. Cangayao (Cahayagan NHS) 4. Maly Modrigo Pinca (Catigbian NHS)	
10	Thermo	5. Ramel Gaspan (Allen NHS) 6. Geny Sosing (Fructouso BRNHS)	

Science Investigatory Project (Secondary)

Grade Level	Contest	TWG	Schedule
7 – 12	Life Science (Individual)	1. Emer Capate (Capacujan NHS)	Poster Presentation: Day 1, 1 – 5 pm
7 – 12	Life Science (Team)	2. Ruel Carpon (Allen NHS) 3. Joemar Mejica (Rawis NHS)	
			Oral Presentation and Q&A: Day 2, 7 am – 5 pm



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7 - 12	Physical Science (Individual)	1. Ronnagil Joy Lagro (Capul AIS) 2. Janice Loreto (Catarman NHS) 3. Fatima Arraza (BSPC)	Poster Presentation: Day 1, 1 - 5 pm
7 - 12	Physical Science (Team)		Oral Presentation and Q&A: Day 2, 7 am - 5 pm
7 - 12	Robotics and Intelligent Machines (Individual)	1. Elvin Jarito (Don Juan FANHS) 2. Liberty Lastra (Galutan NHS) 3. Marife Balanquit (Pambujan NHS) 4. Myra Suits (San Isidro NHS) 5. Lynn Tan (Alegria NHS) 6. Josefa Almie Yabut (Allen NHS)	Poster Presentation: Day 1, 1 - 5 pm
7 - 12	Robotics and Intelligent Machines (Individual)		Oral Presentation and Q&A: Day 2, 7 am - 5 pm
7 - 12	Mathematics and Computational Science (Individual)		
7 - 12	Mathematics and Computational Science (Team)		
7 - 12	STEM Innovation Expo (Individual)		
7 - 12	STEM Innovation Expo (Team)		

STEMAZING (Secondary)

Grade Level	No. of Participants	TWG	Schedule
7 - 12	2 (1 for each grade level)	1. Emer Capate (Capacujan NHS) 2. Ruel Carpon (Allen NHS) 3. Joemar Mejica (Rawis NHS) 4. Ronnagil Joy Largo (Capul AIS)	Day 3, 7 - 11 am



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		5. Janice Loreto (Catarman NHS) 6. Fatima Arraza (BSPC) 7. Elvin Jarito (Don Juan FANHS) 8. Liberty Lastra (Galutan NHS) 9. Marife Balanquit (Pambujan NHS) 10. Myra Suitsos (San Isidro NHS) 11. Lynn Tan (Alegria NHS) 12. Josefa Almie Yabut (Allen NHS)	
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Guidelines and Rules for the Division Spelling Bee in Mathematics (For Grades 1 to 2)

I. Objectives

1. To enhance pupils' mastery of fundamental mathematical vocabulary and concepts.
2. To develop confidence, accuracy, and presence of mind in oral spelling.
3. To promote healthy competition and academic excellence among young learners.

II. Eligibility

1. The competition is open to **Grades 1-3 pupils** officially enrolled in public and private schools within the Division.
2. Each school may send **one representative per grade level** (maximum of 3 participants per district).

III. Mechanics of the Competition

1. Word List Preparation

- The official word list shall be prepared by the Division Mathematics Supervisor in coordination with the TWG.
- Words shall be age-appropriate and limited to mathematics-related vocabulary suitable for Grades 1-3.
- Number of items for **Grade 1 is 20; Grade 2 is 25; Grade 3 is 30**. In case of tie, **5 additional items** are ready as **tie-breaker**.

2. Quiz Master Role

- The quiz master shall clearly state the word, use it in a sentence, and repeat it

3. Spelling Procedure

- Contestants will write the word right after the quiz master repeat the given word and say **"Go"**.

IV. Awards

- **Champion, 1st Runner-Up and 2nd Runner-Up** shall be declared per grade level.
- Winners shall receive certificates, medals, and recognition during the awarding ceremony.

Guidelines and Rules for the Division Mathematics Quiz Bee (For Grades 3 to 10)

I. Objectives

1. To promote mastery of mathematical concepts and problem-solving across grade levels.
2. To strengthen analytical thinking, speed, and accuracy among learners.
3. To encourage academic excellence and healthy competition in Mathematics.

II. Eligibility

1. The competition is open to all **public and private schools within the Division**.
2. For **Elementary**, only the district winner and for **Secondary**, only the school winner qualifies as contestant for the Division Quiz Bee Competition.

3. Contestants must be officially enrolled and register.

III. Coverage of Questions

1. Questions shall be based on the **Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCs)** and curriculum standards in Mathematics per grade level.
2. Levels of difficulty:
 - **Easy Round** – Recall and basic understanding (e.g. definitions, simple operations.)
 - **Average Round** – Application of skills and multi-step problems.
 - **Difficult Round** – Higher-order thinking, analysis, and problem-solving.
3. Each grade level shall have a separate set of questions appropriate to their competency level.

IV. Mechanics of the Competition

1. **Format**
 - The quiz bee shall be conducted in **three rounds**: Easy, Average, and Difficult.
 - Questions shall be answered **individually**.
2. **Questioning Procedure**
 - The quizmaster will read each question twice only.
 - Contestants will bring pen and will be provided with answer sheets.
3. **Time Allotment per Question**
 - Easy Round: **20 seconds**
 - Average Round: **30 seconds**
 - Difficult Round: **45 seconds**
4. **Scoring**
 - Easy Round: **1 point each**
 - Average Round: **2 points each**
 - Difficult Round: **3 points each**
 - No deductions for wrong answers
5. **Elimination and Finalists**
 - Scores will be tallied after each round.
 - The contestant with the **highest total score** per grade level will be declared the **Champion**, followed by the **1st Runner-Up** and **2nd Runner-Up**.
 - In case of a tie, a **tiebreaker round** with one clincher question will be given.

V. Rules of Conduct

1. Contestant must remain seated and quiet.
2. Coaches and members of the audience are strictly prohibited from giving hints, gestures, or comments.
3. Any act of dishonesty or misconduct will result in disqualification.
4. Decisions of the Board of Judges are **final and irrevocable**.

VI. Officials of the Competition

1. **Quizmaster** – reads the questions and enforces mechanics.
2. **Timekeeper** – keeps track of the time limit for each question.
3. **Scorers** – record and tally points accurately.
4. **Board of Judges** – resolves issues and validates answers.

VII. Awards

- **Champion, 1st Runner-Up, and 2nd Runner-Up** shall be declared per grade level.
- Winners shall receive medals/certificates and recognition during the awarding ceremony.

Guidelines and Rules for the Division Mathematics Olympiad (For Grades 3 to 10)

I. Objectives

1. To develop learners' logical reasoning, problem-solving, and mathematical creativity.
2. To provide a venue for pupils and students to apply mathematics in higher-order thinking situations.
3. To foster academic excellence, sportsmanship, and love for mathematics among learners in the Division.

II. Eligibility

1. The competition is open to all **public and private schools within the Division**.
2. For **Elementary**, only the district winners (3 pupils) and for **Secondary**, only the school winners (3 students) qualify as contestant for the Division Mathematics Olympiad.
3. Contestants must be officially enrolled and registered.

III. Coverage of Questions

1. Questions shall be aligned with the **Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCS)** and Revised K to 10 Curriculum Standards in Mathematics per grade level.
2. Questions will test:
 - **Basic Knowledge & Skills** (recall, definitions, facts)
 - **Application & Computation** (multi-step problems-solving)
 - **Higher-order Thinking Skills (HOTS)** (reasoning, analysis, and non-routine problems)
3. The difficulty of the questions shall increase according to grade level.

IV. Competition Format

The Olympiad shall consist of **two parts**:

1. **Written Elimination Round**
 - All contestants per grade level shall answer a written test.
 - Time Allotment: **30 minutes (Grades 1-3); 45 minutes (Grades 4-6); 60 minutes (Grades 7-10)**
 - The top 5 scorers per grade level will advance to the Final Round.
2. **Final Round (Oral/Board Round)**
 - Contestants answer problems one at a time using slates/boards.
 - Rounds: **Easy, Average, and Difficult**
 - Time Limits:
 - Easy: **30 seconds**
 - Average: **1 minute**
 - Difficult: **2 minutes**

- Contestant show their answers simultaneously when the timekeeper says **"Boards Up!"**

V. Scoring System

1. **Written Round** – Each correct answer earns 1 point. Scores determine finalists.
2. **Final Round** – Points per question:
 - Easy: **1 point**
 - Average: **2 points**
 - Difficult: **3 points**
3. The contestant with the **highest cumulative score** after all rounds is declared **Champion**, followed by **1st Runner-Up** and **2nd Runner-Up**.
4. **Tiebreaker**: if there is a tie, an additional clincher problem will be given.

VI. Rules of Conduct

1. Contestants must follow time limits strictly. Late answers will not be considered.
2. Calculators and electronic devices are not allowed.
3. Contestants and coaches must remain in designated areas and observe silence.
4. Audience must maintain order and refrain from giving hints, reaction, or distractions.
5. Any acts of dishonesty or misconduct will result in disqualification.

VII. Officials of the Competition

1. **Quizmaster/Facilitator** – reads and explains the problems.
2. **Timekeeper** – signals the start and end of allotted time.
3. **Scorers** – record and tally points accurately.
4. **Board of Judges** – resolves disputes, validates answers, and declare winners.

VIII. Awards

- **Champion, 1st Runner-Up, and 2nd Runner-Up** shall be declared for each grade level.
- Winners shall receive medals, certificates, and recognition during the awarding ceremony.

MATRIX OF ACTIVITIES (MATHEMATICS)

DIVISION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MATHEMATICS FAIR 2026

Date	Time	Venue	Contest	Grade Level	Assign TWG
September 4, 2026 (Day 1)	8:00 – 10:00am	Kamagsangkay Gym	Opening Program		
	10:00 – 12:00nn	Pambujan NHS	SPELLING BEE	1 to 2	Overall Chairman: Evelyn Virtudes & Michael Froilan Grade 1: Nestle De Asis, Lonie Morillo, Vilma Pamplona Grade 2: Joy Sanlano, Meda Bandel, Jeanne Hena
	Lunch Break				
	1:00 – 5:00pm	Pambujan NHS	MATH QUIZ BEE	3 – 10	Grade 3: Andlyn Balero, Shiela Gimenc, Maridel Bantilo Grade 4: Elvira Ortenero, Marilyn Morillo, Kariza Tan Grade 5: Lyn Fernandez, Kenith Dadap, Solly Lutao Grade 6: Freddie Ortenero, Rebecca Gayon, Gemma Galit Grade 7: Kent Loyola, Marilyn Menial, Vanissa Debuton Grade 8: Chando Pidago, Roy Mercader, Adrian Salazar Grade 9: Bien Morillo, Melvin Capaco, Danica Openiano Grade 10: Levi Calubog, Melvin Christian Tingzon, Jann Bennith Visaya
		Kamagsangkay Gym	DAMATH BOARD GAMES	3 – 10	Overall Chairman: Arnio Saludario Grade 3: Christian Galero, Jega Miano, Rico Nebrao Grade 4: Eladio Fuentes, Anabelle Pulga, Mildred Romines Grade 5: Dionesio Poldo Jr., Ruth Miranda, Victor Mendieta Grade 6: Allan Remedillo, Marietta Gabrito, Marilyn Honey Grade 7: Antonio Laoderio, Genna Lobos, Diamarie Mae Lathrop Grade 8: Glenn Lotok, Nelson Gorpido, Geraldine Rejuso, Diosdado Potot Grade 9: Salve Broniold, Daniel Laayan, Farrah Kathrine Evasco

					Grade 10: Mirafior Cabacang, Elve Vicencio, Mitche Orquia
September 5, 2026 (Day 2)	8:00 – 5:00pm	Pambujan NHS Multi-Purpose Hall	MATH OLYMPIAD	1 – 10	Overall Chairman: Evelyn Virtudes & Michael Froilan Grade 1: Nestle De Asis, Lonie Morillo, Vilma Pamplona Grade 2: Joy Saniano, Meda Bandal, Jeanne Hena Grade 3: Andlyn Balero, Shiela Gimena, Maridel Bantilo Grade 4: Elvira Ortenero, Marilyn Morillo, Kariza Tan Grade 5: Lyn Fernandez, Kenith Daddap, Solly Lutao Grade 6: Freddie Ortenero, Rebecca Gayon, Gemma Galit Grade 7: Kent Loyola, Marilyn Menial, Vanissa Debuton Grade 8: Chando Picalago, Roy Mercader, Adrian Salazar Grade 9: Bien Morillo, Melvin Capaco, Danica Openiano Grade 10: Levi Calubag, Melvin Christian Tingzon, Jenn Bennith Visaya
September 6, 2026 (Day 3)	8:00 – 10:00am	Kamagsangkay Gym	Continuation: DAMATH BOARD GAMES	3 – 10	-
		Pambujan I CES	NUMBER RACE – (STEMAZING ELEM.)	-	Overall Chairman: Dr. Roberto Galano & Dr. Francisco Bottaire Jr. Members: Regemar Lamberte Joldan Lambino Myla Adiaton Roy Mercader Kent Loyola Andlyn Balero Elvira Ortenero
	12:00nn	Lunch Break			
	1:00 – 3:00pm	Closing/Awarding Ceremony			