

To: Executive Committee  
From: PWO Committee  
Subject: WEF Qualification Scenarios  
State Reimbursement  
Budget Recommendation

Date: 04/27/2015

This request is in regards to several issues, below are PWO committee recommendations in adopting a WEASC Operations Challenge Reimbursement policy.

- 1) WEF Competition Scenarios: Guideline for sending 2 (two) state winning teams to the national competition (WEFTEC). There are three scenarios that apply. Different scenarios are required because there are two separate divisions at the national level and this must be considered. Based on the past results, each scenario can be applicable. South Carolina can only send two teams to WEF (this is based on delegate seats for SC).

Scenario #1: This scenario will most likely be implemented more often because, in the past, most of the SC teams are at a Division 2 level unless they earn the right to compete at the higher Division 1 level at the nationals. The process to earn the right to compete in Division 1 is as follows:

- *At WEFTEC, if any division 2 team finishes 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> overall, automatically qualifies to division 1.*
- *Must retain at least 3 original team members of previous team.*
- *Should the qualifying team compete with Division 1 at WEFTEC, and not win at least one trophy (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in any event) or place in the top three overall must revert back to Division 2.*

With this scenario, the top two (2) teams in the state can advance to compete in the nationals as Division 2 teams. See Reimbursement Guidelines below.

Scenario #2: If there is only one (1) Division 1 team at the state level, the top two (2) teams in the state regardless of division status can advance to the nationals. See Reimbursement Guidelines below.

Scenario #3: Should there be two Division 1 teams at the state level, the winner of those two teams at the state level will advance. The same will apply for Division 2 teams that compete at the state level. Regardless, only 2 teams (1<sup>st</sup> place Division 1 and 1st place Division 2) can advance to the nationals. See Reimbursement Guidelines below.

2) Reimbursement Guidelines.

- The WEASC team overall winner shall be reimbursed for air travel, transportation to and from the hotel, lodging, pre-determined food allowance and team entry fee. This only applies to the four (4) team members only. Team coaches or spare team members do not apply.
- The WEASC team that finishes 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall, the same applies based on WEASC adopted budget guideline.

3) Budget Recommendation

As we know, (WEASC) appropriately decided to start sending two (2) teams to WEFTEC. However, the current policy only allows for one team. The decision to send two teams, in my opinion, is the best decision we have made in my 23 years of participation/judging. Sending two teams has without a doubt boosted our competition level and overall status on a national level. This must remain intact for several reasons as stated below:

- WEASC participation - I feel this increases an organizations willingness to support sending teams to compete at the state level.
- Sending two teams also creates initiative to perform at a higher level. Practice harder and achieve better results.
- Provides better opportunity - It is sometimes a bit intimidating for new teams to participate because they know they must out perform more experienced teams. The chance to compete at WEF by finishing in the top two in state simply provides more opportunity.

The PWO Committee recommendation to send two teams paid in full as suggested in the reimbursement guideline has been approved in the 2015-16 budget. However, there has never been a policy in place that covers all possible scenarios the state is and has been challenged with.

As of July 2014, the Executive Committee has approved a sponsorship program. The sponsorship fund is managed by the WEASC while the PWO Committee will perform solicitation of sponsors. This will undoubtedly bring more revenue to PWO lessening the expenditure burden.

In addition, the PWO committee feels that we must stay in tune with the national level event changes and budget appropriately. I am always communicating with Steve Harrison and other WEFTEC event coordinators. WEFTEC and state MA's are increasingly "getting on board" with the Operations Challenge because it is becoming a great way to boost attendance and improve sponsor recognitions.