

Team Manager Newsletter

November 2015

Team Manager Tips

I recently attended the Team Manager training held in Yarmouth. What an amazing meeting. Having been a Team Manager for seven years, I often take things for granted. This was a great reminder of the enthusiasm, creativity and concerns new Team Managers bring with them.

The discussion included topics such as:

- Team dynamics
- Working with parents
- Meeting dynamics
- Picking a Central Challenge
- Practicing Instant Challenges
- Team Choice Elements
- Dates of events
- Interference
- Challenge budgets

One of the most interesting aspects of these meetings is the interaction between new and more experienced Team Managers. As an experienced Team Manager I learn just as much as the New Team Managers. Their questions make me take another look at how my teams run.

I would encourage all Team Managers to take advantage of the next training in Washburn on 11/21/15 and I want to thank Lianne for putting together the training in Yarmouth.

Interference

One of the topics we discussed a lot at the training was interference. There were some

great questions about what is and is not interference. This is something Destination Imagination takes seriously. You can find information about interference on page 17 of the Rules of the Road and you can find an Interference Contract on page 29 of the Road Map.

The Rules of the Road include the Interference Triangle and reminds Team Managers that the challenge solution must be the team's alone. No one but the team members may take part in creating or acting out the solution. The Team Manager's role is to "smooth the progress of the team by promoting discussion and helping your team gather information and resources." If you have questions about interference, please refer to the Rules of the Road.

You need to discuss interference with your team's parents at the beginning of the year. As hard as it may be, they cannot help or offer suggestions. I would also recommend use of the Interference Contract in the Road Map. This is a document that is signed by the Team Member, the Team Manager, and the Parents. This reminds everyone involved about interference and gives them all the same information so everyone is on the same page.

If you ever have a concern about outside interference discuss it with your team and with whomever may be interfering. If interference is found to have occurred it may result in a deduction.

If you know of someone who is thinking about DI or if you have any personal contacts at other schools or organizations that could help us spread the word about DI, please let either Chad or Tim know. We want to help make it possible for everyone to experience Maine DI and become a DIMAINIAC!

Clarifications

Another topic of discussion was clarifications. Does your team have a question about the challenge or rules they can't find the answer to? Submit a clarification.

Clarifications are questions submitted to Destination Imagination and answered by the International Challenge Masters in charge of the challenge. Your team's question and answer will not be shared with any other team.

Your team may ask up to 10 clarifications and the deadline for clarifications is 2/15/16.

If your team receives a clarification it must print it out and bring it to the Regional Showcase and the State Celebration.

In addition to the individual clarifications, Destination Imagination may also issue Published Clarifications at www.DestinationImagination.org Make sure your team checks these clarifications throughout the year and before they submit their own clarification. The question may already be answered.

Registering Your Team

Team Registration is now open. Even though you, or your coordinator, have purchased your registration number and challenge materials you still need to register with CreateME. In order to register you will need your registration number. This year CreateME is using a new online registration system. Information and a link to the register can be found at <http://www.createme.org/index.php/tournament-registration/>

Visit our Website at www.createme.org
Or visit us on Facebook for the latest news.

This registration allows CreateME to prepare for the Regional Showcases and the State Celebration. Registration is due 1/22/16, but we appreciate your beginning the registration process early. The earlier we get the information the better experience we can prepare for you and your teams.

In order to help with this new process we have a registration guide, which can be found on the site above. If you have any questions about registering, please contact us at help@createme.org

2015-2016 Dates

One of the things we hear about each year is not getting dates out to team managers soon enough. We listened. Below is a list of dates for the upcoming season. A complete list can be found on our calendar at www.createme.org

- 11/21/15 – Team Manager Training in Washburn
- January 2016 – Deadline for registration (but don't wait, register early)
- 2/27/16 – Southern Regional Showcase
- 3/5/16 – Northern Regional Showcase
- 4/9/16 – State Celebration at UMO
- 5/25/16 – Global Finals

Questions: contact Chad at affiliatedirector@createme.org or any of the CreateME team at <http://www.createme.org/index.php/get-involved/contact-us/>