Welcome to the Chester County Envirothon. Every year we happily acquire new coaches and provide a Frequently Asked Question sheet to help you navigate through our Chester County Envirothon. Please look through these FAQs and if you have any additional questions, please call us or email us.

Q1. I have inherited an Envirothon Team, so how do I know what we are to study?

A. First we urge you to attend the coaches meeting. Here, you will be given study materials for your team and classroom use. A Handbook is distributed during this meeting. Within the handbook, each team level is broken down into the three levels:
   - EL Elementary Grades 3-5
   - MS Middle School Grades 6-8
   - SR Senior High Grades 9-12

Each level has objectives and study lists. Please see [www.envirothonpa.org](http://www.envirothonpa.org) for current materials. We encourage you to establish an Envirothon Library, so that each year you can add any updated material to this information.

Q2. What do you go over at the Coaches Meeting

A. At the coaches meeting you will be given the newest materials from the PA State Envirothon Committee. This includes, but is not limited to:
   - The annual Chester County Handbook
   - A speaker on the Current Issue Topic

You will also meet some of the Judges/Volunteers that will be at the county Envirothon.

Q3. Are there any study sessions for my teams?

A. We may or may not provide these in 2024. However - please look out for the Envirothon blasts as we have created several videos for study purposes. Please see our website.
Q4. How many teams are we allowed to bring? How do we pick what students to bring?

A. Usually we accept up to three teams per school - but this is dependent on how many teams sign up. If there are too many teams for the staff to handle, we will notify you as to the number that can be registered.

B. You as the coach decide how you pick the 5 person teams. It can be through a testing situation or team competitions within your club. It is up to your school as to who actually will make up their team.

Q5. Okay, so our Envirothon team studied all year and we are here at Hibernia Park to compete. What do we need to bring?

A. Bring your team(s) of 5 students
   Each team should have a pencil and a clip board
   Each student should have their own lunch, snack and drink
   Each student is encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather

Q6. When we get to the event what do I do first? How does this work?

A. When your team arrives, only the coaches and all other adults will make their way to the Registration tent. There you will:
   a. Sign In - each adult to sign in and Get a Name Tag
   b. Receive your teams T-Shirts, Event Schedule, Team Name Tag, Evaluation Form
   c. Hand in your photo-release forms (if completed)
   d. Get directions for meeting and beginning of the event (large circle)

While you wait for the event to start, you will hand out your teams t-shirts and give the team captain the clipboard, pencil, and Team Name Tag for the team captain to wear the entire day. Give the event schedule to the team captain for the clipboard so that they know where they are to move in the rotation.

You can store your lunches under the trees (most coaches bring a large box or bin), or carry them with you. Please be sure to keep snacks separate as you will need to take them to your team during the SNACK time (EL Level only).
Q7  So, now we have been called into the circle at the event at the appropriate time. What’s next?

A. Your Team is ready to compete!
   Students will be directed to go to their test stations. They will rotate through the stations.

   Coaches will accompany them - but not be allowed into the testing areas. You can bring lawn chairs and sit outside the area until it is time to rotate to the next station. You may not coach the students once the Envirothon competition begins.

   The Judges are in charge of the testing areas (Wildlife, Forestry, Aquatics, Current Issue, Soils (MS&SR), and Outdoor Safety (EL). The Craft station is not a test station.

   When this testing is over, the judges may have time to go over the questions. At this time, the coaches may be allowed to get a closer look at the testing station.

Q8. I brought an extra student/s. Can they be rotated in?

   A. Please let us know this at the registration area. Only Elementary and Middle School may have substitutions, but we need to know so that we can alert the judges. However, there can only be 5 students per team per station. The extra rotated student/s will have to stay back with the coaches until it is time to rotate in. Seniors cannot have an extra student. Please see registration for any questions.

Q9. We are a senior team and only have 4 students. Can we compete?

   A. Your team will be considered an exhibition team. They will not be on the scoreboard, but they will get their results emailed to them later.
Q10. What if I, as a coach, want to challenge a particular test question?

A. If coaches have a discrepancy with a test question, please take these questions to the Registration tent and someone will help you. Please do not challenge the questions at the station and please allow the judges to move the teams through as easily as possible.

Q11. Besides accompanying the students, what am I supposed to do as a coach?

A. Coaches will be responsible for taking their students to the restroom or first aid since judges are needed in the testing area. Other than that, feel free to enjoy the outdoors. Many coaches bring lawn chairs and/or blankets to sit on between rotations as they follow their teams. You may not coach the students once the Envirothon competition begins.

Q12. What are we to do at the end of the last testing station?

A. Please wait for the judge to dismiss the group, and then proceed to the lunch area. Take lunches, blankets, and chairs to the lunch/stage area for an environmental program (Elementary) during the lunch time. The Awards ceremony will begin after the program/lunch time. MS/SR Day awards will commence as soon as all scores are tallied, so have your lunch in the stage area while you wait.

Q13. When do we get the results?

A. The Awards Ceremony will recognize the top scorers in each event and overall scorers for MS and SR levels. The Elementary (EL) level recognizes the top scorers in each event, but not overall scores. Coaches will be emailed the final results with a list of all teams and their scores within the week after the Envirothon.

Q14. What about the Evaluation Form?

A. Please turn in the evaluation form before you take your students back to the busses. It is important that we have feedback and know how we can improve the Envirothon for next year.

Please let us know if you have additional questions.
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