



November, 2011

Dear Potential Judge

We would like to invite you to serve as a judge at the 2012 Beal Bank Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair on **Saturday, February 25, 2012** in Fair Park, Dallas. The fair is both a high quality competition and exhibition for the best middle and high school research projects in the north Texas region; nearly one thousand exhibitors are expected. Please join us and help support independent, critical thinking and science education for students in our region.

Breakfast, lunch, and a small memento of the fair will be provided for all judges who take part. Judge captains, who lead a first round team and participate in the second round, will receive priority parking and a science fair T-shirt. If your schedule does not permit your participation, you can still assist us enormously by recommending other potential judges.

The reverse side of this letter summarizes the schedule and what is involved.

**Please register online at the judges page of [drsef.org](http://drsef.org)**

If you have an **Update Code** from previous years, this will pre-fill electronic forms, otherwise complete a blank form.

You may instead edit/mail a printed form to register.

You can recommend to us other qualified individuals who have not judged before either online or via the paper form; we'll give you an(other) official fair T-shirt if any of your recommended judges participate!

Sincerely,

Prof. Simon Dalley  
Fair President

Prof. Fred Olness  
Fair Vice-President

Prof. Randall Scalise  
Fair Vice-President

Southern Methodist University

## What does it involve?

When you register to judge, you can choose which subjects/levels you prefer. Anyone with at least a bachelor degree, or equivalent professional experience, related to the science categories they prefer to judge is qualified to participate. You can choose to judge middle school (junior division) or high school (senior division). Most projects have only one student, some two or three. On fair day you will be assigned to a group of about 3 judges with an experienced captain. Each judge will conduct one-on-one interviews with students from about ten projects. Your judge team will then confer to choose the best according to International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) scoring criteria.

## What's the schedule?

A confirmation/reminder postcard will be mailed to registered judges in early 2012. Detailed information is sent to registered judges a week-or-so before the fair and will be available on the website. On fair day, breakfast is available from 7:30 a.m., there is an orientation at 8:15 a.m. when judge groups will be completed, with judging beginning at 9:00 a.m. All judges participate in the 1st round of judging, which in 2012 will be completed by **12:30 p.m.** Lunch is available once your Round 1 judging is complete. Some large categories will need a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of judging which will occur **1:30 p.m – 2:30 p.m.** and is done without interviews by discussion among captains and any other judges who can stay.

Winners will be announced and projects are open to public viewing 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

## NEW THIS YEAR

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- **The schedule has been adjusted to allow more time for Round 1 interviews.**
- **To give Round 2 judges some respite, there will be a lunch break between rounds.**

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## Where can I find out more?

The judges page at [drsef.org](http://drsef.org) has further information.

If you cannot find the answer there, email specific questions to [scifair@physics.smu.edu](mailto:scifair@physics.smu.edu)