

Guidelines

Jr. Cadet Challenge

Competition Name: Wildlife Enforcement Jr. Cadet Challenge

Division: Enforcement Division

Competition Type: Live On-Site Competition

- Students register ahead of the Summit.
- ONLY compete on-site at Summit.

Eligibility Levels: Middle (6th-8th Grade) and Secondary (9th-12th Grade)

AGFC Conservation Education Standards:

- **Understanding Arkansas' Fish and Wildlife:** Applying knowledge of wildlife, regulations, and ethical interactions.
- **Promoting Responsible Interaction with Natural Spaces:** Learning about the role of enforcement in ensuring ethical and legal outdoor activities.
- **The Importance of Habitat Conservation:** Understanding how enforcement protects habitats and natural resources.

Competition Overview:

The overall objective of this competition is to introduce students to the critical role of wildlife law enforcement in conservation. Students will engage in simulated scenarios or tasks that mimic real-world challenges faced by AGFC Game Wardens, testing their knowledge, observation skills, and ethical decision-making.

Competition Purpose:

Students will be presented with various scenarios or tasks related to wildlife laws, outdoor ethics, and resource protection. They will need to identify issues, apply appropriate knowledge, and determine the best course of action, demonstrating the skills necessary for responsible wildlife management and enforcement.

You will showcase your ability to:

- **Identify Violations/Issues:** Recognize potential violations of wildlife regulations or unethical behaviors in simulated scenarios.
- **Apply Knowledge:** Use your understanding of wildlife laws, safety protocols, and conservation principles to solve problems.
- **Make Ethical Decisions:** Choose the most appropriate and ethical response to a given situation.
- **Observe & Report:** Pay close attention to details and clearly communicate your findings or decisions.
- **Demonstrate Responsibility:** Show a commitment to safe and responsible practices in all tasks.

Competition Guidelines:

You will compete individually or in small teams through a series of stations or scenarios designed to test your wildlife enforcement skills.

Team Size: Individual

Competition Format:

- **Stations/Scenarios:** The competition will consist of multiple stations, each presenting a different challenge or scenario related to wildlife enforcement. Examples might include:
 - Scene assessment- Identify articles associated with Hunting/ fishing violations. The “search area” will be approximately 10 yards long (preferably outside). Time 5 minutes to identify evidence associated with wildlife violations. 20 items - find as many as you can. (e.g., illegal hunting/fishing, littering).
 - 50 question wildlife knowledge test.(elementary outdoor/ regulatory knowledge)
 - 300 meter run (timed)
 - Push ups (max in 1 minute)
 - Sit ups (max in 1 minute)
- **Clues & Information:** Each station will provide the necessary context, visual aids (e.g., photos, props), or written descriptions for the scenario.
- **Response Format:** You will be required to record your answers, decisions, or observations on a provided answer sheet or verbally explain them to a judge at each station.
- **Time Limit:** Each station will have a specific time limit for completion. The overall competition duration will be announced on-site.
- **No Outside Resources:** No phones, books, notes, or other external resources are allowed during the competition.

Scoring:

- Points will be awarded for accurate identification of issues, correct application of knowledge, and sound ethical decisions.
- The individual/team with the highest total score will be declared the winner.
- **Tiebreaker:** To be determined by AGFC staff

Judging:

AGFC Game Wardens and/or trained staff will serve as judges, evaluating performance at each station.

- **The judges' decisions are final.**

Important Notes:

- All participants must register ahead of the Summit.
- This is an on-site competition; all necessary materials and scenarios will be provided.
- Safety is paramount. All instructions from judges and staff must be followed immediately.

Rubric

Wildlife Enforcement Jr. Cadet Challenge Rubric

This rubric will be used by judges to score your performance in the Wildlife Enforcement Jr. Cadet Competition.

I. Problem Solving & Decision Making

Points Available	10-9 (Leading)	8-5 (Developing)	4-1 (Exploring)
Issue Identification	Consistently and accurately identifies all key issues or violations within the scenario, demonstrating exceptional attention to detail.	Identifies most key issues or violations, but may miss minor details or misinterpret some aspects.	Identifies limited issues, or frequently misidentifies problems within the scenario.
Solution/Action Plan	Proposes highly effective, appropriate, and ethical solutions/action plans that directly address the identified problems.	Proposes generally effective and appropriate solutions/action plans, though some aspects may be less optimal or detailed.	Proposed solutions/action plans are ineffective, inappropriate, or demonstrate a lack of understanding of the problem.
Ethical Reasoning	Demonstrates strong ethical reasoning and a clear understanding of responsible conduct in all decisions.	Shows good ethical reasoning, but may have minor inconsistencies or overlook subtle ethical considerations.	Ethical reasoning is weak, or decisions are ethically questionable.

II. Knowledge Application

Points Available	10-9 (Leading)	8-5 (Developing)	4-1 (Exploring)
Wildlife Laws & Regulations	Accurately applies knowledge of relevant wildlife	Applies knowledge of most relevant laws/regulations,	Applies limited knowledge of laws/regulations, or

	laws and regulations to the scenarios, demonstrating comprehensive understanding.	but may have minor inaccuracies or omissions.	frequently makes incorrect applications.
Safety Protocols	Consistently demonstrates knowledge and adherence to appropriate safety protocols in all simulated tasks.	Generally demonstrates knowledge of safety protocols, with minor, infrequent lapses.	Shows limited knowledge or disregard for safety protocols.
Conservation Principles	Clearly applies fundamental conservation principles to inform decisions and solutions within scenarios.	Applies some conservation principles, but the connection may be less explicit or comprehensive.	Shows limited understanding or application of conservation principles.

III. Observation & Communication

Points Available	10-9 (Leading)	8-5 (Developing)	4-1 (Exploring)
Attention to Detail	Exhibits exceptional attention to detail, noticing subtle clues and relevant information within the scenarios.	Shows good attention to detail, but may overlook some minor clues or less obvious information.	Lacks attention to detail, missing critical clues or information.
Clarity of Communication	Clearly and concisely articulates observations, decisions, and reasoning (verbal or written).	Generally communicates clearly, but may have minor ambiguities or less organized explanations.	Communication is unclear, disorganized, or difficult to understand.

Efficiency & Time Management	Efficiently manages time at each station, completing tasks and responses within the given time limit.	Generally manages time well, completing most tasks, but may rush or miss details on a few items.	Struggles with time management, leaving tasks incomplete or rushed.
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IV. Adherence to Rules & Conduct

Points Available	5 (Excellent)	3 (Acceptable)	1 (Needs Improvement)
Rule Adherence	Consistently follows all competition rules and instructions from judges/staff.	Generally follows competition rules, with minor, infrequent deviations.	Frequently violates competition rules or instructions.
Sportsmanship & Professionalism	Exhibits outstanding sportsmanship, respect, and professionalism throughout the competition.	Generally exhibits good sportsmanship and professionalism, with minor, infrequent lapses.	Shows poor sportsmanship, disrespect, or unprofessional conduct.