

## Structures

Teams of two or three students will construct a structure using only 250 round, wooden toothpicks and [1 stick \(4oz\) of modeling clay \(non-toxic, non-drying, does not harden\)](#). The objective is to create the tallest, free-standing structure out of the provided materials within 30 minutes. Normally, students are grouped in teams of two. If there are teams of three students, only two of the three are allowed to work on the structure at any given time. In teams of three, one student must rotate in and out at announced 10-minute intervals to give each student an opportunity to contribute to the structure.

The structure must *stand for five seconds without support* before the judges will begin to measure. The structures must stand long enough for a judge to measure its height. Up to three measurements are allowed, and the highest of these will be taken. Wavering of the structure is allowed, but if a structure falls down it is disqualified. Practice time should be devoted to experimenting with different construction designs as well as planning the building process. Two to three quality practices should suffice to prepare students for the actual event.

During competition, no help from parents or coaches is allowed and only participants and judges will be allowed inside the competition area. Ten minutes are allowed at the beginning of the session for teams to write down their plans without help from coaches, and written plans may not be brought to the Olympiad. Toothpicks and clay will be provided on the day of the event.

## [Judge Information](#)

## [Structures Score Sheet](#)