

# **NFC Envirothon Operating Committee**

## **April 12, 2018 Conference Call**

**Attendees: Committee Members:** ,; Jeff Folger; Patricia Pohrebniuk; Wendee Zadanski, Millie Langley; Sid Lowrance; Kerin Hume; Shonny Nordlund; Becky Geneau; Jeanne Dryburgh;

**Staff: NACD:** Debbie Waycott; Carly Burton

**Absent:** Tim Reich, Peggy Lemons

**NCF:** John Redding

**Guests:** Tamara Cikaitoga

Langley opened the meeting at 1:32 PM EST.

Roll Call by Folger

New Operating Committee member, Becky Geneau from New Brunswick was welcomed.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the January winter meeting were reviewed  
Motion to accept by Lowrance, second by Dryburgh: vote unanimous.

**NCF Updates:** Burton reported:

- Many state and Provincial competitions occurring.
- She is urging folks to register ASAP.
- Discussion on utilizing the Canon funds for prize \$\$\$. Redding asked the Ops Comm to determine the extent of the prize options from both Canon and Smithfield. The NCF wanted the first through third place prizes to be presented exclusively by Smithfield.
- Motion by Folger to expend the Canon prize monies for 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> places in an equitable fashion. Second by Nordlund. Vote unanimous.
- Student age exemption – A request to allow a student to participate who will be older than 19 years of age at the time of the north American event in July. Discussion ensued. Motion to deny the request for an exception to the age rule by Nordlund, second by Hume. Vote unanimous.

**Public Relations Update:** Waycott reported:

**Membership Dues** –48 states/provinces have paid. FYI: 9 State/provinces have paid. \$ 550.00.  
8/states 1/province.

**Intent to Participate** – Officially sent in “Intent” 53 teams. Includes 2 teams from China. Possible 56 teams. (BC, NS, SK)

**State/Provincial Competitions:** Georgia, Oklahoma (March) Alabama, California (done) China Wisconsin, Texas (this week)

**Diversity Grants** – Committee reviewed the applications and \$12,000 was awarded in Diversity Grants. (Arizona, Montana, Texas, Ohio, Virginia, Massachusetts). Checks were mailed last week. No grants were awarded to any Canadian provinces this year.

**Idaho Tests** - Work in progress - Reviews and edits continue

**Idaho Logo** - Official Logo

**Registration** – Went “Live” March 15, 2018

- Deadline for registration: June 15, 2018
- Deadline for Refunds: July 6, 2018
- Registration – Live –March 15, 2018

A few guests have registered and things seem to be working well. There was a couple little glitches in the “thank-you” for registering message but have been fixed. Guest register they get a confirmation email with their registration, registration/email and registration goes into the databank. Teams register each member gets a confirmation and the state/provincial representative gets an email copy. This is a confirmation for the s/p representative that their team has registered, then they can submit the team certification.

**Registration Guide** - Guide is on the website with the registration forms.

The week of the state/provincial competition an email is sent to the S/P representative with some reminders for registration

**Reminders:**

NCF-Envirothon Registration: [www.envirothon.org/2018-event-registration](http://www.envirothon.org/2018-event-registration)

**DEADLINE for registration: June 15, 2018**

1. The sponsoring agency is responsible for submitting the **Team Certification/Registration Payment** portion of the registration. This form is to be completed once you have received copies of all the team registration.
2. Please review the Registration Guide, ([Registration Guide](#)) and encourage your winning team to review the registration guide. Most answers to your questions will be found in this document.
3. **NO Early Arrival** will be available this year for anyone. In the registration guide you can find some suggested hotel options if you are planning on arriving in Pocatello early.
4. **NO Shuttle will be available this year.** We recommend if you are arriving early and not renting a vehicle you select a hotel that provides a shuttle from the airport. Taxi cabs are also available from the airport to hotels and to the campus. It is approximately a ten minute drive to each from the airport.
5. Please remind your winning team the “**Idaho Specific Resources**” will be posted on the website on April 15/18 ([www.envirothon.org](http://www.envirothon.org)) for further studying before going to Idaho

**2018 Statistics** - New tactic – Will be sending out the 2018 Stat’s form to each S/P 1 week after they have held their event. Hopefully, this will get a better response and people will fill them in while the information is still fresh.

**Website**

- Donation Page - Updated
- State/Provincial Contacts and Sponsoring Agencies
- State/Provincial Competition are updated on this link. <https://www.envirothon.org/media-center/local-programs-2017-18>
- The past two years we have been able to show various media/photograph/announcement of the state/provincial competitions here. The week of the state/provincial competition an email is sent to the s/p representative asking that they please send us the names of their winning teams/photograph and any media announcements. This goes along with the reminders for registration.
- **Communication** - The Operating Committee could help with this by contacting their state/provinces inside their areas to remind them to send in their stories/photos of the Envirothon.
- **Media** - Idaho Block, Past Competitions have a block/picture. Inside listing of events during the competition. i.e. Maryland - Farm Video is posted there.

- **Current Competition** – Work in Progress, continue to update - State Specific Resources will be posted to the website on April 16, 2018
- **Operating Committee Member** –New member Becky Geneau has been added
- **Hall of Fame:** 2018 Nomination Forms have been sent out.

**Social Media** Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

**Twitter:** Increase of traffic – typical of this time of year. Envirothon Season

**Facebook** – Muddy Monday, Wild Wednesday, Throwback Thursday. Traffic continues to increase, which is typical of this time of year.

**Future Competition:** The request from a few States/Provinces regarding the 2019 topic looking for information to hold workshops with their advisors during this year's competition. Some states/provinces also work to develop their study guides a year in advance. NC were helpful developed an overview of their topic which is now posted on the website. This helped with the request for information from the S/P representatives.

**Recommend:** That Future Hosts be required to give 1 page (2-3 paragraphs) over the topic and that if they decide to make any changes i.e. Title they be required to notify the Program Manager / OC Chair ASAP. NC did change their title and there was some issues.

**List-serve** – When list-serves are sent out it would be helpful if the Operating Committee could follow up with the people in their areas

1. Make sure they go the list-serve ( some agencies block the list-serve and sometimes we have no way of knowing they did not get it and this recently happened with a registration confirmation her system was label as X and it would not go through)
2. Remind them of what was on the list-serve

**John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth** – Spring Issue is out. The story was done by Rachel Hughes from Pennsylvania and photographs by Debbie. They sent 6 copies, /Lorelle 1/Melisa 1/Files 1/Debbie. Great story.

2010 a story was done by a Rhode Island Envirothon student. The article is scheduled to be done for the march/April issues to go along with Earth Day.

I have sent a request to be able to copy and use the article to the editor. Once approved I will send you copies.

**2018 Event: Idaho:** Tamara Cikaitoga on conference call

- Volunteers: low numbers so far have committed
- Local volunteers are signing up now as well as judges.
- Funding: \$195K donation from Pacific Region NRCS
- Some teaching and testing sites are still snow covered. Approx. 45 minutes from Campus by bus.
- Students will be bused to the Red Lion hotel for oral presentation sequestering.
- Dorm rooms will not be air conditioned.
- Judges – working on it.
- Advisor activities – there will be an advisor tour on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> to Ag sites.
- State/Prov. Rep meeting date discussion. Move to Thursday to avoid losing CAT team members.
- Swipe cards for entry keys. \$50 for lost cards. No linen exchange.

**Future Competitions:**

**2019: North Carolina** – Langley reported:

- 8-9 folks from NC coming out to act as volunteers and “shadows”.
- Donations from districts increasing.
- Possible donation from NRCS Southwest region.
- Starting discussion with NC State Univ.

**2020: Nebraska** – Dryburg reported

- \$193K in pledges so far. Continuing to fund raise.
- Compiling the topic info

**2021: ????**

**Committee Reports:**

- ED Committee: No report:
- CAT: Pohrebniuk reported:  
Looking for volunteers. Requested names of the NC folks attending
- Scoring: Hume: No report. Correct score
- Rules and Regs. No report

**Region Reports:**

- Canada: Nova Scotia and PEI will be attending the New Brunswick event.

**Adjourn – 3:04PM**