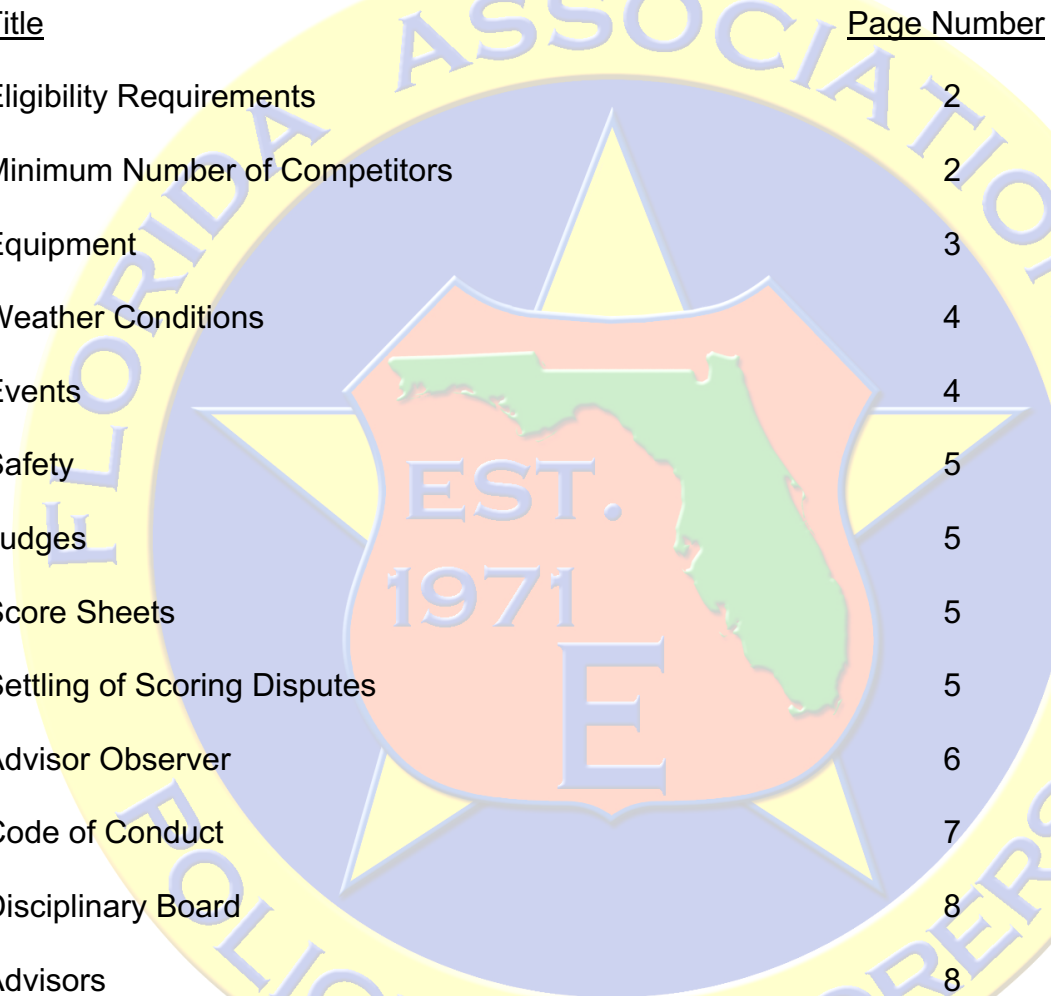


# FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE EXPLORERS STATE COMPETITION GUIDELINES

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The logo is a circular emblem with a yellow outer ring containing the text "FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE EXPLORERS" in blue. Inside the ring is a blue field with a yellow five-pointed star. In the center of the star is a shield with a green outline of Florida. The shield contains the text "EST. 1971" and a large blue letter "E".

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# FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE EXPLORERS STATE COMPETITION GUIDELINES

## Competition Eligibility Requirements

- A. Any Law Enforcement Explorer Program who maintains a current membership with F.A.P.E. may compete in any state competition event with the following exceptions:
1. Anyone who has been certified as a Law Enforcement Officer and/or Certificate of Compliance, Auxiliary or Reserve Officer may not compete in any competition of the F.A.P.E.
  2. Any Explorer who is or has attended a police academy for the purpose of obtaining any type of police standards certification, may not compete in any of the competitions of the F.A.P.E.
- B. Any Post having any questions regarding the eligibility of one of their Explorers shall present to the Chairman of the Competition Committee, in writing, said question. This shall be done no later than the last Delegates Meeting and prior to the beginning of State Competition.
- C. ALL POSTS REGISTERED TO COMPETE AT THE STATE COMPETITION MUST STAY AT THE HOTEL/CONFERENCE SITE.

## Minimum Number of Competitors

- A. Due to the scenarios, each Law Enforcement Explorer post should have a minimum of four (4) eligible Explorers registered at State Competition. Posts may compete with less than four (4) Explorers when they are unable to register the minimum for competition. There will be a maximum of four (4) competitors for the overall scenarios, with the exception of the Tie Breaker scenario. All competitors will be selected by the post advisor during registration process at State Competition. All competitors/Explorers will be required to carry, AT ALL TIMES, a photo ID.
- B. The scenarios are based on a maximum of four (4) Explorers for each scenario, with the following exception:
1. The minimum and maximum eligible explores participating in the Tie Breaker scenario will be determined by the Tie Breaker judges. The eligible participating explorers will be selected by the Tie Breaker judges, unless the judges defer to the Post Advisor.

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## Equipment for Explorers

- A. Explorers shall not carry any type of firearm during competition. The only exception is the “Red” Man Gun”. (This means a SOLID PLASTIC, RED/BLUE IN COLOR facsimile). Judges will determine if “Red” Man Guns are necessary for their scenario and may issue them to posts who do not have their own. No Explorer shall carry the Red Man gun at any time other than during an active scenario, and when approved by the judges of that scenario.
- B. The judges will present the “Red” Man Gun to the Explorer at the Staging Area. (The Judge shall inspect the Explorer for proper equipment.) At the Critique, the Explorers will hand the Red Man Gun back to their judges prior to leaving the scenario.
- C. Any Explorer that is not properly trained in the use of handcuffs should not carry them during competition. Event Judges may stop any scenario due to unsafe use of equipment to prevent possible injury to actors. It is the responsibility of advisor to train Explorers in the proper use of equipment prior to competition.
- D. Explorers may **NOT, AT ANY TIME, CARRY** “Chemical Spray”, “ASP” (batons) or Electronic Control Device (ECD/Taser) on their utility belts or person. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- E. Judges will provide radios if needed. Explorers **will not** carry any hand-held radios (walkie-talkie, etc.) during the scenarios.
- F. Explorers may use an electronic device during the scenario for the sole purpose of researching information directly related to the scenario. If an Explorers determines the use of an electronic device is necessary, the Explorers will inform the judges and one judge will be present during the use of the device. Any deviation for this procedure may result in a disqualification from the scenario or competition. Violations will be reviewed by the Disciplinary Review Board.

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## Weather Conditions

- A. Explorers should be prepared to work in any weather condition day or night. The Explorer will provide their own equipment for this (i.e., flashlight, raincoat, pen, paper, etc.).
- B. The Judges or Competition Committee may stop any competition scenario based on any unsafe or special conditions that may arise.
- C. Make-ups will be rescheduled due to any long delays or cancellations. There will be a "Rain Day" scheduled during the conference.
  - 1. The Judge, with the approval of the Advisor, may reschedule an scenario at the end of the original day.
  - 2. If there are any delays or cancellations, it will be the Advisors responsibility to reschedule with the Judge. Advisors should make sure the reschedule does not conflict with other scenarios.

## Events

- A. Scenarios may be added or deleted as deemed necessary by the discretion of the Competition Committee and/or at the direction of the Board. (Board to include Youth and Adult elected and appointed positions)
- B. As each post is taught different operating procedures and policies of their respective departments, the scenarios will be structured so that they do not conflict with Florida State Statutes.
- C. All scenarios should be located so as not to be in view of the contestants prior to their participation in said event.
- D. The scenarios should be aimed at the Uniform Patrol Officer duties.
- E. Each scenario will have its own allotted time. At the end of the scenario, the judge will begin the critique. Each post should take care and watch their time.
- F. All Explorers should carry all necessary items to complete the scheduled scenario.

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## Safety

A. It is expected that all Participants will conduct themselves in a safe and prudent manner to avoid injury to those involved in the competition.

B. All participants are subject to a search and or pat down prior to being allowed to compete in any competition scenario. This will be accomplished by the judges assigned to the scenario. Judges may allow the search and or pat down to be conduct by another law enforcement officer but must be present during procedure.

C. Search and pat downs are for the safety of all participants and are not subject dispute. If participants/advisors are unwilling to allow a search or pat down of their person, the judge has the authority to disqualify any participant or team from their scenario if they fail to comply with this safety standard.

## Judges

A. All Judges will be selected by the Competition Committee Chairman or his/her Designee.

B. All Judges will have a working knowledge of current Florida State Statutes.

C. The Competition Committee Chairman or Designee can change, adjust or remove any Judge(s) at their discretion.

D. The same Judge(s) should judge each and every Post participating in an scenario with the understanding that emergencies do arise (i.e., court, sickness, injury or family emergencies). Most scenarios will utilize two and in some cases, three judges for this expressed purpose. The judges will coordinate so that their judging is the same, thereby keeping the competition equal.

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## Score Sheets

- A. One score sheet will be used for each scenario. All score sheets shall have the Post name, Post number, and Judge's name printed clearly on the sheet.
- B. The score sheet should be as detailed as possible regarding gradable items to minimize the possibility of subjective decisions.
- C. The Advisor or the designated Explorer for each Post will sign the bottom of the score sheet to verify the Judge's scores prior to leaving the scenario.
- D. Each score sheet (event) will be based on a score of 1 – 100. There will be no "Bonus" areas.
- E. Score sheets will remain confidential until after the end of the closing ceremony. At that time, a Post's score sheets will be available to them.

## Settling of Scoring Disputes

- A. At the conclusion of each Post's participation in a scenario, the Judge will critique the competitors in the time allowed. The Judge will allow at least one (1) Advisor to be present during the critique.
- B. The competitors at the event may ask any questions during the critique.
- C. The Judge will attempt to answer any questions requested by the competitors. Judges will use any means readily available to him/her to settle any dispute (i.e., State Statute book).
- D. The Judge's decision is **FINAL!**
- E. If necessary, the Judge may contact the Competition Committee Chairman or Designee's to respond to help with any disputes. This must be done immediately.
- F. The Competition Committee Chairman or Designee will review all disputes not handled to the satisfaction of the head Advisor without delay.

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## Advisor Observer

- A. Judges will allow at a minimum one (1) Advisor from each post to observe the scenario. Under normal circumstances only one (1) Advisor, from a competing Post, may be present during the scenario. Judges may make exception and allow additional personnel to observe at their discretion. *(revised 6/4/23)*
- B. Any hint of communicating between the “Advisors / Observers” and any participant(s) or Judge during the scenario, may disqualify that Post from the event and/or conference.
- C. Any other observers (i.e. new Explorers, media, etc.) will only be allowed if approved by the Competition Committee and the Judge, and will only be permitted if space permits.
- D. The above (A) would apply to all additional observers as well.
- E. Advisors may take photos of their team participating in the scenario. Advisors are cautioned not to release any photos until the end competition/conference.

## Code of Conduct at State Competition

- A. Curfew
  - 1. All Explorers shall be in their hotel rooms by 2300 hours.
  - 2. Hosting Chief Advisor shall send to all Posts information regarding local ordinances which might affect visiting Explorers, such as local curfews. This may be taken care of at the Opening Ceremony/Advisor’s Meeting.
- B. Alcoholic Beverages/Tobacco Products
  - 1. No drinking of alcoholic beverages or use of tobacco products by ANY Explorer, regardless of age, will be allowed. Anyone in violation may be banned from further competition and/or will be sent home from the competition at the expense of that Post.
  - 2. Advisors will refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages or be under the influence of such in the presence of Explorers.
- C. No male Explorers are allowed in female Explorers rooms or vice-versa without Advisor’s knowledge and/or consent, and then only with doors and curtains open.

# FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE EXPLORERS STATE COMPETITION GUIDELINES

- D. Advisors shall be guided by the Law Enforcement Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics. Anyone found to be in violation of these by the Disciplinary Review Board may have a letter sent to the head of their respective department.
- E. Anyone violating any local or state laws, whether or not formally charged, shall be brought before the Disciplinary Board.
- F. When a majority of a Post is found to be in violation of the Code of Conduct, the entire Post can be banned from competition at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee.
- G. Any Advisor may request that the Disciplinary Review Board conduct a review of any suspected violation of these Competition Guidelines.
- H. Any Post, Explorer or Advisor who causes disruption during the conference at any time shall be brought before the Board. This will include any property damage, malicious rumors, etc.

## Disciplinary Review Board

- A. The Executive Director shall serve as Disciplinary Board Chairman. The Disciplinary Board Chairman shall select four (4) other members to sit on the board.
- B. The Disciplinary Board shall consist of four (4) members, to include the Youth President.
- C. The Disciplinary Board will be convened for the purpose of ruling on any violations of this guideline or any conduct that presents a negative image on the Florida Association of Police Explorers

## Advisors

- A. At least two (2) adult advisors should attend the State Conference and all F.A.P.E. functions. If the post has male and female Explorers, then the post should have one (1) male adult and one (1) female adult advisor attending.
- B. If a post is unable to attend with an advisor for either male or female, it will be the responsibility of that post to contact an appropriate advisor needed to assist at the State Conference or any F.A.P.E. function.