

Oct 2004 Rev

Presentation of
Balsa Wood Truss Competition
to High Schools

1. Contact the head of your high school's Industrial Technology Department (not all schools use same names).
2. Explain Truss Contest from this sheet and General Information Sheet.
3. Send a copy of General Information and Rules & Requirements to the Industrial Technology Department Head.
4. Set up a time when you could come to High School and explain Truss Competition to interested students. Please try to make contact by phone before Holiday Vacation.
5. The competition is sponsored by Nebraska Section ASCE and UNO Student Chapter.
6. Items to highlight:
 - a. Trusses are often used in bridges and roofs.
 - b. Composed of individual members joined together to form triangles, or other stable shapes.
 - c. Contestants must purchase their own balsa wood and wood cement. Go to the nearest hobby shop for supplies. Cost should be \$10.00 or less.
 - d. Recommend getting books or magazines from library that gives information and illustrations on types of trusses. (Look for structural analysis and/or Engineer Mechanics books or magazines.)
 - e. Stress workmanship and following rules and examples so they are not disqualified or penalized in the point scoring.

- f. Winners will be contestants with the highest Strength Factor (Load at failure divided by weight to 1.25 power).
 - g. Stress reading rules and general information before starting project.
7. A first, second, and third place prize will be awarded to competitors with the three highest point totals.
 8. The competition will be judged during Engineers Week Activities on Saturday, February 26, 2005. All trusses must be turned into the High School Faculty Contact on or before February 16, 2005.
 9. All trusses must be tagged with contestants Name(s) and High School.
 10. High School Contact Presenters should pick up trusses from the High School Faculty Contact, and turn them into the Peter Kiewit Institute of Information, Science, Technology and Engineering, 1110 South 67th Street, (Ak-Sar-Ben), Room 200E (Civil Engineering) NLT February 18, 2005 along with the name and telephone number of the High School Faculty Contact.
 11. We will contact the High School Faculty Contact by phone with the schedule giving location and time of testing for their group. The High School Faculty Contact will be responsible to tell the students.