



## Heritage Middle School Westerville City Schools

Future City Team:  
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### Advice for the *future* Future City Teams

#### Presentation:

- Make the presentation creative, yet professional.
- Include as many facts as possible.
- Dedicate at least 1/2 of your presentation to the focus area.
- Concentrate the remaining part of the presentation on other pertinent topics.

#### Model:

- Emphasize recycled materials used in the model.
- Include a *significant* moving part.
- Create a substructure that demonstrates a knowledge of city systems.
- Use creativity to add aesthetic visual elements.

#### Abstract and Essay:

- Write explicitly.
- Connect directly with evaluation criteria.
- Demonstrate knowledge of engineering.

Comments, in general.

First, teams need to be aware of any discrepancies between regionals and the national competition. Variations in interpretations can impact performances at the national level.

Second, teams need to understand that there may be marked variation in judges' evaluation. We had ranges of approximately 30 points in particular criteria--from perfect scores to a score of less than 50% in the same category. Interrater reliability is questionable. Teams need to be prepared for this wide range of evaluative interpretation.

Third, as much evaluation information as possible (including judges' comments) should be provided from the regional competition; this information is invaluable --whether or not teams continue as the representative at nationals.

Fourth, alignment between regional and national objectives (and their related interpretations) would maximize the team's chance of scoring well.