

## **Team Theme Directions**

The Team Theme is a group activity in which the students are presented a series of mathematical problems relating to a specific theme. The team members are to solve the problems and write a narrative about the theme, which answers all the mathematical questions posed. Teams are graded on accuracy of mathematical content, clarity of explanations, and creativity in their narrative.

The “creativity” portion of the score (maximum possible score is 40 points) is minimal (2 – 5 points). It is awarded for creativity in the narrative, creativity in the mathematical approach, or creativity in extending the concept of the theme (such as considering a 3-D example of a 2-D problem, exploring the applicable mathematics to related issues not addressed in the theme, etc.).

Here are the directions students are given the day of the competition:

This is a TEAM event. You are to work on the Team Theme as a group. Please use one of the Team Theme handouts to write your solutions on, and be sure to put your team number on EACH page (your team number is listed on the back of your schedule sheet). You may use the backside of sheets or more than one copy (each team has been given 3 copies) of the theme to answer a particular question if you need extra space. If you do use a backside or another copy of the theme, make a note so the grader knows where to look.

**DO NOT** put your school's name anywhere on the team theme.

You will be graded not only on the accuracy of your answers, but also on how well your team explains itself mathematically and on the creativity in your narrative. It is your job to convince the judges that you understand the problem completely and to make your presentation interesting.

**GOOD LUCK!**