APRSAF – 21
Tokyo, Japan, Nov 2014

Water Rocket Event

Selection of team from Australia

Closing date for entry: Fri 19th of September 2014, (end of term 3).

VSSEC is the coordinating body for the selection of the Australian team to participate in the APRSAF-21 Water Rocket Event to be held Tokyo, Japan, on November 29th and 30th 2014.

Two Australian students between 12 and 16 years of age, and an accompanying teacher, will be selected. Funding for travel will be provided by the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science, Research and Tertiary Education. Accommodation, meals and local transport will be provided by the local organisers in Tokyo.

Rules and selection process

1. Students must be at least 12 but not yet 16 years of age at the time of the event, (Nov 29th 2014).
2. Students must be Australian citizens.
3. Two students and one teacher will be selected from a single school to form the Australian team.
4. Students must be accompanied by a teacher and have written parental permission. Teachers are required to comply with the “duty of care” responsibilities defined by their state Department of Education.
5. No more than one team will be considered from any school. Schools are encouraged to hold a competition to select their team.
6. The selected students will have demonstrated the ability to build and launch a water rocket at a target at a range of 60m and have the personal attributes to represent Australia at an international competition.
7. The selected teacher will be asked to demonstrate an “advanced” water rocket at the Event in Tokyo. VSSEC can provide advice and other assistance for this.
8. The selected teacher will have shown innovation in the use of water rockets to teach science. The combination of students and teacher attributes will be considered when selecting the team to represent Australia.
9. An application may consist of a video and/or written application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
10. Teachers and students should email their written application and/or video to bookings@vssec.vic.edu.au. Applications received in any other way will not be considered.
11. Any video should run for a maximum of one minute and show the students’ rocket on the launch pad and the launch of the rocket.
12. The total written application should:
– Not exceed four A4 pages.
– Identify the students, the school and the teacher.
– Include a statement by the students explaining why they should be selected as the Australian representatives and a description of their effort in constructing, testing and launching their rockets.
– Include a statement by the teacher describing how they use water rockets to teach science and their plans to use the knowledge and skills obtained at the Water Rocket Educators Workshop
– Include a statement from the teacher describing the personal attributes of the students and their ability to represent Australia in an international competition in a foreign country.
– Include a statement of support from the school Principal

13. The closing date for submissions is Friday the 19th of September 2013. Late submissions will not be considered.

14. The selected students and teacher will be chosen by VSSEC based on consideration of all of these aspects. Given the difficulty of verifying the claims of teachers and students VSSEC is relying on the integrity of the applicant teachers to respect the spirit of the selection process. As usual the judges’ decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

15. The selected team will be notified by the 26th of October via email.

16. The selected team will attend the APRSAF Water Rocket Event in Tokyo, Japan on November 29th and 30th 2014.

17. VSSEC will book all flights and arrange travel insurance. VSSEC will liaise with the local organisers in Tokyo to communicate any medical or dietary restrictions.

18. Participants will be flown to Tokyo on Thursday 27th or Friday 28th November (depending on airline flight schedules) and will return home after the conclusion of the event departing Tokyo on Dec 1st.

19. Participants are responsible for arranging their own passports. No visa is required for Australian citizens visiting Japan.

20. The Australian students and teachers will be sharing accommodation with the international students and teachers. The local organisers will allocate rooms, taking the sex of students and teachers into account.

22. Any questions should be sent to

    information@vssec.vic.edu.au

Good luck!

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