

2016 Preshift Contest Rules

March 22, 2016



Contestant to be Eligible

- Bona fide employee of a mining company or contractor
- Certified as a mine foreman or examiner
- Proof of certification presented at registration
- Card, certificate, etc. will be accepted

Contest Judges

- Employees of the Mine Safety & Health Administration
- State agencies

Contestant`s Equipment

- Safety cap, safety boots, mining belt with identification tag, and check-in tag
- MSHA approved cap light
- SCSR; may use training model, M20, or out of service SCSR (must notify judges of defect[s])
- Anemometer & watch with second hand or equivalent
- An MSHA approved multi-gas detector

Contestant`s Equipment (cont`d)

- Measuring device
- Device for testing roof
- Blank index cards
 - recommended 50 cards
 - numbered only (no DTI`s, hazards, etc.)
- Writing instruments
- Contestant must have required equipment prior to leaving isolation

Contest Discount Point System

- Failure to find/correct deficiencies or hazards if necessary
- Failure to verbally identify work, tests, or action to the judges or to report on the record page
- Three scoring segments in contest
 1. Written examination (15 minutes)
 2. Underground (30 minutes)
 3. Preshift record page (20 minutes)

Preshift Contestant`s Review Process

- Contestant`s notification by posting
- Within 1 hour of posting report to the designated location for review (may be accompanied by trainer)
- 20 minutes to review and prepare written comments for protests

Written Examination

- 10 multiple choice questions
- Questions taken from Statements of Fact
- 15 minutes to complete written examination
- 1 point discounted for each incorrect answer

Mine Examiner Station

- Stop watches or clock & stop watch will be provided
- Contestant provided with blank map, written statement, mine plans, and notes made by contestant in staging area review
- Contestant will have 2 minutes to start clock

Underground Segment

- Contestant will have 30 minutes to work problem
- Contestant will be notified when 1 minute remains
- Index card for date, time and initials to be placed on mine floor

Field Layout

- Placards, objects, mine plans/maps will indicate equipment, conditions or potential hazards
- All violations of 30 CFR Part 75 will be considered a hazard

Conditions or Hazards

- Contestant shall correct conditions or hazards when means or materials are available
- Hazard card not required when condition or hazard is corrected
- Danger signs will be placed on the floor when conditions are not corrected

Danger Signs

- Multiple hazards in one area or entry
- A separate hazard (index card) will be placed on the floor for each hazard
- Rule 13 depicts the correct format for completing an index card

Air Measurement

- Contestant will be provided with linear feet, width and height, or area dimensions
- Contestant will traverse the area for 60 seconds
- Calculators will be permitted

Underground Segment Completed

- Contestant not permitted to re-enter mine after stopping the clock
- Contestant will have 20 minutes to complete record page
- Contestant will turn in preshift record page and working map
- Discounts assessed for each item not recorded
- Discounts assessed for record page not legible to the judges

Problem Arises on the Field

- Clock will be stopped
- Contestant will be removed from the field
- After problem is corrected, the contestant will return to the field
- Adjustments to the time before the problem is completed

Guard Location

- Contestant must be continuously under guard before the start of the contest
- Contestant will not be permitted to re-enter isolation after completing problem
- Contestant moved to staging area and given 10 minutes to review written statement and mine plans
- No unauthorized person(s) will be allowed in the isolation area or on the contest field without permission

Tie Breaker

- In the event of a tie, order of tie breaker:
 1. underground discounts
 2. preshift record
 3. written exam
 4. elapsed working time
- Two Field Judges must concur on discounts
- Judges should not talk to contestant, other than to convey required information

Immediately after briefing, no communication between contestants and outside parties will be allowed

Contestant receiving contest
information after entering isolation
will be disqualified

Isolation Area

- Cell phones, computers, pagers, etc. shall not be brought to isolation
- Reference material may be taken into isolation, but cannot be used in the staging area, when working problem or taking written exam
- No personal notebooks in contest area

Gas Detecting Instruments

- All must be examined in the presence of judges after starting clock
- Left on during contest
- May use backup instrument in event of instrument failure (no discount)
- **Removed – Contestant's gas detecting instrument may be required to be placed in a known methane/air concentration to verify the instrument is not defective (no requirement to bring assembly or calibration gas to lock up)**

Video and Photographs

Permission must be given by the
Chief Judge

Interpretation of the Field Scorecard (No Changes)

- Failure to check in/out (2)_ max. 4
- Failure to have equipment (2) _ each item
- Failure to visually examine SCSR prior to entering mine (2)
- Failure to place DTI at required locations (2) _ each location. CH₄ test and Danger Signs
- Failure to make necessary gas test (5)

Field Scorecard, continued

- Improper gas test procedure (2)_ possible 4 at each location
- Failure to determine correct section ventilation and direction (10) _ each location
- Improper air measurement procedure (2) _ each location
- Failure to take air measurement in proper location (5)
- Improper procedure when examining and testing mine roof (2) _ each location

Field Scorecard, continued

- Failure to identify verbally, place danger sign, or correct hazardous condition (10) _ each occurrence
- Failure to correct hazardous condition; when means or material available, excludes roof support (10) _ each omission
- Traveling at more than walking speed (5)
- Equipment not maintained in operable condition (2) _ each infraction
- Any act by examiner, which may result an explosion of an explosive air/gas mixture (30) _ each occurrence

Field Scorecard, continued

- Any act by examiner, which may endanger himself/herself or others (20)_ each occurrence
- Failure to follow written instructions for working of the problem (15) _ each occurrence
- Failure to examine all accessible areas that can be safely traveled (5) _ each location _ max. 20
- Failure to comply with general rules not covered in discount sheet (2)

Interpretation of Preshift Record

- Not legible (2) _ not to exceed 30
- Failure to record location of exam (2) _ each omission
- Failure to record hazardous conditions (2) _ each omission
- Failure to record action taken to correct hazardous condition (2) _ each omission
- Failure to record date and time of exam (2)
- Failure to record results of air measurements (2) _ each omission

Interpretation of Preshift Record

- Failure to record results of CH4 exam (2)_
each omission
- Failure to certify by signature (2)
- Failure to date entry of signature (2)
- Contestant fails to take a gas test or air
reading during the working of the problem
and enters a reading in the record (20) _ each
occurrence

Statement of Facts

- No Changes

Carl C Acord
Jason M. Atkins
Christopher L. Bell, Sr
Gregory S. Brock
Kenneth A. Chapman
Robert E. Clark
Charles T. Davis
Cory T. Davis
Michael L. Elswick
William I. Griffith
Steven J. Harrah
Edward D. Jones
Richard K. Lane
William R. Lynch
Joe Marcum

Ronald L. Maynor
Nicolas D. McCroskey
James E. Mooney
Adam K. Morgan
Rex L. Mullins
Joshua S. Napper
Howard D. Payne
Dillard E. Persinger
Joel R. Price
Gary W. Quarles, Jr.
Deward A. Scott
Grover D. Skeens
Benny R. Willingham
Ricky L. Workman

NO SMOKING
DID YOU CHECK?
LIGHTS? FIRE EXTINGUISHER? BRAKES?
JACK & BAR? EVERYONE INSIDE & CURTAIN PULLED?



Upper Big Branch Mine

April 5th 2010

