



PARTICIPANTS: 2017 National Mine Rescue, First Aid, Bench and Preshift Competition

The 2017 National Mine Rescue, First Aid, Bench and Preshift Competition will be held September 11-14, 2017, at the National Mine Health and Safety Academy. We are pleased that your team(s) will be participating in the 2017 National Competition. We sincerely hope each event will provide effective training and improve the skills required of participants in an emergency response situation. It is our goal that the National Competition will provide a forum for building relationships and understanding in the area of emergency preparedness and response among labor, management, and regulatory agencies. For your convenience, we have attached a complete Activities Schedule.

Your team vehicle(s) may be parked at the mine simulation lab/mine emergency operations parking lot beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 10, 2017 at no cost to you. Parking in the mine simulation lab/mine emergency operations parking lot will be for trailers and team vehicles that will not be used for personal transportation during the contest. All parking passes will be issued upon check-in at the gate. Parking information, maps and directions for the National Mine Academy are attached, or you can visit their website for additional information at: <https://arlweb.msha.gov/PROGRAMS/MineAcademy/Academy.asp>

Freezers will be provided on site for teams to store their apparatus canisters. Enough room will be available for each team to store their ice for both days of the competition. **The ice should be clearly labeled for each team.** The freezers will be located in the F building (see map). Once the last team has cleared the staging area, the teams will be allowed to return their ice to the freezers if needed.

As requested and as a courtesy, if you provide a cell phone number at the time of check-in at the Competition Recorder's Office, the team appeals committee (for all events) will call to alert you that your packet is ready for review. Note that cell phone signal is limited in and around the Academy. Your one (1) hour time limit for review will begin

when the number is posted whether the committee is able to contact you via cell phone or not.

Check-in for Bench Contestants and First Aid Teams will be from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in front of the Competition Recorder's Office adjacent to the Auditorium on Sunday.

Bench Isolation will be at 7:00 a.m. on Monday in the Auditorium. The Bench Contest will begin at 8:00 a.m. and will be held in the upstairs hallway above the cafeteria.

First Aid Teams will be able to bring their equipment to classroom C123 on Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. First Aid Isolation will be at 7:00 a.m. on Monday in classroom C123. The First Aid Competition will be held in C108, C110, C112, C116, C118 and C120 and will begin at 8:00 a.m.

Mine Rescue registration will be on Monday, 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. adjacent to the Auditorium at the Competition Recorder's Office. Mine Rescue Isolation will be in the gym. All teams (uniformed team members only) must be in isolation by 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Mine Rescue Competition will be held on the ball field on both days at 8:00 a.m. **Seating will not be provided. Feel free to bring your own chairs.**

If you have not already sent in your SD cards please do so ASAP. Mail them to the attention of Brandon Wells at National Mine Health and Safety Academy 1301 Airport Road, Beaver, West Virginia 25813-9426.

Teams will turn in their radios fully charged and clearly identified without any accessories (mouth piece, ear buds, etc.) upon registering Monday, 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Teams may also turn radios in on Sunday, September 10th. Once the radios have been checked teams will be contacted via cell phone to return to the designated area to pick up their radios.

All radios are to be MSHA approved and intrinsically safe.
VHF radios must support at least 3 channels.
UHF radios must support at least 16 channels.

Support is defined as programmed with all the frequencies listed in the National Rules, in the order shown and set to "low power" and "narrow band" PL code 94.8 hz.

All teams will turn in their fully charged and clearly identifiable computers and radios upon arrival at lock-up. The wireless communication must be disabled on the computers and may be verified by officials. Please remove auxiliary components such as throat microphones, head sets, etc. The radios may be checked for proper frequencies, low power, narrow band, and PL codes. The teams will pick up their

computers and radios in the staging area before they report to the field for competition each day.

If a team experiences problems with radios at the competition due to improper frequency or PL code, the team will be discounted under Rule 50. The team will then have the option to use standard life-line signals or a sound-powered communication system.

Your team will be drawing positions for both days. If you draw in the first half of the numbers for Day 1's competition, you will be drawing from the last half of the numbers for Day 2's competition. However, if you are using a lifeline or VHF, you will be assigned a field for which you will be drawing your working order from.

The following ground rules will apply for both days of Mine Rescue Competition:

1. Ventilation structures to be used by the teams will be demonstrated in the isolation area each day of competition.
2. Any team member or participant who has a cell phone(s), pager(s) or any other electronic device in isolation will be immediately disqualified from participating in the Contest events. **This policy will be strictly enforced.**

You must bring your Mine Rescue Team equipment using the main entrance to the gym where it will be locked up overnight. The gym will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, and from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, for this purpose. Following the completion of the Mine Rescue Competition an area will be provided in the mine simulation lab/mine emergency operations building that will contain wash basins for the purpose of cleaning equipment. A dumpster will be available for disposing of chemicals properly after teams have completed the problem. This dumpster will be located outside of the mine simulation lab/mine emergency operations building.

Check-in for Preshift Contestants will be from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, at the Competition Recorder's Office. Contestants must be a bona fide employee of a mining company or contractor and be certified as a mine foreman or examiner. **Proof of certification (card, certificate, etc.) must be presented at time of check-in. If such proof is not provided prior to the contest, the preshift participant will not be allowed to compete.**

Preshift Isolation will be at 7:00 a.m. in the gym. The Preshift Contest will be held on the ball field on Thursday and will begin at 8:00 a.m. **Seating will not be provided. Feel free to bring your own chairs.**

Information about West Virginia and the Beckley area can be found on the following website <https://visitwv.com/>. This website can be used to make your stay more

enjoyable for you and your family. This site contains information such as a calendar of events, dining information, special activities and entertainment, etc.

In case of an emergency the following number may be called to reach participants at the National Competition (304) 256-3100.

Good luck in West Virginia!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy R. Watkins".

Timothy Watkins
Co-Director, 2017 National Mine Rescue,
First Aid, Bench and Preshift Competition