

2022

BENCH

Q & A's

Q1: How many multiple choice answers will there be for each question on the written test?

A: Three

Q2: Bench-BG 4/Visuals/Disassembled: Many of the instructions beneath the rules say that the contestants will verbally identify condition or means of testing a component. This should be removed to avoid confusing new contestants.

A: Those statements beneath the rules were left in for training purposes to show what would be expected to do a proper exam on that particular part. If the verbally identify part causes confusion this year we will have to remove that next year. The current rules have already been approved for this year.

Q3: (BG4) According to rule 4 as it states, a contestant can work an entire problem and have it zeroed until the very end and time out during the last or next to last test on the test apparatus and another contestant can miss several on the visual and end up with 35 discounts on the visual and miss 4 on the written test and still win the competition due to this change in this one rule?

A: Rule number 4 would not apply in this scenario. Rule number 4 only applies if the contestant knowingly continues on without correcting a predetermined problem to try to minimize discounts before running out of time.

Q4: Would a contestant be discounted for saying "hand tight connection" out of habit as opposed to "connected or good"?

A: No. Under B. Miscellaneous Rule number 5 it says any similar terminology used to describe a part is acceptable. Similar terminology for a connection is acceptable. Be sure to verbally identify something similar to connected or good when making the required connections.

Q5: Page 1, Rule 4, Simulating defogging the lens, adding dragersorb, and adding ice, the rule does not say anything about verbalizing this. Mr. Leverknight stated in his discussion on the rules meeting during the BG4 component that this must be stated. In the 240 discussion, it was only stated that this must be simulated. There was no mention of verbalization. Does the contestant have to verbalize "I'm simulating defogging the lens here, adding dragersorb, and adding ice Mr. Judge" or can it be simulated by taking the antifog or provided ice pack and holding it over the facemask and cooler?

A: You need to verbalize and you have to pick up the items. If you don't verbalize or pick the Item up you will be discounted as not performing.

Q6: Page 5, B, Miscellaneous, 3 - Why should a contestant that is reviewing his results for protest online be given any more time (20min vs 45min) to formulate his protest? By the same token, why should he get an extra hour to respond to his call to review? I understand if teams go home due to Covid or similar instances they might need to be monitored. But if this is done at Nationals, everyone should still be local. If the 45min/2hours is legitimate, give the same amount of time to the guy that stood in line and waited for his protest.

A: **IN PERSON:** Within one hour of notification, the bench participant and team trainer shall report to the "designated location" for appeals at the contest site. They will have twenty (20) minutes to review the judges' scorecards, the written examination score, etc. and prepare/submit any written protests. No additional appeals will be accepted after the 20-minute time limit.

ELECTRONICALLY: The bench participant will have forty five (45) minutes to review the judges' scorecards, the written examination score, etc. and return any written protests to support their appeal back to the Contest Officials via email.

- The 45-minute review clock starts when the bench participant opens the email document which initiates the sending of the "read receipt" email back to the Contest Officials.
- The bench participant then has 45 minutes to return any written protests to support their appeal back to the Contest Officials via email.
- The bench participant has two hours from the time the results are ready for review and are posted outside the "designated location" for appeals at the contest site to open the email sent by the Contest Officials and complete their response.
- Forty five (45) minutes is the maximum allotted time for the electronic review.
- For example, if the bench participant waits for one hour and 50 minutes once the results are posted at the contest site to open the email sent by the

Contest Officials, he/she will only have 10 minutes to complete their review and email any protests back to the Contest Officials.

- Electronic Reviews received by the Contest Officials after the 2-hour time limit or after the 45-minute review time limit will not be accepted.

Q7: Making a hand tight connection has been removed from the language. For those connections, can the same terminology still be used in competition? If a contestant places the drain valve into the breathing bag and states, "making a hand tight connection" will he be docked because he didn't say "connection is good?"

A: No

Q8: Page 9, D, 1 - Check sentence structure. Should the first comma have been a period?

A: Yes

Q9: I also have a BG-4 question and I'm not sure who can answer it. They said the questions for the written would be taken from the BG-4 owner's manual. Is BG4 Edition 9 April 2020 IFU the correct edition that I should be studying?

A: Drager's User Manual Revision 1 November 2016. A link for the manual will be located on Holmes Mine Rescue Association's website.

<https://www.holmessafety.org/holmes-mine-rescue-association-rules-and-contest-resources/>

Q10: Rule 6 pg. 8 all connections must be tightened and verbally identified, is this for both of the apparatuses (assembled/disassembled)?

A: No, this is for the disassembled apparatus only.

Q11. Would you happen to have the link for the "BG4 Drager Instructions for Use manual for the PSS BG4 Ap/Cp. Rev 1, Nov 16"? This is the latest revision of this user manual and is used for the Bench Written test. In the Rules it says it can be found on the MSHA site but I am unable to locate this material.

A: MSHA cannot add the manuals to the MSHA website because they are copyrighted and aren't 508(c) complaint and anything on a Govt. Website must be 508(c) Complaint. The Manuals referenced in the rules will be posted on the Holmes Mine Rescue Association's Website.

<https://www.holmessafety.org/holmes-mine-rescue-association-rules-and-contest-resources/>