

To all State SkillsUSA Welding Competitors:

I want to first extend a congratulations on a job well done with placing Gold or Silver at your respective District competition which has advanced you to the hands-on portion of the SkillsUSA welding competition.

As you are preparing to compete at the state level, there are some things that you should be aware of concerning how this year's competition will work. The goal of this State level competition is to better prepare the student who will represent Massachusetts at the National SkillsUSA Leadership Conference. This year, I have decided to mirror how the National competition is run by assigning one welding project to each welding process, one cutting project for oxy fuel cutting, and one written test. Since there are 12 competitors, you will be separated into **Three** groups of **Four**. Each group will then be assigned a starting station with the respective projects for that station. When a change over happens, the competitor will be given 5 minutes to transition from GMAW to FCAW or SMAW to GTAW. Once both projects are completed at a given welding station at the end of an hour, the groups will then move to the next station to start a new module of projects.

Below, there are a couple of documents you should become familiar with. The first document is a suggested itinerary that is going to be a loose guideline as to how the day will progress. Times are subject to change.

The second document will give you a rough idea of the shop layout and approximately where each station will be located. The prints for each project are also attached to this document, however, the process that will be used on each project (except the Aluminum project) and weld sizes will not be assigned until the day of the competition. The competitor will be responsible for tacking up each project according to the given blueprint. There will be a cutting project as well on ½" carbon steel, but that print will be given to the competitor on that day. It is up to the competitor to practice **each project with every process** and in **every position**. Since the cutting project will only take 30 minutes, there is also a written test that will take up the remaining 30 minutes of that station rotation. The written test is a 20-question test covering welding theory, metallurgy, and blue print knowledge. The points for this written test are not weighted to be significantly impactful to the overall score, so it is suggested that you spend more time to practice the actual welding portion.

The competitor has the ability to use the welding equipment to its fullest welding capability. The Lincoln welding electrodes that will be present are as follows:

**1/8 7024, 3/32 & 1/8 7018, 1/8 6010 5P+/.035 70s-6 GMAW/ .045 71A85 FCAW/ 3/32 4043 & 5356 GTAW.**

The cutting torches provided are Victor Torches with #1 tips.

Apart from what has been stated in this letter, no further information will be given until the day of competition. I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you April 29<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, focus on planning your time accordingly, keep pressure on yourself, and weld, weld, weld!

Andrew Cardin

Welding Event Manager

## Itinerary

8:45-9:30 AM	Competitors Arrive at Contest area
10AM – 10:15AM	Conduct a briefing of competiton, Q&A
10:15AM – 10:20AM	Competitors get set up in their <i>1<sup>st</sup> Station</i>
10:20AM	<b>Contest Start time</b>
10:20AM – 10:50AM	Compeitors complete <b>First</b> project
10:50AM – 10:55AM	Competitors transision to Second project
10:55AM – 11:25AM	Competitors complete <b>Second</b> Project
11:25AM – 11:30AM	Competitors transition to <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Station</i> , Third project
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Competitors complete <b>Third</b> project
12:00PM – 12:25PM	Lunch
12:25PM – 12:30PM	Competitors transition to Fourth project
12:30PM – 1:00PM	Competitors complete <b>Fourth</b> project
1:00PM – 1:05PM	Competitors tranisiton to <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Station</i> , Fifth Porject
1:05PM – 1:35PM	Competitors complete <b>Fifth</b> Project
1:35PM – 1:40PM	Competitors transition to Sixth Project
1:40PM – 2:10PM	Competitors complete Sixth project
2:10PM	<b>Contest End Time</b>
2:10PM – 2:30PM	Competitors clean up
2:30PM – 3:00	Contest Debrief and competitors leave
3:00PM	Final scores are entered and uploaded

Welding Contest area layout





