



Southside Virginia Volunteer Firefighters Association

Rules Governing Firematic Contest Events

GENERAL RULES

1. The Rules and Contest Committee has the exclusive right to change the order of running, cancel or make other adjustments in regards to the contests when in the best interest of the Association and welfare of the participants.
2. All participating Fire Companies must be members in good standing in the Southside Virginia Volunteer Firefighters Association.
3. A single department will be represented on the field and during apparatus judging. Combining of department members and or equipment will not be allowed. Any department found in violation will be disqualified for the day and the following year of competition.
4. A member of the Rules and Contest Committee will visit the Contest Field at least 2 days prior to the Annual Convention for the purpose of verifying field layout, equipment to be used, etc.
5. Team Captains will be provided with an ID Badge to identify them at the Captains Meeting. A drawing will be held to determine each team's running position. Any Fire Company not present at the Captain's meeting will be disqualified from all events on the day of the Competition. Captains Meetings during running of Contest will be held at center of field and not on sidelines.
4. Each team will have 1 (one) false start on each event. If a second false start occurs on any event, the event will be forfeited by that Fire Company.
5. The only person that can register a complaint to the Rules and Contest Committee is the Team Captain. If more than one member enters a complaint, the team will be disqualified from that event. Teams will be given one warning prior to their disqualification.
6. Judges for the running of the Contest will be members of the Rules and Contest Committee. In the event that there are an inadequate number of judges present to carry on the contest, the Chairman of the Rules and Contest Committee shall select those persons as he deems qualified from the teams that are present at the Annual Convention.
7. Teams that participate in each contest shall return the field and all associated equipment to the original condition after their run and prior to the next team running. Failure to do so will result in that team is disqualified from that contest.
8. Any team disqualified from an event will be notified by a judge before the next team starts.
9. During the One man, Four man, & Six man contest if a judge deems the hose and or nozzle to be damaged or unsafe that section damaged and or nozzle will be replaced by another section of association hose and or nozzle and contest will resume. There will be no do-overs for damaged hose; however if an apparatus fails during an event and is replaced each team will re-run that event only.
10. Protest: Team Captains will be the only person that can register a protest and may be consulted as a group in all questions that are brought before the Rules and Contest Committee in the form of a Protest. **The Rules and Contest Committee will have the ultimate and final decision on all matters that are brought before them in the form of a Protest.**



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11. Sportsmanship:

- A. The Fire Service is a noble calling, one which is founded on mutual respect and trust between firefighters and the citizens we serve. To ensure the continuing integrity of the Fire Service, the highest standards of ethical conduct must be maintained at all times.
- B. There shall be no cursing, obscene gestures or similar behavior the day of the contest.
- C. Teams showing abusive or argumentative attitudes toward judges, timers, other teams, spectators or their own team members will not be tolerated.
- D. Throwing of equipment in disgust before, during, and or after an event will disqualify that team from that event.
- E. Each team is responsible for the actions of their team members and spectators under the team's tent.
- F. Each team shall control the actions of their team members before, during and after the Firematic contest. This rule shall apply to on-field Firematic Contest and Apparatus equipment judging. There will be no warning given to this offense.
- G. The Rules and Contest Committee Co-Chairs will receive all complaints from Team Captains only and make the necessary decision as to whether the team in question is at fault.
- H. Any fire company, team members, and or both found in violation by the rules and contest committee shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- I. The rules and contest committee shall have the authority to disqualify an Individual, and or team from any and all events during the Competition and further action may be taken if deemed necessary by the rules and contest committee which could include an Individual and or department being disbanded from the Southside Virginia Volunteer Firefighters Association. The decision of the Rules and Contest Committee shall be final.