

Exploring The Interstellar

Description:

Exploring the Interstellar is a telescope handling event where the participants' observational skills as well as telescope handling skills are tested in 3 rounds. The participants' task would be to answer the questions asked of them about Stars, Constellations and Messiers and point towards them using either the provided laser pointer or the telescope accordingly. All the rounds will be on campus and are offline.

Event Structure:

This event consists of three rounds:

Round 1 (Day 1) - This will be a written round and the basic observation skills of the participant will be tested through simple questions about stars and constellations. The teams with the best scores will qualify for the next round.

Round 2 (Day 2) - This round shall be conducted inside the planetarium built by the Astronomy Club and will consist of 4 different categories of questions.

1. Basic stars and constellations - Participants will be asked to point at the described stars and constellations through their deduction of the description.
2. Time-skip - The universe has undergone several millennia into the future or the past, accordingly the night sky has changed significantly. A few questions will be asked to test the knowledge of the participants about the Earth's precession and the life of certain stars.
3. Space-skip - The sky will be changed as if to simulate a different planet and a few questions will be asked to test the knowledge about the tilt of various planets.
4. Cosmic phenomenon - A phenomenon will be shown to the participants in the form of a video and some questions will be asked about that.

Round 3 (Day2) - This round shall be conducted in the field using telescopes. The participants shall be asked to point to certain stars or messier according to the names or descriptions provided by the judges.

Note:

1. Round 1 will be an elimination round.
2. Maximum 8 teams will be qualified for 2nd and 3rd round.
3. The combined scores of the 2nd and 3rd rounds will be used to declare the final ranking.

Rules:

Team Structure:

1. Maximum three members can participate in a team.
2. Intercollege teams are allowed.

Rules for Round 1:

1. No Team shall be allowed to enter after 15 minutes of starting the Q/A round.
2. Use of unfair means in any form will lead to disqualification from the event.
3. The medium of Question-answer round will be in English.
4. The decision of the judges shall be final and abiding by all teams.

Rules for Round 2:

1. Teams will be asked to be present at the planetarium according to their assigned slots.
2. Astronomy Club reserves right to ask for compensation in case of any damage to the planetarium or any belongings of the club by the participants during the event.
3. Use of any sky mapping gadgets are prohibited.

Rules for Round 3:

1. Teams will be provided aligned 6" Newtonian telescope. During the event, if the alignment of eyepiece and finder is disturbed, then teams will have to align it themselves.
2. Astronomy Club reserves right to ask for compensation in case of any damage to the telescope or any belongings of the club by the participants during the event.
3. Use of personal gadgets/ mobile/ torches is not allowed.

General Rules:

1. In the case of cloudy weather conditions, Astronomy Club has a buffer day and event will be shifted to the next day with the same timings. However, in the case of persisting bad weather, Astronomy club will make the necessary arrangement to modify event structure.
2. In case of dispute or disagreement, the decision of The Astronomy Club, IIT (BHU), Varanasi will be final and abiding.
3. We reserve the rights to change the rules as per the needs.
4. Use of calculator/electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited unless directed by Astronomy Club.

Contacts: Rahul Vishwakarma (8108832006)
Ayush Kumar Singh (8299628790)
Rupali Gharat (9131214717)