



# 2017 Rules of Play & Scoring

## Dos

- Use the internet as a resource! (Google things)
- The Hunt is for fun and we rely on you to help make it fun and to abide by standards of fair play.
- Report anything during the Hunt that you feel is unsafe or represents unsportsmanlike conduct. Please notify us immediately via our contact page <https://greatpuzzlehunt.com/contact>

## Don'ts

- Do not do anything that would interfere with another team's enjoyment of the Hunt.
- Do not give Puzzle information to or obtain Puzzle information from another team.

## Puzzles

- There are 4 primary puzzles + 1 Meta Puzzle ([what is a meta puzzle?](#))
- **Hint:** Time is ticking! Make sure everyone on the team is assigned to a job.
- Each puzzle results in a code word or words
- **Hint:** If your result does not spell out a word, it might be scrambled!
- **Hint:** If your result is not letters, you need to first decode to letters!
- [Puzzles to Practice from 2016](#)

## Scoring

- Your score is measured in minutes.
- The team with the least minutes wins.
- Puzzle timers are started at a puzzle station by showing a volunteer your team QR code.
- Finish the puzzle by entering the correct code word(s) on your smartphone.
- When you start a puzzle timer you have 60 minutes to finish that puzzle!
- If you do not finish in 60 minutes you receive a score of 120 minutes for that puzzle period!
- There is no penalty for retrying answers.
- Each puzzle has 3 hints available.
- You may buy a hint adding 10 minutes to your score.
- Hints are progressive and you can buy them in any order. (e.g. You may choose to only buy hint 3 near the end of a puzzle).
- **Bonus:** If you finish within 60 minutes **and** do not use any hints you will have 15 minutes subtracted from your score!
- In summary:  
puzzle score = (timed minutes) + (10 \* # hints used) - (bonus time if applicable)