DION: Reggie Directrix's Home Page - Mozilla {Build ID: 2002121216}

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REGGIE DIRECTRIX'S HOME PAGE

CHECK POLINERS

MY MENU

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S

TeamPaks need a Home!

TeamPaks in the following cities have not yet been assigned to regions. I you know where any of these belong click bere.

USER MANUAL

ACCESS INFORMATION

- A <u>summary of the status</u> of TXCPSO
- Find an individual
- Produce <u>reports</u> on teampaks, teams, and individuals
- Download data to your PC

TEAMPAK MAINTENANCE

- Assign TeamPaks to Regions
- Reassign TeamPaks to different regions
- Add and maintain <u>teams</u> for an existing TeamPak
- Search for TeamPaks and display their status

COMMUNICATE

- Add a news item
- RD User's Guide

Go to: Destination Imagination

Produced Saturday. January 11. 2003

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WELCOME TO DION

This year marks the debut of DIONline, an integrated web-based system for administering DI challenges, TeamPaks, and teams.

DION was conceived after an extensive research project was undertaken to determine what ADs and RDs need to help make their job *easier* and more *fun*. DION is intended to make everyone's life easier: the staff in Glassboro, ADs, RDs, tournament directors, and participants. Of course, DION is new, and it's different, so initially it might seem a bit difficult or frustrating. So before we start looking at the details of administering an affiliate with DION, let's spend a short time looking at some of the philosophy behind the system. Understanding this should make a lot of what follows fall into place.

First, DION is intended to move *information access* out to affiliates and regions. ADs and RDs now have direct, real-time access to information relating to their affiliate. 'Direct' means that you have it available online, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. There's no longer a need to wait for a weekly download, or to ask for special favors to get the information you need. 'Real time' means the data reflects the world as it is *right now*. If someone in some far-flung corner of your affiliate registers a new TeamPak, your information is updated immediately. You always know the current state of your State!

You'll know early in the year when there's a challenge that everyone seems to pick—so you can adjust your appraiser training, for instance. You'll know when a school you've been trying to recruit has suddenly downloaded the challenges and might now be interested in participating. It's not only ADs and RDs that can stay up-to-date—everyone with a DION ID has a customized DION home page—which shows them information that applies just to them. They'll see their own TeamPaks and teams (and be able to update them), and they'll see the news items that are meant just for them. They can see the exact status of any product orders they've placed with DI, as well as the status of their TeamPaks and teams.

Second, DION is designed to *reduce workload*. We try to eliminate entering data multiple times. Once a person has created a DION account and given the system their e-mail address, for example, you never need to enter their mailing information again – entering their e-mail address gives DION the information it needs to look their address up. Once a team has entered their team details, you can get those details from the system – instead of re-entering them at tournament time

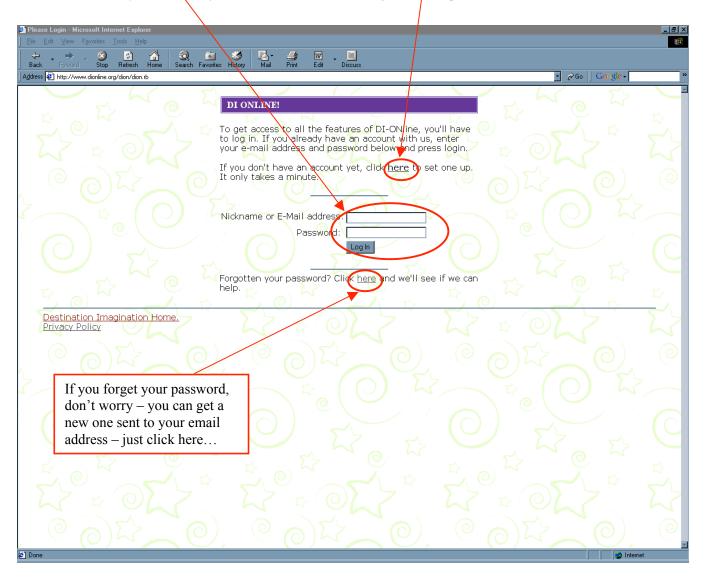
Key to all this is the idea that everyone involved with DI should *register* with DION. By having their own DION account, identified by their e-mail address, they can take full advantage of the system's ability to keep them up to date with their TeamPaks, Teams, Region, and Affiliate. As important, by encouraging your participants to use their DION account, you're cutting down on your own work. Once your members start using DION to find the status of the teams and TeamPaks, they'll be asking you far fewer administrative questions.

Lastly, DION is intended to be a *growing* system. From its roots as a registration system, it will branch out into areas such as volunteer management, tournament management, marketing, and so on. As RDs, you'll be providing the raw ideas that fuel much of this growth. We're relying on your feedback to help make DION better, each and every day. This is *your* system – please continue to help us build it to meet your needs!

THE LOGIN SCREEN

Access DION using your Internet web browser: simply go to www.dionline.org and click on the picture. (If you want to bookmark the DION system in your browser so you can get there quickly, you could be sophisticated are bookmark the direct-access page, http://www.dionline.org/dion/dion.rb).

This is the first DION screen. You can create a new DION ID here, If you already have an ID, just enter it here instead, along with your password.



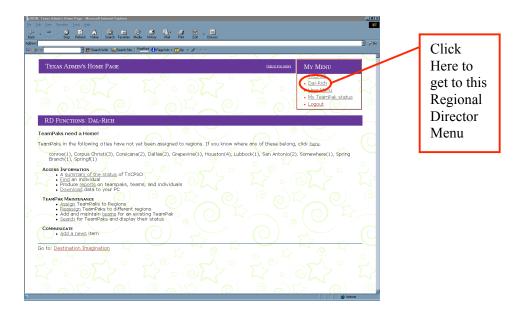
This is the same log-in screen that all DION users see, but once you enter your DION ID, the system knows about you, and presents you with custom menus. Since as an RD, you've been granted special RD privileges in the DION system, you'll probably have at least three basic menus.

- 1. Your Regional Director Screen,
- 2. Your General User Screen the one that looks like all basic user screens, and
- 3. Your Personal TeamPaks Menu.

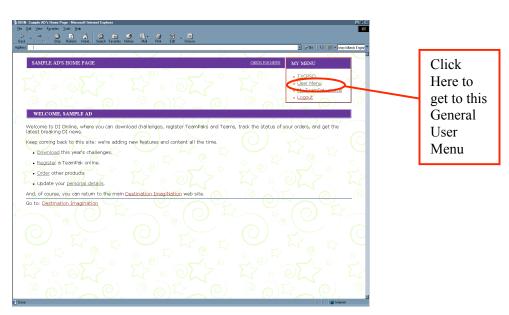
You can move between these screens by using the little "MyMenu" box in the upper right corner of your screen on all your Home Page screens:

Examples of all three follow.

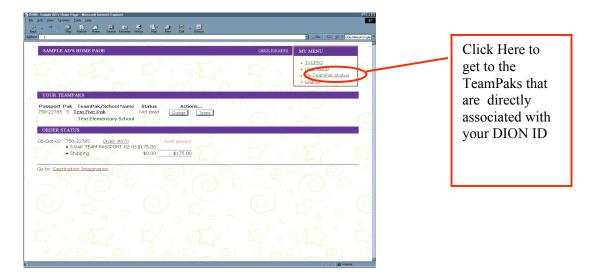
YOUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR MENU



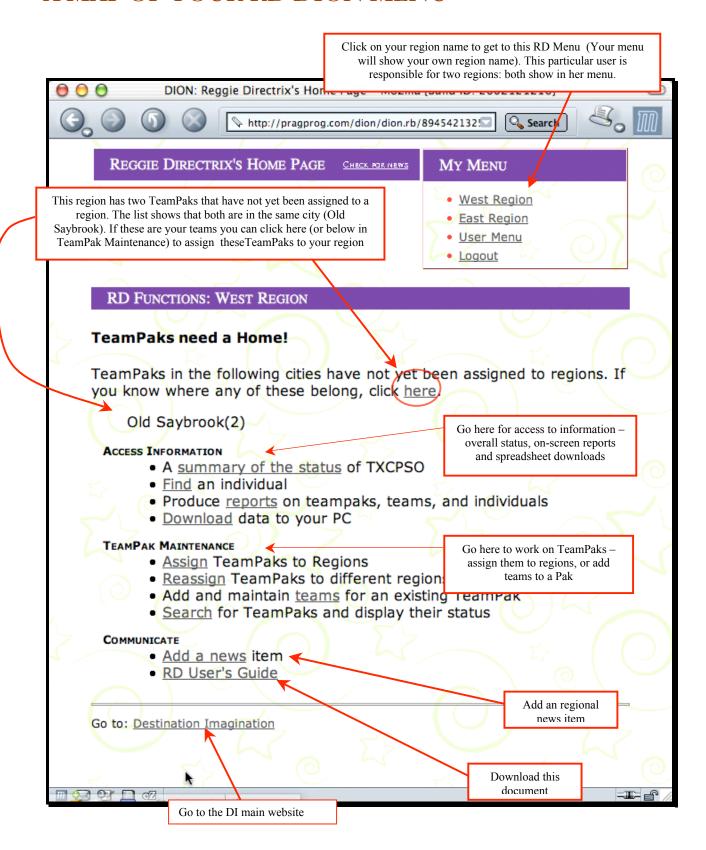
YOUR GENERAL USER MENU:



YOUR PERSONAL TEAMPAKS MENU:



A MAP OF YOUR RD DION MENU



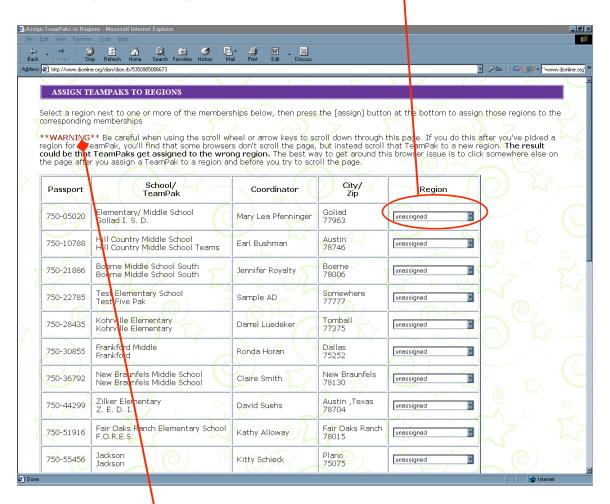
RD MAIN MENU FUNCTIONS

TeamPaks need a Home!

This section is for affiliates with regions. When users register TeamPaks, they don't assign their own regions – too many people don't know the region they belong in! So, RDs or ADs have to assign each TeamPak to a region. (Next year, the renewing paks will have their region already assigned.)

This section gives you a quick look at the TeamPaks that still need to be assigned to a region. Click on "<u>here</u>" on the RD main page, or on "Assign TeamPaks to Regions" and it will give you the page you see here:

You'll have a list of TeamPaks – each with a drop down window containing a list of the regions in your affiliate. Just select the region for each of the TeamPaks you wish to assign, and hit the ASSIGN button at the bottom of the screen.



It's important to note this small warning: once you select a region for a TeamPak, you must click again, somewhere outside of the region drop-down box — otherwise, when you scroll down the page, you'll scroll through the regions in the box again, and not down the list of TeamPaks. We can't change it — that's the way internet browsers work.

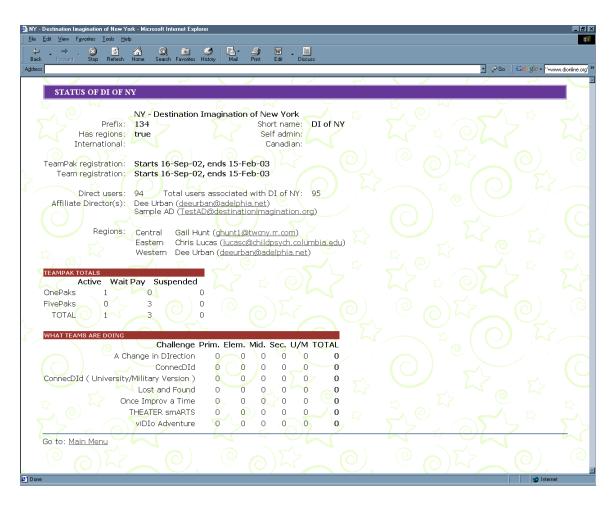
ACCESS INFORMATION

This section is where you can report and download info on just about anything related to your users or participants.

The first option, <u>A summary of the status of YOUR AFFILIATE</u>, gives you an overall picture of the affiliate – general information like:

- Affiliate Registration Dates
- Numbers of Users
- A regions list (including the RDs)
- Total numbers of one paks, five paks and their active (paid) status
- Teams (along with the challenges and levels they've chosen).

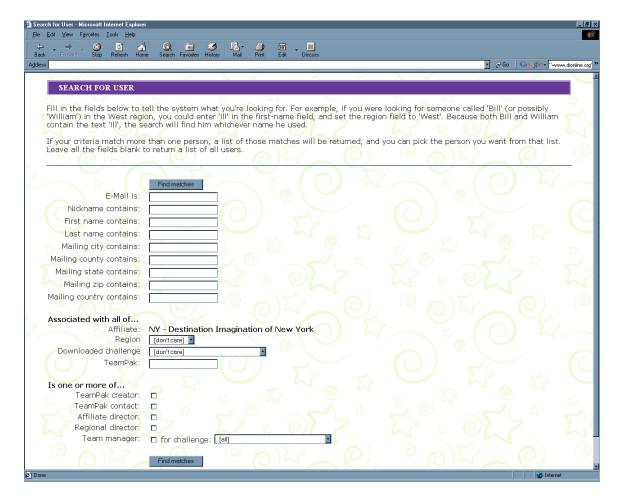
An example is shown below:



The next option, *Find an individual (and optionally update their information)*, does just what it says. It brings you to the screen shown below.

You can search for people by using any of 18 different criteria – including name, etc., but also including their roles, what challenges they've downloaded, etc. You can mix and match criteria – nothing is a required field, so if you want a list of ALL your users, just click "find user" without entering any limiting criteria.

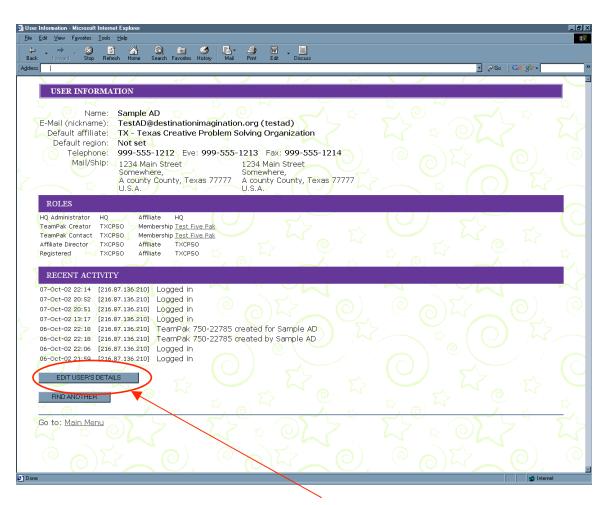
Be careful asking for ALL users – in a large affiliate, that will generate a LARGE amount of data! It can take a few extra seconds to generate the report, and if you're using a slower dial-up Internet connection, it can take a few more seconds to receive the report.



If you enter criteria that fits more than one person, you'll get a list of all the users that match the criteria you entered. For more details about anyone on the list, you can just click on that record, and the system will show you a complete user record for them.

The screen below shows a user record. You can see their contact details, all the roles that the system knows they hold – these can include things like RD, AD, ICM, TeamPak Contact, Team Manager, etc.

The record also shows everything a user has done each time they've logged into the system, including downloading challenges and creating TeamPaks. If they are a very active user, then you may only see the most recent of their history. In that case, there will be a place to click on the "RECENT ACTIVITY" line to show the entire history.



You can also update someone's contact details here. If you know something has been entered incorrectly, or a User's details have changed, just use that feature to edit the details.

Produce reports on TeamPaks, teams, and individuals also does just what it says. You can search for TeamPaks, teams and individuals and people. There are lots of pre-formatted reports for each of the three, and there are an almost unlimited number of custom reports you can do, as well. All of these appear as on-screen reports (you can print them out if you wish.)

Download data to your PC does almost the same things as **Produce reports**, except instead of an on-screen report about TeamPaks, teams or people, you get the information sent to your PC in a format most spreadsheets will open automatically, so you can use it any way you like: to feed scheduling, to do a mail merge letter - whatever you need.

(Go to either Reports or Downloads. Remember, Reports creates an on-screen report, while Downloads creates a file in a format most spreadsheets will open automatically.)

The system will first ask you what you want to report on – choose:



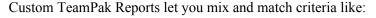
(For this example, let's report on TeamPaks.)

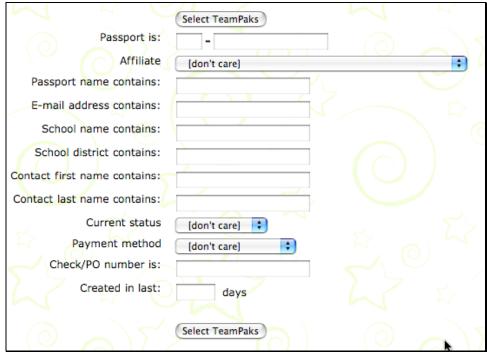
The next step asks you which TeamPaks you want to know about:



You can select all your affiliates' TeamPaks, just the active ones (they've used a credit card, check or PO to cover their membership fee), just the unpaid ones, the ones with no teams. You can even select a custom set of TeamPaks.

If you choose to do a custom search, you can then specify the criteria the system will use to select the TeamPaks in your report.





So, if you want, say, all the TeamPaks in a certain district, just type that district into the School District Contains field. If you want all the TeamPaks that belong to a coordinator named Joe Wolfstein, just type Wolfstein into the last name field. You can use one or more (or none) of the criteria fields to precisely define the list you're looking for.

If you want a list of *all* of your TeamPaks, don't enter anything into the criteria boxes. Just click the "Select TeamPaks" button. Just remember - be careful asking for ALL TeamPaks - in a large affiliate, that will generate a LARGE amount of data! It can take a few extra seconds to generate the report, and if you're using a slower dial-up internet connection, it can take a few more seconds to receive the report.

When you've finished entering your search criteria – just hit the "SELECT TeamPaks" button.

The last thing you'll need to tell the system is the information you want to see about the TeamPaks you've selected:



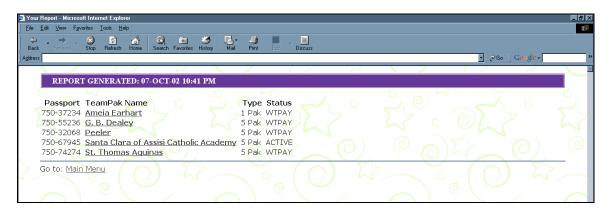
Again, you can mix and match your "Data to Report" selection, here in Step 3. You can pick just the first, just the last box, or any combination of the boxes, depending on what information you need about each TeamPak in your list

Here are two samples of our TeamPak search results. In the first example we selected only the first box in Step 3. The second example was created by

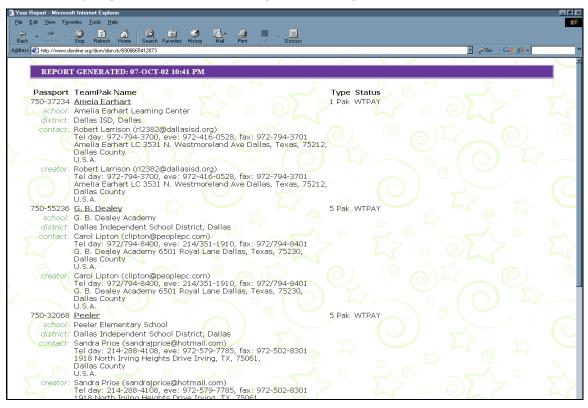
selecting all four boxes. Selecting other combinations will give you different results.

In all cases, you can click on each record in the list to get more information about that TeamPak.

Only selecting Passport, name, type, status in Step 3 creates a report like this:



Selecting all possible information in Step 3 creates a report like this:

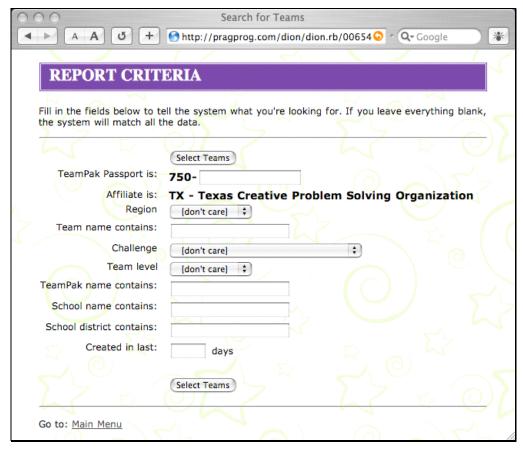


TEAM REPORTS

Had we selected TEAMS in Step 1, instead of TEAMPAKS, then we'd walk through a different set of options. TEAM searches get the following selections in Step 2:

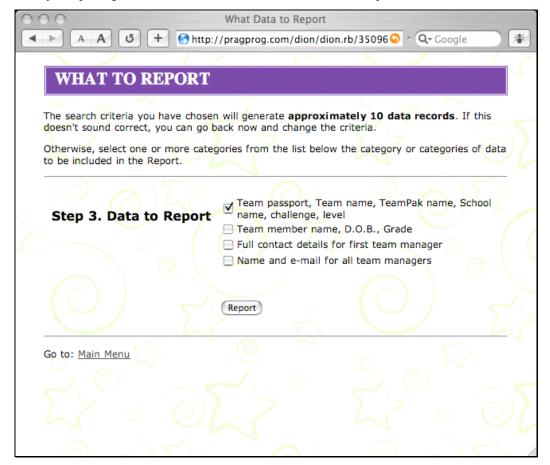


Custom TEAM searches are defined using the following selection criteria:

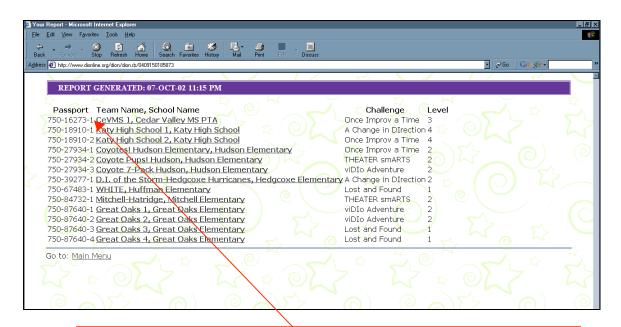


So, we can get a list of all the teams doing a particular challenge, or all the teams at a certain level, or all teams that have recently been entered into the system, etc.

Finally, Step 3, again, asks for the information needed in the report:

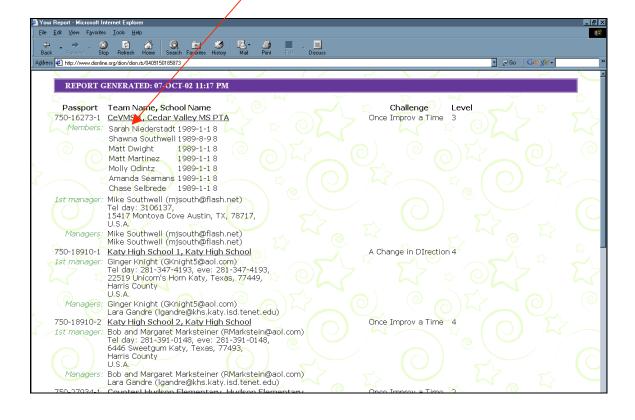


A Team Report selecting just the top box of information in Step 3 would look like this:



In either report, just click on the team name for more details about that team...

A team report which asked for all the information (clicked all the boxes in Step 3) would look like this:



Scoring Download

You can download team information in a format that's compatible with the New Hampshire scoring system. Go to the normal 'Downloads' menu, select 'Teams' for the information you want to download, then enter whatever criteria you want (for example, for a regional tournament you might ask for all teams in a region). On the next screen, along with the normal download options, you'll see the option "Data for Scoring Program". You'll need to select this option, and at the same time make sure that all the other options are *not* selected (because all of these download options are cumulative).

When you then click the 'Download' button, DION does a quick pass through the data you've already selected and removes from it:

- Teams from TeamPaks that aren't active (which normally means those that aren't fully paid)
- Primary teams (which don't go in to the scoring program)

The file then gets downloaded to your computer. Normally this will pop up a program like Excel where you can see the information you requested. The columns here match those required by the scoring program. However, you will need to go through and set the long term and IC times for each team (in the download, you'll see the columns are blank). Once you've finished, feed the result to the scoring program as normal.

TEAMPAK MAINTENANCE

Assign TeamPaks to regions, or reassign TeamPaks to different regions is just the same as <u>TeamPaks need a home!</u> up above. You can assign or re-assign TeamPaks – just select the ones you need and pick their region from the drop down box at the right of the TeamPak record.

<u>Search for TeamPaks and display their status</u> lets you search for TeamPaks by using any combination of 12 different criteria – including name, passport number, etc., but also including ones that have registered in the past "x" days, etc – so you can find your new ones easily.

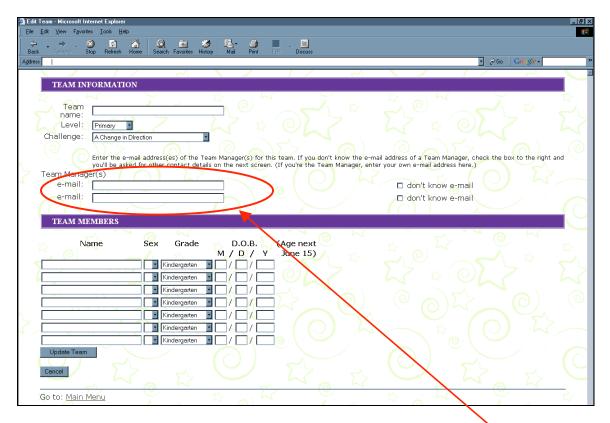
The search here is kind of a short cut version of the reports function shown above. Basically, it selects "TeamPaks" in Step 1 and the basic set of information in Step 3 of the reports or downloads section. So you just specify is the search criteria – (Step 2).

<u>Maintain teams for an existing TeamPak</u> lets you maintain teams on TeamPaks registered in your affiliate. The TeamPak creators and contacts can do this, too, but sometimes RDs need to be able to help out their memberships that have trouble accessing the internet, etc.

When a TeamPak is created, it has no teams associated with it at first. Often, at the beginning part of the year, the teams aren't yet fully formed – that usually happens later. When a team is set, then the TeamPak coordinator goes into the system and adds a team to that pak. Once they enter a Team Manager, then the TM can enter the rest of the details about that team, including the students' details.

Sometimes, the RD may have to enter the team information – either the TeamPak coordinator cannot (or does not) enter the teams, and the RD needs to step in and help. This section, *Maintain teams for an existing TeamPak* lets you do just that.

Once you enter the passport number for the TeamPak, you'll see the "Current Teams" screen for that TeamPak. If this is the first team in that pak, it will simply say "No teams have yet been registered for this TeamPak." Just click on the "ADD TEAM" button. You'll see the following screen:



Simply enter as much information as you have. Once you enter a Team Manager email here: then that TM can access the TeamPak and update their own details. (If they don't already have a DION ID, the system will ask you for their contact details, and will create an ID for them, so they can then access the TeamPak.)

COMMUNICATE

<u>Add a news item</u> is where you can post a news item – you can have it go to your entire region, or even to just a single user. The news item will be displayed at the top of the recipients' DION Welcome Page. You can specify how long the news item will be displayed, as well as a title and the full story.

FUTURE CHANGES

The DION system as it stands today is only the first phase of an exciting new development project. In the near future, the DION development team is planning many new features to keep improving the way we administer the program. Let us know what's important to you - we hope to keep adding features that help make your job as RD easier and more fun. Stay tuned....