

2011 SAN ANGELO STOCK SHOW & RODEO

FASTEST TORCH IN THE WEST METAL FAB SKILLS CONTEST Sponsored by: Tulsa Welding School

Entry Deadline: Must sign up by 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 24, 2011
Contest: 5:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 23, 2011
Awards: 9:00 a.m., Thursday, February 24, 2011

The Fastest Torch in the West is a cutting torch contest designed to showcase students with cutting torch skills. This most essential metal fabrication skill is measured in head to head competition between students with speed and accuracy advancing students to the final rounds in a tournament format.

Rules:

1. Students participating in the contest will be paired by a drawing that will randomly place participants in a bracket that will remain the same for the entire contest. Irregular numbers of students may require the bracket to include some “bye” slots be added to complete the bracket.
2. In each round students will light their own torch, adjust to a neutral flame, and make the cut required in that round. Regulators will be preset by contest officials. The student whose metal falls to the ground first advances to the next round and the other student is eliminated.
3. Any attempt to force the cut to fall by any action other than gravity (tapping with the torch tip, jarring the table, etc.) will result in that student being disqualified.
4. Safety equipment will be provided. Students choosing to use their own may do so. One high cuff glove, safety glasses, a face shield must be worn while cutting. Eyewear must meet minimum Z87 standards. Students will be responsible for appropriate clothing. Long pants, closed toed shoes, and a long sleeved cotton shirt are required. Judges decision on appropriate clothing will be final.
5. If judges determine that a tip is dirty, both tips will be cleaned by contest officials prior to the next round. Equipment malfunctions that cause an unfair advantage to one contestant may result in a “reride” if judges deem it appropriate.
6. Metal to be cut will be provided by the contest. Preliminary rounds will cut flat metal, approximately 4” wide and approximately 3/8” thick. As the contest progresses contestants will be expected to make cuts on pipe, angle iron, channel iron, etc. Piercing cuts may be required in later rounds. At no point will metal to be cut exceed 1/2” in thickness.
7. Prior to making their cuts students will be permitted to arrange metal, hoses, and strikers on their work table for their own comfort. Judges will announce “go” to begin cuts in each round. Cut lines will be pre-marked by the judges.
8. If during the contest a student is called for and is not present for his turn, he will be eliminated and his competitor in that round will advance. Every effort will be made to accommodate students with other showing obligations and show officials may change the order of the brackets to help students participate.
9. Contestants may choose the torch/table they use to cut on. If both students choose the same station, a coin flip will determine student placement.
10. Participation in the contest will be limited to students that have submitted entries in the Ag Mechanics or Tractor Restoration Division of the San Angelo Livestock Show.
11. Decisions of the contest officials as they pertain to safety and details of the contest are final.