



LifeSmarts

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Denver Digest #3, March 14, 2016

National LifeSmarts Championship 2016: Information for Teams

Focus: Safety Smart, Video Challenge, Excursions, Coach calls, Registration, Hotel deadline

Dear Coaches and Team members,

We are so excited to see you in Denver next month, competing for the National LifeSmarts Championship! Each week we will share special updates with you through this *Denver Digest*. Our hope is that this will help you prepare for Nationals by providing timely reminders and updates.

[Safety Smart Ambassadors](#)

A number of coaches have reserved their \$500 travel stipends and participants are beginning their scholarship applications. Make sure your team enjoys the benefits of being Safety Smart Ambassadors.

[Video Challenge](#)

Teams may upload their videos now. YouTube views begin to be counted TODAY through March 31. Please complete the [LifeSmarts Video Challenge Submission Form](#) this week. Judges will begin reviewing videos March 18. Video length is preferred to be 75-90 seconds, but teams will not be marked down for videos ranging from 55-90 seconds due to an inconsistency with one published rubric.

Excursions

Your team has the choice of two excursions this year. *Both are free of charge* to team members and coaches. Your team will choose just one to attend together. After reading the excursion descriptions and conferring with your team, [click here to rank your choices through SurveyMonkey](#). If you do not complete the survey, we will assume you wish to have free time Monday afternoon.

- Tour the US Mint
 - Touring the United States Mint is a fascinating experience for all ages and one to remember for a lifetime. Tours cover the present state of coin manufacturing and the history of the Mint. Visitors learn about the craftsmanship required at all stages of the minting process from the original designs and sculptures to the actual striking of the coins. Today, the Denver Mint's output can exceed 50 million coins a day.
 - Tours last approximately 45 minutes. The Mint is within walking distance from the hotel and the 16th street mall. We encourage you to use the rest of the afternoon to explore everything the downtown area has to offer!
 - 80 spots are available for this tour.

- Visit Dinosaur Ridge
 - Dinosaur Ridge is located in Morrison, Colorado, just west of Denver, and is one of the world's most famous dinosaur fossil localities. In 1877, some of the best-known dinosaurs were first discovered by Arthur Lakes, a professor at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden. These included *Apatosaurus*, *Stegosaurus*, and *Allosaurus*. These specimens represent animals that lived 150 million years ago in the Late Jurassic Period, also known as the "Age of Giants."
 - The general Dinosaur Ridge guided tour consists of four sites, each with about 20 minutes of interpretation by your guide. Sites include:
 - The Swamp Site
 - The Dinosaur Tracksite: 300 footprints left by several dinosaurs and one crocodile
 - Brontosaur Bulges: Tracks made next to a watering hole by some of the largest dinosaurs to ever live
 - The Dinosaur Bone Quarry: Dinosaur bones imbedded in sandstone that was originally left as sand in an ancient stream system
 - There is room for 110 on this excursion, and transportation will be provided.

Coach Calls

Prior to the national competition we will host two conference calls to answer questions for coaches. The same information will be covered, so plan to join us for one of the calls. For both calls dial 1-888-346-3659, and the pass code is 40175#. Dates for the calls are:

- Wednesday, March 16, at 5:00 p.m. EST
- Tuesday, March 22, at 3:00 p.m. EST

Registration

The deadline to register for the National LifeSmarts Championship was March 11. If you have not yet registered with us, please do so immediately. (Thanks in advance to teams from DC, MI, and TN who just found out they won on March 11! Please register as soon as possible.) [Click here to register with LifeSmarts.](#)

Hotel Deadline

The hotel deadline is this Friday, March 18. If you have not already reserved rooms at the hotel, please do so now. [Click here to register.](#)