

Washington FPS

FROM THE AD'S DESK
AUGUST 2023



Prisha Hemani

Interlake High School

Washington State FPS **Flag Bearer** at the 2023
International Conference

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Read more about Prisha Hemani on page 2.

Hello,

Welcome to a new year of Future Problem Solving!

Before we commence Washington State's 45th year of Future Problem Solving, let's take a look at the Washington team's International Conference results from June, which can be found on page 2 of this newsletter. Congratulations to all of FPS team members who represented Washington State!

This year there will be major changes in the score sheet for GIPS. If you've coached GIPS for years or just a few years or you'll be coaching GIPS for the first time this year, you'll want to take a close look at this new score sheet. The scoring criteria have been changed to reflect a greater emphasis on clarity and insight. There will now be only one point for each original. However, there will be 84 points possible in challenges, the UP, and solutions, 40 points for the criteria and 20 points for the grid, as well as 95 for step 6. There is also a revamped 21-category list. These are the first significant changes since the program was instituted in 1974. Ann Foreyt, Evaluation Director, will be conducting trainings for evaluators on this new score sheet.

The 2023-24 topics were released on July 1 from the International Office. Information about those topics is on page 3.

All necessary coaching materials and information can now be found on the waps.org website.

John Buissink

Affiliate Director

509-386-6297

jbuissinkwafps@gmail.com

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IC WASHINGTON WINNERS

Congratulations to these Washington FPS participants for placing at the International level for 2023!

Scenario Writing Junior Division:

11th place, Parker Duncombe, Leota Middle School

Scenario Writing Middle Division:

1st place, Tasmia Minhaz, Leota Middle School

Scenario Writing Senior Division:

3rd place, Nishka Kacheria, Interlake High School (Bellevue Independent)

Scenario Performance Junior Division:

3rd place, Kiren Makam, Somerset Elementary School

Scenario Performance Middle Division:

5th place, Anvika Kaul Singh, Odle Middle School

8th place, Edie Tehan, Newport High School

Scenario Performance Senior Division:

1st place, Sidhya Ganesh, Interlake High School Independent

5th place, Krithipriya Narendran Interlake High School (Bellevue Independent)

Global Issues Problem Solving Individual Junior Division:

16th place, Theron Fennel, Leota Middle School

Global Issues Problem Solving Individual Middle Division:

4th place, Vedika Hemani, Odle Middle School

6th place, Vishnu Mangipudi, Lakeside Independent

Global Issues Problem Solving Individual Senior Division:

5th place, Prisha Hemani, Interlake High School (Bellevue Independent)

Global Issues Problem Solving Team Junior Division:

7th place, Tyee Middle School (Melanie Grad, Eesha Parihar, Kelsey Tu, Lilian Yang)

10th place, Fairhaven Middle School (Beckett Lim, Maude Stafford-Edwards, Reese Allaway, Veronica Jordan)

19th place, Tyee Middle School (Andrew Kim, Avery Wang Du, Elynna Wu, Seohwon “Ted” Yun)

Global Issues Problem Solving Team Middle Division:

18th place, Odle Middle School (Ada Jin, Sana David, Hiraani Leung)

19th place, Leota/Canyon Park Middle Schools (Dhriti Burugupalli, Katelyn Kawamura, Saanvi Vontela, Siyona Sharma)

33rd place, Leota Middle School (Emma Long, Laya Mohan, Rian Wing, Ronit Agarwal)

Global Issues Problem Solving Team Senior Division:

9th place, North Creek and Woodinville High School (Amogh Patil, Anish Pamuru, Elijah Yan, Ryan Pascual)

16th place, Woodinville-North Creek (Allan Xuan, Mason Stuart, Sophia Kawamura, Yash Pant)

Community Problem Solving Senior Division:

9th place, North River School

MAGIC Junior Division:

1st place, Ira Tiwary, Odle Middle School

2nd place, Brandon Peng, Leota Middle School

3rd place, Emily MacGregor, Fairhaven Middle School

4th place, Anxin Angela Pang, Tyee Middle School

5th place, Austin Xu, Tyee Middle School

8th place, Max Zheng, Tyee Middle School

9th place, Zachary Kwan, Tyee Middle School

MAGIC Middle Division:

2nd place, Rujuta Apte, North Creek High School

4th place, Ava Lo, Tyee Middle School

5th place, Kathy Jin, Tyee Middle School

6th place, Isabelle Wang, Tyee Middle School

16th place, Shruthika Seri, Tyee Middle School

Washington Flag Bearer: Prisha Hemani



“I am lucky to have been doing FPS for eight years now, since fourth grade. Through all my years, FPS has ingrained itself in my life, and I see the six steps everywhere I go. I am fortunate to have done Individual GIPS and scenario writing for seven years and have gone to the state competition every year I have done FPS. The International Competition has also given me unforgettable memories; I have won 1st place, 5th place, and 2nd place twice internationally in scenario writing, and have won 2nd and 3rd place internationally in the GIPS Individual competition. FPS has given me incredible ups and some crushing downs during my eight years doing it, yet I have enjoyed every moment of it.

“My unforgettable experience with it was something that I wanted to share with others. Although I was fortunate enough to do FPS in 4th and 5th grade, I knew that only one school in my school district offered the chance for elementary schoolers to start their FPS journey in 4th grade. I worked with my best friend and fellow FPSer of seven years, Sidhya Ganesh, to begin a WAFPS chapter in Somerset Elementary. Expanding this program and teaching it to elementary schoolers has been a challenging yet fantastic experience, and I have learned so much myself while educating those younger than me. Last year, we were able to send a Scenario Performer and a GIPS team to internationals, and this year, two GIPS teams with Somerset alums and a current scenario performer from Somerset made it to internationals. I feel so lucky and proud to be able to coach Somerset Elementary, and it is definitely my favorite and most valuable achievement in my years as a Future Problem Solver. FPS is so much more for me than my state-level and international awards; it is amazing memories and fascinating research, unbelievable stress and pride. It has been a significant part of my past, is an irreplaceable part of my present, and I’m so excited to continue into my future.”

QUICK GUIDE TOPIC DESCRIPTORS FOR 2023-24

Practice Problem 1: Tourism

Tourism not only benefits host locales but those on holiday. Travel enriches their lives, expands their understanding of people and cultures, while also serving as a respite from daily life. The economic stability of such destinations depends on the sustainability of their tourist trade. As the popularity of such destinations grows, international corporations and developers typically flock to these growing places, trying to capitalize on the financial possibilities. There is money to be made in building hotels, restaurants, and in developing an area's growing tourism industry. As outside groups seek to attract tourists and the revenue they generate, locals often struggle to maintain their location's unique appeal and ability to support local venues. As this build-up occurs, local people can have their cultures exploited, lands destroyed, and their local businesses put in jeopardy. As the tourism sector grows and expands, we are seeing the expansion of the Special Interest (SIT) market - tourists wishing to match their vacations with their interests (e.g., ecotourism, wellness tourism, event tourism, ancestry tourism, etc.) How will changing forms and trends of tourism impact tourists and hosts alike? How can the advantages of expanding tourism be balanced with the protection of destinations?

Practice Problem 2: Urbanization

Today nearly half the world's population lives in an urban area. By 2050, that number is expected to reach 70% due to this increase in Urbanization. Urban areas and their large populations often hold power over governance, economic development, and international connectivity beyond their immediate regions. With proper planning, urban centers can provide educational and economic opportunities to residents not found elsewhere. However, they can also easily give rise to slums and increase income inequality. With growing footprints, cities are also struggling to provide basic needs, essential services, and safety. Future urban planners must address tough questions: What qualities in society should be valued most? What is fair and equitable? Whose interests will be served first? Planners must balance the speed of decision-making with the need for thoughtful, well-considered programs for development. As urban areas expand, how can we develop areas that are efficient, resilient, and inclusive? Future urban planners must address tough questions: What qualities in society should be valued most? What is fair and equitable? Whose interests will be served first? Planners must balance the speed of decision-making with the need for thoughtful, well-considered programs for development. As urban areas expand, how can we develop areas that are efficient, resilient, and inclusive?

Qualifying Problem: Antarctica

Antarctica, the highest, driest, coldest continent, has no permanent population and is governed by a collection of agreements between fifty-four countries. The Antarctic Treaty System designates the entire continent and surrounding waters for scientific endeavors, bans military activity, and promotes environmental research and preservation. Although Antarctica remains the most remote place on Earth, it is highly regulated and heavily impacted by activities around the globe. Parts of the continent are polluted by sewage, discarded machinery, fuel products, and rubbish. Antarctica is thought to be rich in minerals and resources, though an 'indefinite' ban on mining is in place through 2048. Antarctica also holds over 60% of the Earth's fresh water in an ice sheet that contains 90% of the Earth's total ice volume. As global temperatures rise, these are breaking apart and melting faster, endangering local wildlife and entire ecosystems. Without a consistent population or a sovereign state, Antarctica possesses a unique space within political, economic, and environmental crossroads. How can Antarctica be sustainably utilized yet simultaneously preserved to best benefit our global population?

State Bowl: Autonomous Transportation

Our transport needs, desires, and realities are rapidly changing due to global growth and increased connectivity. As modes of transportation continue to evolve, increasing levels of complexity and efficiency are pursued. What role will autonomous vehicles, cars, airplanes, ships, etc., which operate without human intervention, play in this pursuit? Their development continues to increase exponentially with advancing technological capabilities. Since all scenarios are not programmable, autonomous vehicles must learn and react. They do this by surveying their environment with multiple sensors and utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) to process vast amounts of data. Autonomous vehicles can deliver on demand, refuel, park, and store themselves. By creating a network of these vehicles, entire systems of transport could become autonomous, controlled by a central AI. How will the efficiency of autonomous vehicles affect the development of transportation, on land and sea, in the air, and possibly space? How will autonomous transport cope with unexpected risk situations and ethical decisions? In what ways will autonomous transport impact jobs, industries, infrastructure, and lifestyles?

2023-24 REGISTRATION FEES

Take advantage of **early registration fees** for 2023-2024

By registering before September 30.

GIPS Teams \$195 (prior to September 30: \$180)

GIPS Individual \$120 (prior to September 30: \$105)

Scenario Writing \$55 (prior to September 30: \$45)

Scenario Performance \$55 (prior to September 30: \$45)

CmPS Individual \$120 (prior to September 30: \$110)

CmPS Team \$140 for 2-4 person team, \$170 for 5-8 person team, \$200 for 9-15 person team, and \$250 for over 15 team members.

Continuation of a CmPS Project from prior year \$30

A \$15 late fee per team or individual will be assessed after November 30.

Register online at wafps.org

Important Dates

Sept. 30: Last day for Early Registration

Oct. 19: PPI Due Date, Topic: Tourism

Nov. 17: CmPS Project Proposal Due

Dec. 4: Last day to register & be evaluated for PPII

Dec. 8: PPII Due Date, Topic: Urbanization

Jan. 16: Scenario Writing Due Date

Feb. 1: QP Due Date, Topic: Antarctica

Feb. 5: Scenario Performance Due Date

Feb. 16: CmPS Projects Due

March 4: State Bowl Registration Due

March 20-22: State Bowl, Warm Beach, Topic: Autonomous Transportation

June 5-9, 2024 International Conference, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

WORLD SOLUTIONS CHALLENGE

Join our new World Solutions Challenge, an asynchronous instructional and competitive challenge to showcase your problem solving! No previous experience with the FPS problem solving process is needed; all students in equivalent USA grades 5-9 are welcome to join.

The cost is \$25 per person and you can participate individually or up to a team of 4. Registration closes on September 12 and space is limited.

1st place – \$500 USD plus one team registration with their local FPS program.

2nd place – \$200 USD plus one team registration with their local FPS program.

3rd place – one team registration with their local FPS Program.

*Prizes are per team and not per person.

Visit FPSPI to register.



FINAL WORDS FROM THE AD'S DESK

The website was updated with all of the 2023-24 information that coaches may need. If you can't find something, please let me know!

Please call/text (509) 386-6297 or email me (jbuissinkwafps@gmail.com) any time you have questions.

Next Up in September: **Uploading student work and more. . .**

“The most basic skill that can be taught in today’s schools in problem solving, especially skills in solving future problems.”—Dr. E. Paul Torrance