

# Washington FPS

FROM THE AD'S DESK  
OCTOBER 2022



Here are two videos to share with your students for PPI E-Waste.  
Left: Agbogbloshie, Ghana. The World's Largest E-Waste Site  
Right: How a Robot Recycles Our Electronic Waste

Hello,

I hope that many of you were able to take advantage of the early registration discount that was available until September 30. Regular registration prices will now be in effect until November 30.

When you receive this newsletter there will still be 20 days until PPI (E-waste) is due. Please remind your students that they only need to complete steps one through three for this practice problem. Additional work submitted will not be evaluated. This practice problem will give your students the opportunity to explore their creative side as they write challenges and solutions. For this practice, allow them to see if their unusual ideas are still within the boundaries of logical scientific progression.

This practice problem also gives them an opportunity to check their understanding of what constitutes a solid Underlying Problem (one that includes all four parts: the condition phrase, the key verb phrase, the rationale and the future scene parameters). Finally, don't forget to remind your students that the category list is both a useful tool to help them write challenges and solutions and a tool to broaden the variety of those challenges and solutions. The more categories they cover; the more points they can garner.

Remember that the place where you can find answers to nearly all your FPS related questions is the [wafps.org](http://wafps.org) website. If there is something that you need to know and it is not found on the website, please contact me. You can also direct your students to the website as it contains training videos and PowerPoints as well as practice curriculum.

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# COACHES SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

*By Ann Foreyt, Evaluation Director*

Here are step-by-step instructions for coaches to follow to ensure standardization of booklet submissions.

## Booklet Verification

1. Verify that the team's ID number has been added to the booklet in the header.
2. Verify that all text is readable.

## Format

All booklets should be submitted as PDFs. This is to prevent an evaluator or other actor from editing or changing the booklet after it has been submitted.

## Naming Schema

All booklets should be named thus: [IDNumber]\_[PPNumber].pdf

For example, if your team is in the Junior division, ID number 1001, and you're submitting Practice Problem I, your booklet will be titled: **1001\_PPI.pdf**

## Packing List

Each solve's submissions should be accompanied by a packing list -- a separate document that indicates all booklets that you intend to upload, along with any notes that might be useful to the evaluator upon receipt (missing pages, etc.)

This packing list can be a simple Excel or Word document -- it doesn't have to be fancy.

It should include:

1. ID Number
2. Coach name
3. Notes

Example format:

ID Number	Coach	Notes
1001	Frizzle	Missing Solutions 5-8
6006	Frizzle	
3003	Frizzle	Team used the Solutions pages for Challenges and Challenges pages for Solutions

## Uploading

1. Open your Dropbox.
2. Navigate to the folder that corresponds with the solve that you've just completed.
3. Upload all booklets and your packing list.

## Confirmation

It is not required to send Ann Foreyt (ann.foreyt@gmail.com) an email indicating that you've uploaded your booklets, but it's always appreciated, especially if you want to verify that everything is in order.

## NEW ZOOM MEETINGS FOR COACHES

Oct. 5,  
7 p.m.

It's happening—our first zoom meeting for coaches on Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. Affiliate Director John Buissink will start the meeting and then experienced coaches will talk about what they are doing with students now preparing for PPI. Then, we'll have a Q&A session. So, bring your questions, and we'll see you on Oct. 5!

## CREATING SUCCESSFUL GIPS TEAMS

What makes a winning FPS team? There's no magic pill.

Some teams are formed by letting the students choose who they want to work with for their GIPS team. This method is a good way to get started in the year if you plan to switch up the team members as the year evolves and/or if your school runs FPS as an after-school club.

Part of the strength of GIPS, however, is the learning that occurs when students are asked to work with others—collaboration. Getting out of their comfort zones helps students grow. If you, as the coach, eventually choose who comprises each team, here are some suggestions:

**The Taskmaster:** Knows what needs to be done and how to do it; good sense of time. Keeps the process moving and everyone on task.

**The Writer:** Has excellent writing skills; is a good speller; great at proofreading and checking for clarity.

**The Innovator:** Creative; thinks outside the box; comes up with original ideas.

**The Peacekeeper:** Tactful; can help to diffuse arguments and overcome snags in the process.

Even if your students self-select their teammates, discussing the roles of each student and finding their strengths in the FPS process is all part of the learning process.

## POSSIBLE TIMELINE FOR GIPS TEAM COMPETITION

When coaching your students, here is a suggested timeline that they can follow so that they don't run out of time as the 2-hour time limit approaches.

For Practice Problem #1, students are only required to complete steps 1-3 (challenges, UP and solutions). ***Please note that only the first three steps will be evaluated for PPI.***

**10 minutes:** Read/discuss Future Scene

**10 minutes:** Brainstorm Challenges

**20 minutes:** Write Challenges

**15 minutes:** Write Underlying Problem

**20 minutes:** Brainstorm and write Solutions

**20 minutes:** Write Criteria & Rank Solutions on Grid

**15 minutes:** Develop Action Plan

This timeline gives a team **10 minutes of variable time**. Total time is 120 minutes. Finishing the UP by the end of the first hour is highly recommended.

## 2022-23 REGISTRATION FEES

GIPS Teams \$195

GIPS Individual \$120

Scenario Writing \$55

Scenario Performance \$55

CmPS Individual \$120

CmPS Team \$130 for a three-person team, and \$15 for each additional team member over the first three students.

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](http://wafps.org)

## Important Dates

### 2022-23

Oct. 5: Coaches Zoom Meeting 7 p.m.

Oct. 20: PPI Due Date, Topic: E-Waste

Nov. 7: Coaches Zoom Meeting 7 p.m.

Nov. 18: CmPS Project Proposal Due

Dec. 5: Last day to register & be evaluated for PPII

Dec. 9: PPII Due Date, Topic: Digital Realities

Jan. 17: Scenario Writing Due Date

Feb. 2: QP Due Date, Topic: Robotic Workforce

Feb. 6: Scenario Performance Due Date

Feb. 17: CmPS Project Report Due

March 6: State Bowl Registration Due

March 22-24: State Bowl, Warm Beach, Topic: Throw Away Society

June 7-11: 2023 International Conference  
UMass, Amherst, Mass.



### FINAL WORDS FROM THE AD'S DESK

The next topic will be Digital Realities and PPII will be due on December 9.

If your students are considering completing a Community Problem Solving Project, the project proposal will be due on November 18. You can think of this proposal as somewhat similar to a science fair project hypothesis.

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

Next Up in November: **CmPS Project Proposal and more...**

***“If you’re offered a seat on a rocket ship, don’t ask what seat! Just get on.”***

***— Sheryl Sandberg***