



****Use of NICA Judging Guidelines without permission is subject to**
criminal prosecution and/or civil litigation**

National Ice Carving Association

RULES OF COMPETITION

Revised 11 - 2010

Note the addition of rules number 19 & 20.

Please review these additions carefully.

1. All competition ice is to be carved and stored on the premises, within the specified time limits and carving area.
2. Ice may be moved to the carver's workstation prior to the starting time, but no tools other than ice tongs and protective covers may touch the block until the clock has started. No additional cooling agents may be used prior to the start time.
3. Rules officials may allow flawed blocks to be replaced before the event begins. If a block breaks during the competition, rules officials may authorize a replacement under the following conditions:
 - Before proceeding with replacement block(s), all of the original ice must be removed.
 - Original time restriction will still be in effect (no extra time given.)
 - Subject to availability of ice.
 - The break is determined by the rules official to have been caused by another team, competitor, or helper of another competitor, competition worker or spectator.
4. Carving display pedestals must be a single, flat, continuous surface. Carvings must be displayed, free standing, upon the top plane of the display surface. Carvings may extend beyond or below the plane of the display surface, but must be within the limits of the carving area, and may not touch or be supported by any other surface or object. The event promoter may specify the size and type of display surface. Carvers may only use anti-skid materials provided by the promoter, or a plain white cloth, under their carving. No other props or supports may be used. Carvers may not alter the display pedestal without prior permission from the lead judge.
5. Snow must be made from the block provided. CO2 and dry ice may only be used as a freezing agent, not as a prop to create "smoke". No foreign materials may be left on the finished sculpture. Standing water remaining in the sculpture for strategic design purposes, must be melted from the original block of ice, additional water may not be frozen to create additional ice pieces, but only to fuse together existing pieces.
6. No artificial props, lights, coloring or containers may be used.
7. Use of chemical freezing agents is subject to approval of event promoters, or local environmental restrictions. (Freon, Butane and other propellants or hydrocarbons are considered hazardous to the environment or personal safety). Prohibitions require advance notification to all registered carvers.

8. Proper carving attire must be worn for safety and to present a professional image of ice carvers. Personal safety items such as gloves, boots, glasses, sleeves, and hearing protection are recommended but not mandatory.

9. Each competitor is responsible for their own safety as well as the safety of other competitors and the general public. Remember - SAFETY FIRST! The rules officials have the right to stop you from carving if something is deemed unsafe. In addition, each competitor is responsible for the safety of their carving. NICA and the event sponsors and producers cannot be responsible in the event your carving is destroyed or damaged by the public, another carver, or the staff members. Rules officials/judges will be responsible to enforce safety through the use of warnings and point deductions (See Rule 13).

10. One helper may be used in singles events. The purpose of this helper is to provide safety and organization, but not to act as a team member to the singles competitor. Helpers' actions will be limited to:

- * Care and organization of tools, this includes handing, fixing and prepping tools for the carver.
- * Cleaning and organization of the carving area
- * Lifting or moving pieces of ice
- * Momentary assistance in lifting or holding during structural assembly

Holding of ice while it is being carved, touching any tool other than tongs to the ice, cleaning of the carving, or improving or altering the appearance of the ice carving in any manner would be a "team" effort and would result in a rules violation. Wrapping, insulating, or putting pieces into or removing from a freezer or box is considered applying tools, and is not permitted by a helper.

11. Helpers must register with the rules official prior to entering the carving area. All helpers must be equally available to assist other carvers, upon request.

12. Helpers will not be allowed in team competitions. Team members are responsible for their own lifting, cleaning, and tool care. Officials, staff, or other team members may be used to help lift ice safely.

13. Violations of any competition rules or safety violations will result in the following penalties:

- 1st Violation - Warning (during carving only)
- 2nd Violation - (related or unrelated) - 5 point deduction
- 3rd Violation - (related or unrelated) - disqualification

Violations noted or occurring after time has expired will be enforced without warnings, and will proceed directly to the 5-point deduction.

The lead judge will deduct for violations, from the final average score, after the judges have completed their scoring.

14. Height limits may be imposed by the competition promoter. Use of ladders or other equipment to work on tall sculptures is subject to safety review by the rules officials, and may be stopped at any time. Gas chain saws may not be used unless specifically permitted in advance by the promoter and NICA and within local codes & ordinances.

15. Use of protective shading or screening is optional and may be used at the discretion of each carver or team. Shading materials must be furnished by the carver or team, and may not be taken from unauthorized sources at the carving location. Screens must be firmly anchored or affixed to prevent movement or damage from wind, and may be inspected and/or removed at the direction of the lead judge if found to be unsafe or unsound. Screens may not obstruct more than 50 % of the total spectator viewing angles, or two out of four sides of the carving area. Screens may be left in place throughout the carving and judging period. **Judges must have 360 degree access to the sculpture.** All screens must be removed before the carver leaves the premises, and must be under the carver's supervised control at all times. Violation of these rules during the carving period will result in the loss of the right to use screens during the remainder of the carving time. Violation of these rules after the carving time has expired will result in disqualification of the score and forfeit of awards."

16. Scheduled starts and finishes will be strictly enforced by the judges, officials, or their designated official timekeepers.
17. At least 3 qualified NICA judges will judge the carvings. The decisions of the judges are final.
18. The use of automated or power equipment such as a CNC Machine or a Lathe with a cutting head controlled by a jig are prohibited.
19. Early Judging will be permitted if the temperature is 37° F or higher at outdoor events only or if there is heavy rain or high winds. (Please see the Instructions to the Lead Judge in your sanctioning manual for more information.)
20. Helpers may touch the ice or the aluminum to help the carver create a fuse.

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