

## RULES OF THE COMPETITION

### BESAFENET SCHOOL OLYMPIAD 2019

#### BETTER KNOWLEDGE AGAINST DISASTERS

The BeSafeNet initiative, supported by the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA) of the Council of Europe, is pleased to announce an on-line Olympiad (competition) between schools on the theme “Better knowledge against disasters”, open to secondary schools (16 years old maximum).

The competition will give students a chance to increase their knowledge on natural and technological hazards that they could face even outside of school. They will learn the adequate behaviour in these situations and to reduce/prevent as much as possible the potential impact of disasters.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The BeSafeNet Initiative “Protect yourself from disasters” in the context of which this competition is organised, was officially launched in 2012. Its purpose is to diffuse among young people, basic knowledge on hazards in order to make them aware of the risks that they may face if such events occur.

As current school curricula are mainly packed with traditionally taught subjects (such as physics and geography) and since technological tools are for new generations a preferred way to search information, the initiative has chosen to develop an internet-based tool that provides in a quite informal way, 12 Q&As providing important information on each major hazard (both natural and technological) that can affect our societies.

#### STRUCTURE

The competition will include two parts:

A Quiz based on five of the hazards featured on the BeSafeNet website. Fifty questions (10 for each of the 5 chosen hazards) requiring a single-answer for each multiple-choice question will be available online on **16 April 2019 at 9 a.m. GMT**.

Students should note that the Quiz scoring system will award 2 points for each correct answer, subtract 0.75 points for each incorrect answer and 0 points for no answer.

Optional: You may submit an additional short essay (maximum 2 pages) on natural and/or technological hazards in your area.

The essay should be an original work, i.e. resulting from the student’s personal creative work in all respects, and must be submitted in English. This material will be used to decide on the winner in case the Quiz ends in a tie.

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

The competition will be based on the material available on the English version of the BeSafeNet website: [www.BeSafeNet.net](http://www.BeSafeNet.net)

Other versions are also available in French, Greek, Italian, Russian and can be useful for preparation for the competition.

The answers to the Quiz questions will be based only on the first level material, namely the Introduction and Sections 1 to 12 for each hazard: all sub-sections entitled “More information on ...” (labelled 1.1, 5.3, 12.2, etc.) on the website will not be used for the competition but can help to better understand the subject.

## REGISTRATION

The registration of participants will be open from 15 October 2018 until 9 April 2019 at 9 a.m. GMT and done online by filling the registration form accessible at the following link: <http://www.BeSafeNet.net/en-gb/olympiad>

Participants (secondary schools (16 years old maximum)) must be Organised in teams of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 students and should be endorsed by a teacher who should provide all the required information on the composition of the team.

After registration, a specific account will be generated for each team, allowing them to confirm their participation in the Olympiad, provide the team composition and submit any additional information.

Amendments to information provided by the team and any changes are possible until 5 April 2019 at 10 a.m. GMT. by logging into the team’s associated account.

Further details and/or updates will be sent to the registered teams in due course.

## COMPETITION PHASE

A week before the competition, each officially registered team will receive a reminder of the date and time of availability of the page containing the Questions and Answers form.

The optional short essay (maximum 2 pages) on the perception of actual hazards in one’s life, to be used in case of a tie between teams, must be uploaded before 16 April 2019 at 9 a.m. GMT through the specific team account.

On the Olympiad day, (16 April 2019) from 9 a.m. GMT, the registered teams should log in to the associated team account in order to access the Quiz.

Each team will have until 10 a.m. GMT to complete the answer form: for a successful completion of the Quiz, the “Submit” button must be clicked. In all cases, the page will automatically close at 10 a.m. GMT and answers submitted.

## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

As this is an online competition, each team is required to:

- have access to the internet in order to complete the various steps (registration, access to BeSafeNet content, fill in the answers form, short essay etc);
- have an e-mail address to allow the Organising Committee to liaise with them.

For any question about the competition, please send an email to the Organisation Committee through the BeSafeNet website contact form.

## AWARDS

After verifying the authenticity of data provided in the registration form, the three best teams will each be awarded a prize. In case of a draw between teams in the Quiz part, marks awarded for the short essays submitted will serve as the tie-breaker.

The three best teams will be awarded the following prizes respectively:

A Gold certificate for the winning team and a 750 € voucher for their school library (the teacher and students will also receive some small presents).

A Silver certificate for the team in second place and a 500 € voucher for their school library (the teacher and students will also receive some small presents).

A Bronze certificate for the team in third place and a 250 € voucher for their school library (the teacher and students will also receive some small presents).

A teacher and one student from each one of the best three teams will attend to a nomination ceremony at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

All other participating teams reaching a score of more than 75% of good answers will receive a diploma.

*The list of gifts includes:*

- 3 IPADs
- 200 drinking bottles
- 200 watches
- Plus, other consolation prizes

Concerning the short essays part, the best submissions according to the Organising Committee will be integrated in a special page of the BeSafeNet website<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The participant transfers to the Organising Committee the worldwide rights to reproduce and publish the essays submitted for this competition by any means and in all media, including multimedia (CD-ROM, CD-I, etc..) and networks (internet, intranet), in all languages and all countries.

The Organising Committee reserves the right to decide whether or not to reproduce, publish and display these essays. Unless otherwise agreed, the publication will contain the participant's name. The participant shall guarantee that reproduction and/or publication of texts/images by the Organising Committee will not result in any infringement of third party rights. However, in cases where the liability of the Organising Committee would become involved as a result of such violation, the participant would indemnify the Organising Committee for any consequential damage.