

Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition – 2026 Guidelines

Oral Presentation Rubric (15 Points Total)

Category	Excellent (Full Points)	Good	Fair	Poor	Points
Content & Completeness (5 pts)	Clearly answers all required questions (design selection, construction steps, load path, challenges, lessons learned) with strong technical depth	Covers most required topics with minor gaps	Missing multiple required topics or lacks depth	Fails to address key required questions	/5
Technical Understanding (3 pts)	Demonstrates strong understanding of engineering concepts (load transfer, forces, design reasoning)	Shows general understanding with minor errors	Limited understanding: explanations unclear	Major misconceptions or cannot explain design	/3
Organization & Clarity (2 pts)	Logical flow, easy to follow, clear transitions	Mostly organized with minor confusion	Somewhat disorganized	Hard to follow, unclear structure	/2
Delivery & Communication (2 pts)	Confident, clear speaking, good pacing, engaging	Minor issues with clarity or confidence	Noticeable hesitation or unclear speech	Difficult to hear/understand	/2
Team Participation (2 pts)	All members speak and contribute meaningfully	All speak but uneven participation	One member dominates or weak participation	Missing speakers (-5 pts if not all team members speak)	/2
Time Management (1 pt)	Within 5-minute limit	Slightly over/under	Significantly off time	Major time violation	/1



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Technical Report Rubric (20 Points Total)

Category	Excellent (Full Points)	Good	Fair	Poor	Points
Content & Completeness (6 pts)	Fully addresses the engineering challenge (Wildlife Overcrossing)	Covers most requirements with minor gaps	Missing key sections or lacks depth	Major missing content	/6
Engineering Analysis & Design Explanation (4 pts)	Strong explanation of design choices, load path, and problem-solving	Adequate explanation with some detail missing	Limited explanation or unclear reasoning	No clear design justification	/4
Organization & Structure (3 pts)	Well-organized, logical flow, clear sections	Mostly organized	Somewhat disorganized	Poor structure	/3
Clarity & Technical Writing (3 pts)	Clear, concise, professional engineering writing	Minor grammar/clarity issues	Frequent grammar issues	Difficult to understand	/3
Visuals & Documentation (2 pts)	Includes required drawings + well-labeled photos/figures that enhance understanding	Includes visuals but limited detail	Missing labels or weak visuals	Missing required visuals	/2
Formatting & Requirements (2 pts)	Meets all formatting rules (2–4 pages, Arial 12, double spaced, title page, etc.)	Minor formatting issues	Multiple formatting issues	Does not meet requirements	/2

