

# 2015 21st Annual

## **Rotary Middle School Math Field Day Fact Sheet**

**Date of Event:** Saturday May 2nd, 2015, 8:00 AM until 2:30 PM

**Year Started:** 1995 and held annually every spring since.

Organizer/Producer: Indio Rotary Club, P. O. Box 412, Indio, CA 92202-412

Event coordinator contact Martha Mendez (760) 396-6945 Email: IndioRotary@gmail.com Web: www.indiorotary.org

Facebook: /IndioRotary Twitter: @IndioRotaryClub #RotaryMathDay

**Sponsors (2014's):** John Glenn Middle School and Desert Sands School District. Riverside County Supervisor John

> Benoit, Altura Credit Union, Armtec Defense Products, Forest Lawn, Fantasy Springs Casino & Event Center, the Desert Recreation District, the Indio Police Officers Assoc., the Latino Peace Officers Assoc. of CV, Costco La Quinta, Super Target Indio and Desert Radio Group's KKUU 92.7 Radio. Local Valley Rotary Clubs include Coachella, Coachella East, Indio, Indio Sunrise, La Quinta,

Indian Wells, Palm to Pines, Palm Desert and Rancho Mirage.

**Participants:** All Coachella Valley middle school students grade levels 6th, 7th and 8th are invited to

participate. Each school selects its own team as it chooses. Each team must be accompanied

by a school faculty advisor.

Coachella Valley Unified School District, Desert Sands Unified School District, Palm Springs Students From:

Unified School District and any Coachella Valley private schools.

**Participating Schools:** There is not a final list until the week of the event. In the past schools from Palm Springs to

Mecca have participated.

**Number of Participants:** Approximately 400 students. A school team consists of ten (10) students per grade level.

Food: Breakfast snack items, lunch, and water are provided for the students and volunteers.

Location of the Event: John Glenn Middle School, 79-655 Miles Ave, Indio

**Special Appearance:** Dr. Pamela Clute Special Assistant to the Chancellor and

Mathematics Professor at the University of California, Riverside

"spreading the joy of math". www.ucr.edu/about/promise/clute.html

### **Event's Goals:**

- 1. The day is designed to stimulate interest in mathematics amongst Coachella Valley middle school students.
- 2. Participation in the competition allows them to demonstrate their knowledge of mathematics and to meet students from other schools.
- 3. The day provides an opportunity to recognize and celebrate students' math abilities and achievements.
- 4. It rewards both the students who excel in math and recognizes the schools with the most wins.

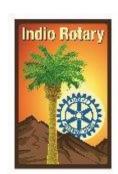
#### **Event's Objective:**

The event is to encourage students to study and enjoy math. It is to motivate students to develop and apply their math skills. Math Field Day challenges students to use their math knowledge and wit to solve problems. As a reward for their participation and effort they win prizes and recognition for themselves and their school. It's not just math formulas, students also play three-dimensional tictac-toe or compete in "construction derby" where materials may be required to build a bridge or a tower. The students prepare months in advance for the event by studying after school with their teacher and team members. Several schools have formed math clubs in response to Math Field Day. Also, many students proudly wear team shirts, with school colors, mascot and logo made just for the event.

### **Event's History:**

Indio Rotary started this event 21 years ago when John Benoit the Club President at the time noted Coachella Valley middle school students found it difficult to participate in Riverside Math Field Day because of transportation and travel issues. Indio Rotary organized this event to provide Coachella Valley students the chance to participate in such a competition of their own. The event has grown steadily over the years. The awards assembly at the end of the event, held in the school auditorium, is standing room only with the many parents and family members who also come to the ceremony. The event was highlighted in an article in the December 2000 Rotarian Magazine which has a monthly worldwide circulation of 500,000.

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#### **Competitions:**

Students compete by grade levels in individual and team competitions. They include the elements of a balanced mathematics program such as computational and procedural skill, conceptual understanding and problem solving. There are two adult volunteers assigned in every room with the students for each competition.

#### **Events include:**

**Leapfrog** - two students work as partners to solve challenging mathematical problems. A set of questions is provided and the team members decide how to organize their time and effort. They may communicate quietly and check each other's work.

Calculator Challenge – using a calculator they work various problems such as finding the area of a triangle.

**Mental Gymnastics**- without the use of a calculator it requires calculating and solving problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. For example, solve the problem: 10+9+8+7+6+5+6+7+8+9=

**Team Investigation**- a collection of worthwhile problem-solving tasks.

**Construction Derby** - Students work cooperatively to construct an object within a specified amount of time. The object is measured, tested, or compared by the proctor. The materials used can be straws, dry spaghetti, marshmallows and rubber bands.

#### **Games include:**

**Hex-** helps students develop the idea of finding patterns in a maze. Winners must form a continuous path from their side to the opposite side of the rhombus by connecting the hexagons on their edges.

**5 in a Row**- is similar to two dimensional tic-tac-toe. It is played on graph paper. Players alternately mark "X" and "O" in the squares. The first player to get five-in-a-row horizontally, vertically, or diagonally wins.

24- is a mental math game where students use arithmetic and other means to arrive at 24.

**3D Tic-Tac-Toe**- the object of the game is to complete a straight line on the board in any dimension (vertical, horizontal or diagonal).

**Capture-** is a simple paper/pencil game played on a grid. The players use logic and the rules to corner or capture their opponent.

#### Awards:

The awards ceremony has become the annual highlight noted for its enthusiastic cheering and applause, as team and individual mathematics skills are recognized. Every participating student receives a *Certificate of Participation*. **Event** winners earn first place trophies and a \$20 cash card. Second and third place winners earn a ribbon. **Game** winners earn first place trophies and a \$20 cash card. Second place wins a ribbon. Schools with the most wins, in each grade level, earn a perpetual trophy for **Best School**. Their name is added to the trophy and they keep it until next year's event. A **Top Mathematician** is selected for each grade level and they receive \$100 dollars.

#### Where are they now?

Schedule for the Day:

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Some previous Math Field Day participants include: Chris Escobedo, City of La Quinta Assistant to the City Manager. Manual Valladolid, teacher Coachella Unified School District.

2 Hours

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	½ Hour	Registration/Proctor Training
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	½ Hour	Welcome Assembly
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	¼ Hour	Break
9:15 AM - 10:35 AM	1 Hour 20 Minutes	Competition: Events
10:35 AM - 10:50 AM	¼ Hour	Break
10:50 AM - 12:00 noon	1 Hour 10 Minutes	Competition: Games
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	1 ½ Hour	Lunch, Activities, Radio DJ

Guest Speaker, Dr. Pamela S. Clute

Award Ceremony

EventsGames- Leap Frog-Hex-Calculator Challenge-5 in a Row-Mental Gymnastics-24-Team Investigations-3D Tic-Tac-Toe

-Capture

-Construction Derby