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1. General Contest Information

1.1: Purpose of Contest

To provide competitors with the opportunity to demonstrate, both through practical and theoretical application, their skills and knowledge in the industry relevant to brick masonry.

1.2: Objective/Description of event

To test the competitors' theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and abilities pertaining to the masonry industry.

(Competition must be minimum- 5 hours of activity)

- Ability to read drawings and specifications.
- Time management
- Material use

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE TESTED

The test project consists of practical work including brick laying, block laying, setting out and finishing of mortar joints.

Theoretical knowledge is limited to that which is necessary to carry out the practical work. Knowledge of rules, regulations and standards are not tested.

The test project includes: the construction of a brick chimney/pier with decorative elements using standard metric units

The practical component of the contest may be designed from the following:

- 75-90% brickwork
- 10-15% block and stone work



The appropriate technical skills are:

- Measuring dimensions
- Determining layout
- Determining gauging
- Levelling and plumbing
- Making corners
- Building brick column/pier using stretcher or header, brick on end, brick on edge, raking, corbels, decorative bond sloping or battering walls according to the drawing and using material indicated
- Compliance with the plans
- Joint finishing/pointing according to required profile
- Cleaning

*** Knowledge of working with the following materials:**

- Bricks, face bricks, blocks maximum 15 kg (33 lbs.)
- Bonding agent: hydrated lime
- Aggregate: sand grain size 0 to 3 mm maximum

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

P.P.E. required — Competitors must supply and wear the appropriate clothing and protective gear:

- CSA hard hat,
- CSA approved safety boots
- Safety glasses

(Eyewear and hearing protection must be worn at all times within the competition area)

Safe work procedures

- Basic hazard awareness

1.3: Technical Committee

Committee members: Geoff Petznick

Limestone Skills Competition Chair: Patrick Jenkins – pjenkins@sl.on.ca

Judges: Alex Cappon



1.4: Contest Schedule

Date and Location: Thursday, February 26, 2026 – St. Lawrence College

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 9:00 - 9:30 | Competitor Registration and Welcome (Cafeteria) |
| 9:30 – 12:30 | Competition |
| 12:30 – 1:00 | Lunch |
| 1:00 – 3:30 | Competition |
| 3:30 – 4:00 | Clean-Up |
| 4:00 – 5:00 | Dinner (pizza provided) |
| 5:00 – 6:30 | Awards Ceremony (Gymnasium) |
| 6:30 – 7:30 | Open house and collection of projects/tools |

*Competitors must be on time for their contest or may be disqualified at the discretion of the Technical Committee.

Closing ceremony: Thursday, February 26th hosted at St. Lawrence College at 5:30pm

1.5: Additional Information

Notes to teacher / adviser: Please ensure any tools or equipment that is used for the purpose of the event is checked before the student arrives.

Clean-up of the entire work area is mandatory for all competitors and will take place after the judged portion of the competition.

No student will be excused until clean-up activities are complete.

2. Skills and Knowledge to be Tested

2.1: Specific Requirements

The contest will have a rubric scoring system. The overall score will be the sum of the points awarded for each of the components. Points are awarded as the competitor(s)/project successfully meets/completes certain performance criteria. Performance criteria are structured, when possible, to provide a range of tasks from easy to complex for each category.

Competitors are expected to demonstrate:

- Accuracy
- Safety
- General Brick Laying Skills
- Ability to accurately read plans and specifications
- Ability to use hand tools to notch wood (Chisels)
- Safe use of hand and power tools
- Ability to determine angles with a speed square



- Housekeeping (clean-up is required upon completion of the project)
- Able to work within the timeframe given.
- Effective use of materials / Minimize waste
- Knowledge of both Imperial and Metric measure will be required (plans could be both)
- Ability to use given measurements and angles to complete calculations for missing parts

3. Judging Criteria

- A. Dimensions 20 %
- B. Levelling 15 %
- C. Plumb 15%
- D. Square 10%
- E. Technical chromatic proper bonding and placement of details 10%
- F. Health and safety 10 %
- G. Joint uniformity and finishing 10%
- H. Overall appearance, cleanliness 10%
- Total 100%**

There can be no ties – if the score is even after the contest, the time needed to complete the project will be used as the tie breaker. Rule infractions will result in appropriate mark deductions at the discretion of the Technical Committee. Any disqualifications will be reviewed by the Director of Competitions.

A minimum score of **60%** will be required to receive any ribbon or medal or to be eligible to advance to the Skills Ontario Regional Competition.

4. Equipment and Materials

4.1: Supplied by Competitor

- All P.P.E. (listed below)
- Metric Tape Measuring
- Pencils and erasers
- Framing Square

4.2: Supplied by Competition

- Bricks
- Mortar
- Brick laying trowel (if needed)
- 4 foot level
- 2 foot level
- Brick Joiner



Contestants may bring other tools not listed but **they must be approved by the Committee Chair in advance**. Please ensure that all tools the students are bringing are labeled with competitor names or school name.

4.3: Prohibited

- No loose baggy clothing
- No inappropriate slogans or messages on clothing
- No jewelry
- No Hats or Caps

NO CELL PHONES ARE ALLOWED IN THE CONTEST AREA!

5. Safety

The competitor must supply and wear the appropriate clothing and protective gear:

- CSA approved eyewear (including side shields for prescription eyewear). *
- CSA approved work boots
- CSA approved hard hat (to be worn at all times during the competition)
- Hearing protection
- Long pants and T-shirt (NO muscle shirts or long, oversized shirts)
- No loose baggy clothing
- No inappropriate slogans or messages on clothing
- No jewelry
- No Hats or Caps
- No Cell phone or texting

**** Please note: Failure to wear personal protective equipment in an appropriate manner will result in loss of marks. More than one warning may result in the competitor / team being disqualified from contest.**