

SUGGESTED GOALS FOR THE FIRST FIVE MEETINGS

These goals should be adjusted according to age levels and experience level of team members.

First Meeting

Meet with students (and parents for middle, elementary and primary) ..

1. Explain the DI philosophy (see program handbook).
2. Describe the DI process and give dates of Regional and State Meets.
3. Discuss the time commitment necessary. and the responsibility of every team member to ensure a team effort.
4. Enlist parental assistance for transportation, refreshments, helpers, etc.
5. Explain outside assistance. Help parents understand that they can be valuable resources for knowledge and skills. but they cannot volunteer solutions.
6. Set up practice schedule appropriate to your group.

Second Meeting

1. Incorporate team building activity.
 2. Inventory team skills and preferences. --things I'm good at..., not good at... . I like to do ... , I don't like to do ...
 3. Review the Team Challenges with the team. Use the skills inventory to discuss which Challenges this team is best suited to, and most interested in. You may not be ready to decide this today, this is a big decision!
 4. Review brainstorming rules. (use brainstorming frequently and at length!)
 5. Explain Instant Challenge. Plan on practicing a few Instant Challenges at every meeting. Can be used as a device to start meetings as a warm-up and to put them on task.
- (HW :- choose favorite Challenge and prepare to explain to the rest of the team why it is the best choice.)

Third Meeting

1. Incorporate team building activity. Brainstorm ideas and strategies on how we can be successful as a team.
2. Practice Instant Challenges.
3. Discuss! choose problem. Brainstorm kinds of knowledge and skills needed to solve this problem. (HW - research the problem, can assign topics and areas of knowledge)

Fourth Meeting

1. Incorporate team building activity.
 2. Practice Instant Challenges.
 3. Brainstorm Challenge solutions (may include/overlap style ideas) Allow plenty of time for this, never settle for the first idea, easiest idea, etc., without exploring all. This process may extend over several meetings.
 4. Discuss questioning techniques with your team. ·Nothing new is learned until a question is asked.· Refine this art over the course of the year.
- (HW - choose a favorite Challenge solution idea and rough out on paper How the team could accomplish this. Bring to next meeting to share.)

Fifth Meeting (and beyond ...• or what to do after the team has decided what to do.)

1. Continue team building.
2. Continue Instant Challenge practices.
3. Brainstorm lists of tasks to accomplish. Assign tasks.
4. Make lists of materials needed and how to get them.
5. Make a team generated time line. Discuss team member responsibility for doing what they say they are going to do and when.

Carry on good luck and ask for help if you need it!