

ROTARY CLUB OF INDIO'S 27TH ANNUAL MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH FIELD DAY

2024 FACT SHEET

DATE OF EVENT

Saturday, April 20, 2024, 8:30am–3:00pm

YEAR STARTED

1995.

ORGANIZER/PRODUCER

Rotary Club of Indio

P.O. Box 412, Indio, CA 92202

Event coordinator:

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2023 SPONSORS

Desert Sands School District, Riverside County Supervisor Manuel Perez, Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia, City of Indio, Women's Club of Indio, Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, RAP Foundation, Desert Recreation District, Altura Credit Union, Cardenas Market Foundation and local Valley Rotary Clubs including Indio Sunrise, Coachella Valley, Coachella Valley East, and Palm Desert.



PARTICIPANTS

All Coachella Valley middle school students, grades 6–8 are invited to participate. Each school selects its own team which must be accompanied by a school faculty advisor.

STUDENTS FROM

- Desert Sands Unified School District
 - Coachella Valley Unified School District
 - Palm Springs Unified School District
 - Any Coachella Valley private schools
- In the past, schools from Palm Springs to Mecca have participated.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Approximately 350 students total.
A school team consists of ten (10) students per grade level. Maximum participants per school is 30.

LOCATION OF EVENT

John Glenn Middle School
79-655 Miles Avenue, Indio, CA 92202

SPECIAL GUEST

Dr Arthur Benjamin, a professor of mathematics and a magician. He has combined his two loves to create “Mathemagics.” His presentation will showcase his ability to perform rapid mental calculations and will share his secret to doing math faster than a calculator. Students will be amazed by this presentation.



GOALS

1. The day is designed to stimulate interest in mathematics amongst Coachella Valley middle school students prior to and through the event as preparation begins months before.
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. It's the Olympics for our "Mathletes"!
4. Awards recognize both individual as well as team achievements.

OBJECTIVE

Math Field Day provides an exciting event that allows middle school students to actually enjoy math and to motivate kids to develop and apply their math skills. Math Field Day provides middle school students an opportunity to creatively use their wit and their skill to solve challenging math problems. Students then have the opportunity to win prizes for themselves and recognition for their school by playing exciting math games that don't just feature problems on paper, but also feature three-dimensional excitement including tic-tac-toe or the "construction derby" where materials may be required to build a bridge or tower. Students and teachers plan months in advance for Math Field Day. This may include staying after school to practice or forming math clubs to prepare for Math Field Day. Team photos are taken and many students can be seen wearing team shirts decked out in school colors, mascots, and logos created specially for this event!



HISTORY

The Rotary Club of Indio founded Math Field Day in 1995. At that time, our late Riverside County 4th District Supervisor, John J. Benoit, was president of the Club. He found that due to transportation issues and a lack of funding for extra-curricular activities, Coachella Valley middle school students were not able to participate in the County's big math event held in Riverside. Through Benoit's leadership, the Indio Rotary Club stepped up and organized this local event. Working with Desert Sands School District and other desert Rotary clubs, Math Field Day provides local students the opportunity to show off their math skills by participating in exciting games and competitions. Math Field Day is given wide media coverage by local television, print, and online media.

SCHEDULE

7:45am–8:30am	Registration, Team Photos, Snacks	10:10am–10:20am	Break
8:30am–8:45am	Proctor Training	10:20pm–12:00pm	Competition: Games
8:45am–9:00am	Welcome Assembly	12:00pm–1:00pm	Lunch, Activities, Radio DJ
9:00am–9:10am	Break	1:00pm–3:00pm	Awards Ceremony & Guest Speaker
9:10am–10:10am	Competition: Events		

COMPETITIONS

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

EVENTS INCLUDE:

- WHAT'S MY SPACE?** - Students will be given several different tools to determine the area of irregular shapes.
- CALCULATOR CHALLENGE** - Using a calculator, students work various problems such as finding the area of a triangle.
- MENTAL GYMNASTICS** - Without the use of a calculator, this challenge requires calculating and solving problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. For example, solve the problem:
 $10+9+8+7+6+5+5+6+7+8+9=$
- TEAM INVESTIGATION** - This is 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. Materials used can be straws, dry spaghetti, marshmallows, and rubber bands.



GAMES INCLUDE:

- HEX** - This game 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** - Similar to two dimensional tic-tac-toe, this game 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** - This 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** - This is a simple paper/pencil game played on a grid. The players use logic and the rules to corner or capture their opponent.

AWARDS



Noted for its enthusiastic cheering and applause, the awards ceremony has become the annual highlight as team and individual mathematics skills are recognized. **Event winners** earn first place trophies. Second and third place winners will receive a ribbon and everyone receives a *Certificate of Participation*. **Game winners** earn first place trophies and second place receives 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 the next year's event. Second and third best schools will also get a trophy. A very special **Top Mathematician** will be selected for each grade level and will receive \$100 and the second best will win \$50!

Thank You to Our Rotary Club of Indio Corporate Members

