NSS Facts and Info

Technology Required

- Windows-based PC (Windows 10 or higher), i5 processor or above preferred, 8GB RAM or higher preferred but others can work. Note: MACs MAY work, but we have not tested them and do not support them (currently).
- Microsoft Excel 2016 or higher – Desktop version (note; NSS uses extensive use of Excel macros and these do not run on Microsoft Online versions. Google Sheets cannot run Excel macros and will NOT work.) MACs running the Excel Desktop version can be enabled to have the ability to run macros but we have not tested this.
- Internet Connection or Local Network connectivity (*optional, only needed when more than one PC is used*)
- File Sharing - If more than one PC is used, a file-sharing method of some sort is needed. We suggest Microsoft SharePoint. Microsoft One Drive (prone to file locks),Google Drive (prone to file locks), local network file sharing, or “thumb drive” can work as well, with a few limitations to keep in mind.
- Printer (for results) - we recommenced a locally attached printer.

User Skills Required

- Working understanding of Microsoft Windows
- Working understanding of Microsoft Excel
- English language skills (for documentation)

Features - Scoring

- Supports Raw Scores (exactly what a judge records) or Normalized scores (NSS ranked scores).
- Supports up to 99 contestants per category.
- Supports up to 5 judges.
- Supports up to 5 tunes per competitor.
- Supports up to 5 categories of judging criteria per tune.
- Supports Raw scoring scenarios: 1,2,3,4,5 judges, 4 Judges Drop High, 5 judges Drop High/Low
- Supports Normalized scoring scenarios: 1,2,3,4,5 judges, 4 Judges Drop High, 5 judges Drop High/Low.
- Supports entry and reporting of judges' comments and a scoresheet that can be given to a contestant to gain insight into what a judge thought about their performance.
- Duration Calculator function estimates the ENTIRE event time and durations IN ADVANCE for planning - Plus allows managing the contest schedule in Real Time to make time adjustments for event completion.

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Features - Functionality

- Supports Accumulated Round Scoring - up to 6 rounds.
- Allows for various tie-breaking methods in lieu of having a playoff, but playoffs are also supported.
- Provides a customizable Duration calculator that allows posting of playing times or can be used to determine the length of a category as well as the entire contest, for planning purposes.
- Tracks scoring and ranking real-time after each competitor's scores have been entered so the ongoing results are known at all times.
- Dashboard tracks all scoring scenarios, judges scores and ranking real-time.
- Multiple display scenarios allow for anonymous judge posting results.
- Optional Registration database that allow for tracking of competitors and easy way to load scoring files.
- Detailed, step by step User Guides, Shortcuts Sheets, and Quick Reference points for all skill levels of users.
- Functionality to allow accumulating scores over more than one round of competition.
- Functionality to determine duration of a contest based on number of competitors, play time, stage turnover time, and breaks.
- Functionality to randomly determine order of play.
- Scores archiving feature for historical tracking.

Fairness. Efficiency. Transparency.

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