

American Institute of Architects
**37th Sandcastle
Competition**

OFFICIAL COMPETITION RULES

All teams, sponsors, and individual participants are required to comply with all the provisions of the Official Competition Rules. By registering to compete, teams affirm that they have read the rules and agree to comply with all terms and regulations.



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Competition Schedule

6:30 AM – 9:00 AM	With official vehicle pass, beach front opens for delivery of equipment & supplies to Sandcastle sites. No vehicles permitted on the beach before 6:30 AM or after 9:00 AM.
9:00 AM	Clear the beach of all vehicles unloading equipment and supplies
10:00 – 3:00 PM	Sandcastle competition start time to end time.
4:00 PM	Public Favorite QR CODE Voting Ends
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Sandcastle Judging.
3:00 PM – DUSK	Photographs of all sandcastles and winning teams.
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Awards
(+/-) 6:00 PM	Vehicle access to the beach/ shoreline when the police and parks board determines safe access.



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Each Team is Provided:

- Sand Sculpting Site: approx. 22'-0" Wide x 25'-0" Deep.
 - Designated for sand sculpture with a shared 5'-0" minimum walkway between the sites.
 - Team Setup Site: approx. 22'-0" Wide x 30'-0" Deep.
 - Designated for all canopies, building materials, supplies, etc.
- Approximately 15 cubic yards of sand inside their site area.
 - No additional sand will be provided.
 - Team should only use the sand provided to them at their specific team site.

Competition Rules

TEAMS

- Architecture, Design, and Engineering firms must either be an AIA Member/ Firm or an AIA Affiliate Member/ Firm to enter as a team.
- Accredited Architecture, Design, and Engineering Universities are allowed to participate in the competition. Only one student team per university is allowed.
- Teams are not limited in size
- Each team must respect the space of the sites around them. *A team that damages a competitor's site will be required to assist in repairing the damage.*
- No professional sand sculptors will be allowed to participate on the day of the event.
- DO NOT DESTROY YOUR SCULPTURE OR SIGNAGE AFTER THE EVENT. Official photos of all entries will be taken after the event for PR purposes. Sunday viewing of all sculptures is enjoyed by the public.
- Team members will be required to follow any direction given by representatives of the Galveston Parks Board, Galveston Police Department, Galveston Fire Department, Emergency Responders, AIA Houston, Staff, or any other direction given on the beach by a member of official organizations in the interest of safety.

DESIGNATED COMMITTEE MEMBERS (DCM)

- Are assigned on behalf of the AIA Houston Sandcastle Committee to all competing teams as beach officials. DCMs will enforce event rules and moderate any disputes as well as provide solutions to teams.
- DCMs will communicate with Team Captains prior to the event with reminders and clarification and will provide contact information for any issues on site.
- All teams will be visited by their assigned DCMs on site prior to the competition start time on the day of the event.



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WRISTBANDS

- Each participant in the sandcastle building site must wear a Participant Event Wristband.
 - *Failure to wear Participant Event Wristbands while working in the sandcastle building plot or while operating water delivery systems will result in point deductions and/ or disqualification.*
- Extra Participant Event Wristbands may be purchased at the AIA tent.
- Children under 12-years of age do not need a Wristband to participate in the sandcastle building site.
- A valid ID and sandcastle competition wristband are required to obtain beer.

SITE ACCESS

Sites may be accessed by vehicles with Shore Line access pass for unloading from 6:30 AM until 9:00 AM, or as designated by Park Police.

- No vehicles will be permitted on the beach, other than described.
 - Galveston P.D. will control access and give permission to drive on the beach and shoreline area but will not allow vehicle access outside of these times outlined above.
- One vehicle Shore Line access pass will be distributed to each team.
 - Only one vehicle per team is allowed on the beach at a time.
 - A pass may be moved from vehicle to vehicle only after the previous vehicle accessing the beach on behalf of the team has vacated the beachfront.
 - Trailers for material storage or barbeque pits must be detached from the vehicle and parked behind the team plot in a manner that does not hinder or intrude upon adjacent sites nor interfere with beachfront safety lane or access by safety vehicles
- Golf Carts, riding coolers, and/or ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) are not allowed during event hours other than official vehicles.
 - These vehicles must be parked in designated parking lots, pay the required parking fee, and will be treated as regular vehicles.
- **Vehicle access to the beach at the end of the day** is permitted after the Parks Board and police determine that the crowds have thinned sufficiently for safe access.

RECYCLING / TRASH

Each team shall recycle plastic, aluminum, and cardboard within their own site and is responsible for proper removal of all trash, equipment, formwork, etc. from the beach at the end of the event. Recycling and landfill boxes will be provided.

- Teams will sort out landfill items and recyclable items at their site.
- Volunteers will pick up recycling bags from team sites approximately three (3) times during the competition.
- Volunteers will not pick up your landfill or waste bags. Teams must take their full landfill or waste bags to designated trash collection areas along the beach.
- Miscellaneous cardboard should be placed flat on the ground at trash pick-up areas.
- *Teams will be fined \$100 for anything other than the rental canopy and sign left on their site after completion of the competition. event.*



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COOKING / BBQ

- Trailers for material storage or barbeque pits must be detached from the vehicle and parked behind the team plot in a manner that does not hinder or intrude upon adjacent sites nor interfere with beachfront safety lane or access by safety vehicles.
- If teams are grilling on the site, teams must provide **one (1) 10lb. fire extinguisher** for their tents if the area of the canopy exceeds 400 SQFT and allow review by DCM.
 - This includes rental tents and pop-up personal tents.
- Take coals with you; do not bury them in the sand.
- Propane is allowed for cooking.
- Do not cook underneath tents.

TENTS / CANOPIES

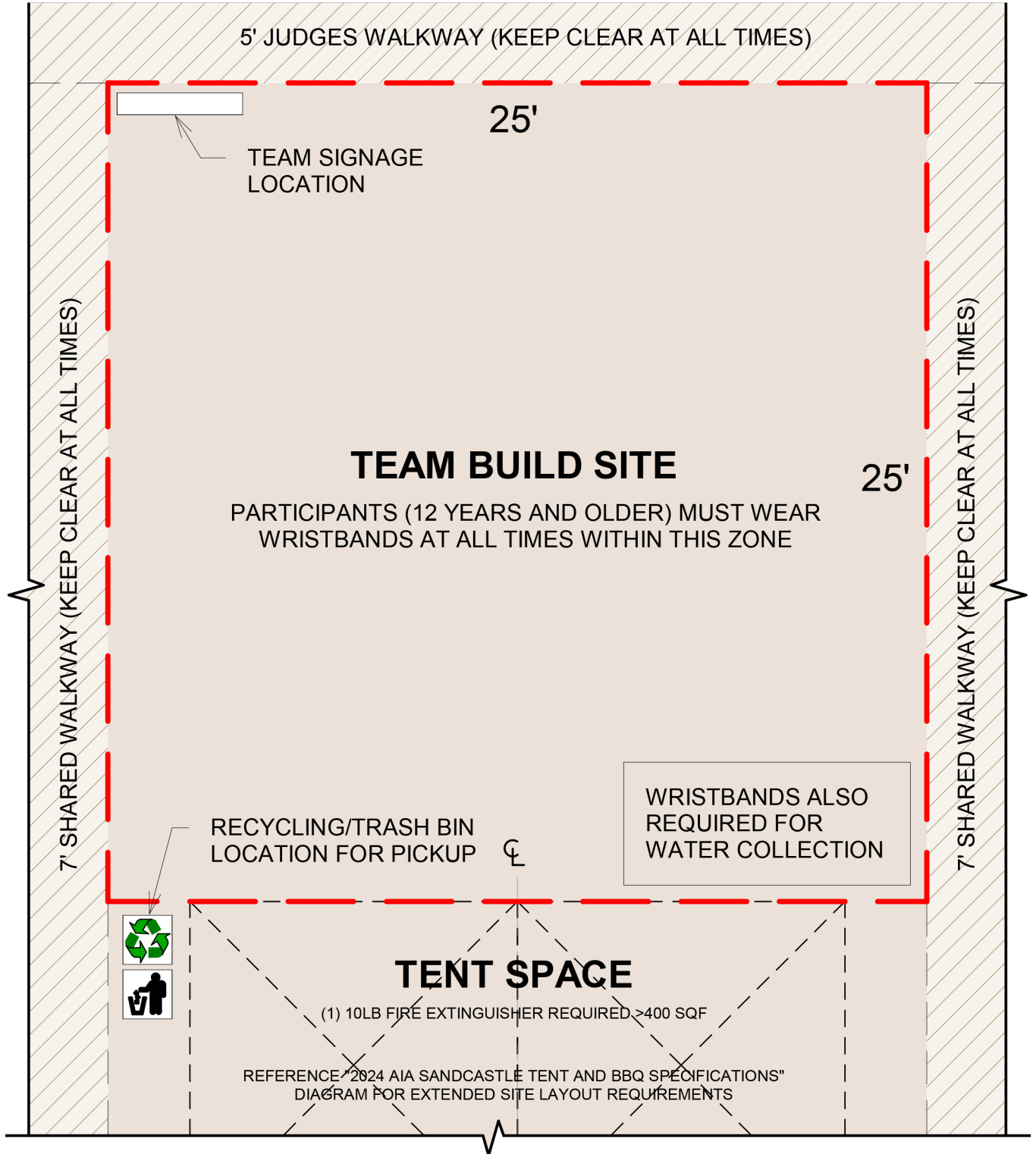
- Maximum Team canopy size is 20' wide x 30' deep, installed at midpoint of the canopy zone.
- Teams that have not ordered a canopy through AIA Houston are responsible for obtaining and installing a canopy at their site from an approved tent vendor per AIA Houston.
- Do not allow canopy supports or ties to encroach upon the shared walkway.
- Team canopy shall be installed just behind the sand sculpting site.
- No tents or other team equipment will be allowed to interfere with any emergency vehicle or official access, including both the emergency lane designated by bollards or along the waterfront.
 - This includes rental tents and pop-up personal tents.
- Additional tents are allowed subject to approval from the Fire Marshal and beach officials. Any tent or setup deemed unsafe by the Fire Marshal or beach authorities is subject to removal.

**Please see detailed
graphics on
pages 5-6**



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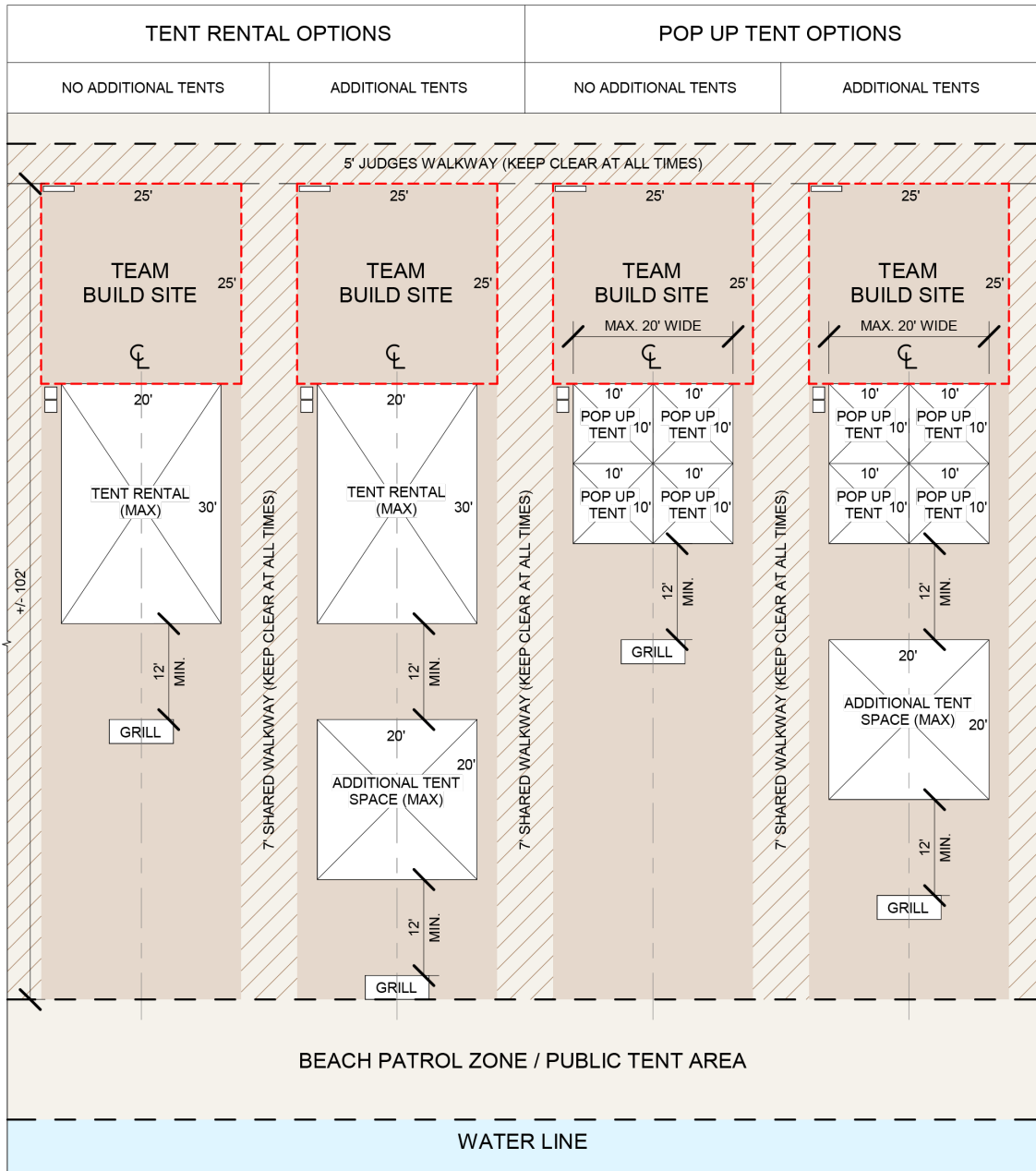
2024 AIA SANDCASTLE TEAM BUILD SITE LAYOUT





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2024 AIA SANDCASTLE TENT AND BBQ SPECIFICATIONS



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2024 Team Tent Layout Options
 In Compliance with
 Galveston Fire Marshal
 Requirements



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BUILDING RULES

- Teams may not move any sand prior to the start of the competition but may set up their area and remove any seaweed that has accumulated and assemble formwork as long as sand is not moved.
- Sculptures must be made of sand and water only. No other materials or additives are allowed.
- Water must be moved by human power or by machines that are not powered by fossil fuels. Each team must provide its own water carrying tools.
- Heavy earth moving equipment is not allowed on the beach for any use.

FORMWORK

Each Team is permitted to use formwork for building their sand sculptures provided they utilize sound judgment and do not endanger participants or spectators.

- Formwork may be assembled as long as sand is not moved.
- Formwork can be placed within the plot before the start of the competition provided that NO sand is moved within the plot for its setup.
- Formwork, rebar, etc. may not be incorporated into the final sand sculpture.
- No coatings, paints or other products may be added to the inside or outside of a team's forms.
- clearly label all panels of your formwork with your team Site Number with spray paint or marker,
- Formwork shall not be left behind in the shoreline, team, or event area. Formwork must be taken with you at the end of the event. There will be a \$100 fine assessed for formwork left behind.
 - *Any team found violating this rule will be subject to disqualification from next year's event*

TEAM SIGNAGE

Teams must provide a minimum of a 24" tall x 36" wide sign with team-provided mounting posts to be installed within the team site.

- **Team sign should include a 5" tall white space across the bottom of the poster for the THEME LABEL AND THE PUBLIC FAVORITE QR CODE**
 - The Theme Label is inside of your beach packet.
 - Attach your Theme Label as soon as possible before it is misplaced.
Your team will not be entered in a Theme category if your Theme Label is not attached.
 - No extra Theme Labels will be available on the beach.
 - Teams may attach decorative supports or "flair" to their sign(s)
 - The entire sign and anything attached will be considered in judging.
 - Once erected at the team site, your sign and its mounting posts become the property of the Galveston Parks Board. Do not remove or destroy your sign.
- Signage should list the Team Name or the name of the Primary Firm entering the competition.
- The Official Site Map will list teams by company name. Up to two company names may be listed per team.

THEME AND CATEGORY

Each team is required to submit the Theme Name & Category Form by the required deadline.

- Failure to indicate a category and have the Theme Label posted on your sign will result in your team not being entered in a theme category.
- Each Team is permitted to enter only ONE of the 2024 Theme Based Categories.
Categories TO BE ANNOUNCED.



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ALCOHOL

- Teams are prohibited from giving away any alcoholic beverages or other consumables to anyone not on their team. *Any team found violating this rule will be immediately disqualified from the event and may be asked to leave the beach.*
- A valid ID and sandcastle competition wristband are required to obtain beer.

CHEATING

- Cheating will not be tolerated. Any team caught cheating will be disqualified from the ENTIRE competition. NO EXCEPTIONS.

AWARDS

Each team is automatically entered in each of the Overall Awards listed below:

- Golden Bucket (1st Place)
- Silver Shovel (2nd Place)
- Bronze Shovel (3rd Place)
- AIA College Challenge (if applicable)
- Team Signage
- Team T-Shirt
- Sydney Lenoir Public Favorite Award
- 811 Presents: Most Sustainable Team
 - Teams are ineligible for Theme Based Category awards if they receive the Golden Bucket, Silver Shovel, or Bronze Shovel.
 - AIA College Challenge is awarded only to university student teams.
 - All teams will receive a sustainable rating from a team of judges rating everything from water delivery systems to recycling efforts and formwork. The team with the highest score will receive the award.

JUDGING

- Judging is conducted for the following categories at the event during walkthrough at each team site
NOTE: T-shirt judging will be conducted on stage.
 - Golden Bucket
 - Theme & Category
 - Team Sign
 - Sustainability
- **Golden Bucket Judging:** Originality of Theme, Artistic Execution of Concept, Technical Difficulty, Carving Technique, Utilization of Site
- **Category Judging:** Relation to Category, Carving Technique, Utilization of Site
- **Team Sign Judging:** Relation to Sculpture, Artistic Flair
- **Sustainability Judging:** Water System, Form Work, Recycling on Site
- **Team T-shirt Judging:** Relation to Sculpture, Graphic Design
 - Team T-shirt judging will be done on stage following site judging.
 - Each Team is permitted to have up to TWO participants model their Team t-shirt

PUBLIC FAVORITE VOTING VIA QR CODES

- QR Code Stickers to be attached by a team member to the Team Sign in the designated 5"x3" white area
- Voting will end at 4pm. The QR Code will end voting automatically.