



★ Final Round Judging

Because of the possibility that three strong projects could end up in the same preliminary heat, the process described below is designed to make sure that the top three entries in each preliminary heat receive the opportunity to be reviewed in the final judging process.

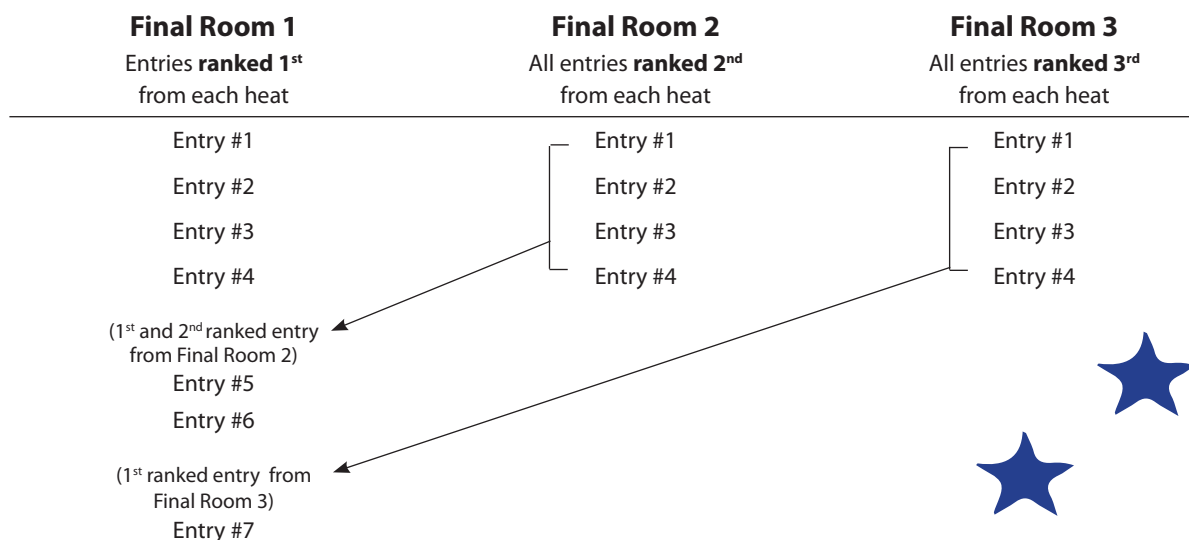
At the NHD-CA state contest, all categories (except Posters*) will advance 3 projects from each heat to the final round.

Preliminary judging categories with:

- 3 or fewer heats will advance to the traditional system of finals (top 3 from each heat to one room with 3 judges)
- 4 or more heats will advance all first, second, and third ranked projects. These projects will be placed in separate rooms. Entries ranked 2nd and 3rd will run off for spots in the Primary Room. The top two projects from the second place room and the top project from the third place room will advance to the Primary Room and compete for a chance to attend nationals.

Finals Round Judging Model

4 Heats



Participation in a final room 2 or 3 run-off does not affect the judging in the primary room. Many entries from rooms 2 or 3 have progressed to nationals.

Performance Category

Students in the performance category **must be present for the final round**. If there is a run off in this category, students whose projects advance from the alternate rooms to the primary room will have to present again. This means that three performances may have the chance to be presented twice in the final round (once in the First or Second Alternate Room and once in the Primary Room). The judges who make this decision will announce the entries that are moving on to the Primary Room shortly after the final presentation in the First or Second Alternate rooms. Students should stay nearby to make sure that they do not miss this announcement.

* Posters & Elementary Podcasts will have a winner and a runner up for each heat.