



# ORANGE COUNTY Sustainability Decathlon

## Competition Rules

Version 4.0.0, September 24, 2023

## Introduction

In response to the effects of climate change and current shortage of affordable homes in the state of California, consumers need housing options that are carbon-free, energy efficient, resilient, sustainable, and affordable. The Orange County Sustainability Decathlon (OCSD23) challenges collegiate design-build teams to develop, demonstrate, and market solutions that meet this need.

## The Competition

OCSD23 will be held October 5 - 15, 2023 in Orange County, California. Participating teams will compete side-by-side at a common location to attract thousands of visitors and consumer interest worldwide. The competition will showcase state-of-the-art designs and technology and create a new, innovative marketplace for sustainable housing.

## Participation Seed Grant

All teams selected to participate in OCSD23 will receive a \$100,000 grant as “seed money” to get started. Up to 18 teams will be selected for the competition.

# Awards

Overall Winners

First, Second, Third Place

Contest Winners

First, Second, Third Place for each of the ten contests

# Benefits

## Recognition

OCSD23's broad media exposure will showcase the skills and talents of every participating team.

## Business and Career Opportunities

Participating OCSD23 students, professors, and partners are encouraged to leverage their OCSD23 experience, work output, and earned credibility into a range of post-competition businesses and jobs in California's sustainable residential building sector. The OCSD23 organizers will assist the teams' business-development efforts by providing an ideal marketing and networking environment; by comprehensively evaluating, rating, and validating each model home via the competition's ten contests; by rewarding the most successful projects with additional media exposure and public recognition; and by assisting in a range of other practical, possible ways.

## On-site Experience and Online Outreach

OCSD23 teams will compete side-by-side at a single site, attracting thousands of people to view, tour, and learn about these innovative model homes.

The OCSD23 website and app will showcase participating teams and highlight the unique features of their model homes. Anyone unable to attend the on-site event can explore OCSD23 virtually to learn more.

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## SECTION I     DEFINITIONS

The Orange County Sustainability Decathlon will hereafter be referred to as OCSD23.

### **assembly**

The period of time between the arrival of trucks and the beginning of the contests on the competition site

### **OCSD23 Building Code**

A set of design and construction standards set forth and enforced by the Building Official for the protection of public health and safety during the event

### **Building Official**

The organizer responsible for writing, interpreting, and enforcing the OCSD23 Building Code

### **Communications Director**

The organizer responsible for public outreach and communications activities

### **communications materials**

All printed or electronic publications designed to convey information to the public

### **competition**

All aspects of OCSD23 related to the 10 contests and the scoring of those contests

### **Competition Director**

The organizer responsible for writing and enforcing the rules and conducting a fair competition

### **competition host**

OC Fair & Event Center (OCFEC) in Costa Mesa, CA

### **competition site**

Physical location of OCSD23 on the competition host site

### **contest**

OCSD23 consists of 10 distinct contests (separately scored), some of which contain one or more subcontests

### **contest official**

Individual selected by the Competition Director to officiate one or more of the contests; a contest official is authorized to interpret only the rules of the contest(s) to which he or she is assigned

### **contest week**

Multi-day period on the competition site when some or all contests are in progress

### **decathlete**

Team member who is or recently was an enrolled student

**decision**

The interpretation or clarification of a rule by the rules officials

**disassembly**

The period of time between the closing of the public exhibit and the completion of competition site cleanup

**event**

Activities that take place on the competition site, including, but not limited to, registration, assembly, inspections, contests, special events, public exhibit, and disassembly

**Event Director**

The organizer responsible for preparing the competition site for the public exhibit and for producing official competition-related events

**event sponsor**

Organizer-approved entity that supports OCSD23

**faculty advisor**

Team member who serves as a faculty member and primary representative of a participating school in the competition; also provides guidance to the team

**housing unit**

The model home structure(s) containing all finished square footage

**innovation**

Creative thinking and stepping outside the box to envision, develop, and deploy new solutions for designs, materials, and products for the homebuilding industry that address climate change and critical housing issues in California

**juried contest**

Contest assessed by a professional jury

**juror**

Individual selected by the organizers to participate in a jury that performs subjective evaluations; also called jury member

**jury**

Group of jurors invited to evaluate team projects based on specific criteria established for a particular contest

**jury assistant**

Individual selected by the organizers to accompany and assist a jury during deliverable review, walkthrough, and deliberation phases; unlike contest officials, jury assistants are not authorized to interpret the Rules

**model home**

A participating team's completed assembly of physical components installed on its team lot

**observer**

Individual assigned by the Competition Director to observe team activities during contest week; an observer reports any rules infractions to the rules officials and records the results of specific contest tasks; an observer does not interpret OCSD23 Rules

**organizer**

Any individual assigned to work on OCSD23 with the authority described in rule 1.4

**performance rating contest**

Contest assessed on model-predicted performance

**performance verification contest or subcontest**

Contest or subcontest assessed on completion of tasks designed to demonstrate functionality by observation, measurement, or both

**plant**

A living thing that grows in earth, in water, or on other plants; usually has a stem, leaves, roots, and flowers, and produces seeds [Cambridge Dictionary]

**Program Director**

The organizer with final decision-making authority for all aspects of OCSD23

**project**

The “OCSD23 project” is all tasks and output related to the 2023 edition of the Orange County Sustainability Decathlon; a “team project” is all tasks and output related to a team’s participation in OCSD23

**Protest Resolution Committee**

Group of individuals selected by the organizers to resolve any team protests during the competition

**public exhibit**

Areas of the competition site open to the public during designated hours

**rule**

A principle or regulation governing the conduct, action, procedure, arrangement, etc., for the duration of the competition

**rules official**

An organizer authorized to interpret the official rules; the Competition Director is the lead rules official

**staff**

Individuals working for the organizers to plan and execute the competition

**subcontest**

A subdivision of one of the 10 contests that is individually scored

**team crewmember**

An individual who is integrally involved with team activities but unaffiliated with a participating school, such as contractors, volunteers, and sponsors

**team lot**

A designated space within the village where a team's model home housing unit(s), landscape components, and miscellaneous exterior components are located

**team member**

An enrolled student, recent graduate, faculty member, or other individual affiliated with one of the participating schools and integrally involved with a team project

**team portal**

Community website at <https://portal.ocsd23.com> that includes official communications and resources suitable for viewing by all teams

**village**

The space within the competition site where all team lots are located; the village perimeter is defined by security fencing and/or adjacent structures on the competition site



## SECTION II CONTESTS AND CRITERIA

As a “Decathlon,” OCSD23 is comprised of 10 contests that are scored independently of each other. Each contest is worth 100 points, with 1000 cumulative points available across the 10 contests. The team with the highest cumulative score at the end of contest week wins the competition. Teams earn points through jury evaluations, performance-based ratings, and performance-based verifications.

**Table 1: Ten Contests**

<b>Contest Type</b>	<b>Contest #</b>	<b>Contest Name</b>
<b>Juried</b>	1	Sustainability and Resilience
	2	Architecture and Interior Design
	3	Engineering and Construction
	4	Communications and Marketing
	5	Market Potential
	6	Innovation
<b>Performance Rating</b>	7	Energy Efficiency
	8	Water Use and Conservation
<b>Performance Verification</b>	9	Health and Comfort
	10	Lighting and Appliances

Juried contest scores are assigned by groups of subject-matter experts. Performance rating and performance verification contest scores are assigned by the Competition Director. Jury and Competition Director evaluation activities begin off-site before contest week and continue through contest week. Final contest scores are announced during formal award ceremonies during contest week.

**Table 2: Competition Structure**

Each of the 10 contests is worth a total of 100 points.  
Some contests include subcontests.

Contest #	Contest	Subcontest	Subcontest Points	Evaluation	Description (see SECTION II for details)
1	<b>Sustainability and Resilience</b>			Juried	Sustainability and Resilience Jury reviews and evaluates team deliverables and the model home
2	<b>Architecture and Interior Design</b>				Architecture and Interior Design Jury reviews and evaluates team deliverables and the model home
3	<b>Engineering and Construction</b>				Engineering and Construction Jury reviews and evaluates team deliverables and the model home
4	<b>Communications and Marketing</b>				Communications and Marketing Jury reviews and evaluates team deliverables and the public exhibit experience
5	<b>Market Potential</b>				Market Potential Jury reviews and evaluates team deliverables and the model home
6	<b>Innovation</b>				Each of the juries for Contests 1-5 reviews and evaluates innovation incorporated into the model home related to their respective areas of expertise
7	<b>Energy Efficiency</b>			Performance Rating	Design and build a model home with no greater than a 40 projected HERS Index (e.g., minimum 60% less net annual site electricity consumption than standard benchmark house)
8	<b>Water Use and Conservation</b>				Design and build a model home with no greater than a 40 projected HERS <sub>H2O</sub> Index (e.g., minimum 60% less annual water consumption than standard benchmark house)

Contest #	Contest	Subcontest	Subcontest Points	Evaluation	Description
9	Health and Comfort	Whole House Systems	75	Performance Verification	Demonstrate that HVAC, PV/batteries, hot water, and other whole-house systems and their components are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.
		Bathroom Facilities and Plumbing	25		Demonstrate that all bathroom facilities (shower, water closet, lavatory, etc.) function as intended and are installed and configured per the construction documents.
10	Lighting and Appliances	Lighting	30		Demonstrate that all lighting and daylighting components, including controls, are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.
		Kitchen and Laundry	50		Demonstrate that appliances such as the refrigerator, freezer, dishwasher, cooktop, clothes washer, and clothes dryer are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.
		Home Office, Security, and Electronics	20		Demonstrate that all home office, security, and electronic entertainment systems and components are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>1,000 points possible</b>	<b>600 juried points, 200 performance rating points, and 200 performance verification points</b>		

## Contest 1 Sustainability and Resilience

Sustainability science is a relatively new discipline that focuses on interactions between humans, the environment, and engineered systems. The three main pillars of sustainability are environmental (the planet), social (people), and economic (prosperity). For this competition, sustainability emphasizes the design and construction of homes that meet today's needs while recognizing the limitations of the physical, social, and natural resources currently available; in other words, without compromising the needs of future generations. Meeting today's needs, as referenced here, includes the use of renewable energy, natural resources, and resiliency.

This contest evaluates how well the model home's design, systems, and components attain maximum reduction of negative environmental impact in all phases, including manufacturing, construction, use, and eventual decommissioning.

A jury of qualified professionals will assign an overall score for sustainability, long-term durability, and resilience. The jury will consider the team deliverables and perform an onsite evaluation of the model home. The jury will consider the following criteria:

### Sustainable Energy and Resources

1. How well does the team address issues pertaining to sustainability for the target market segment?
2. To what extent does the building integrate sustainable strategies, reduce lifecycle impacts, and enable the reclamation and reuse of water?
3. To what extent does the team consider the building's lifecycle, such as the impact of materials extraction, manufacturing, transportation, construction, use, and end-of-life decommissioning of the building?
4. How effective is the team's capacity to influence consumer behavior in its delivery of key concepts related to sustainable design and construction?

### Resilience

Resilience, an important aspect of sustainability, is the ability of a building to be prepared for, absorb, recover from, and successfully adapt to adverse events it may encounter. Faced with unpredictable challenges such as climate change, forest fires, drought, earthquakes, environmental degradation, and health pandemics, teams must demonstrate how their homes address these challenges as resilient buildings.

The jury will evaluate the home's ability to provide indoor and outdoor fire warnings and protection, and to safely withstand and recover from natural disasters by maintaining critical operations during power disruptions that commonly occur and immediately after those events. The jury will consider the following criteria:

1. How well does the team address issues pertaining to resilience for the target market?
2. Do fire protection alarms work effectively? Do surveillance monitoring sensors and equipment work as designed?

3. To what level do design details, materials selection, and construction practices ensure durability?
4. How effective is the model home at providing occupants with critical survival capabilities during periods of extended power outages and water shortages?

### **Sustainability and Resilience Innovation**

In addition to and separate from the score assigned to each team for the Sustainability and Resilience Contest, the jury will assign a score for innovation. This score will become one-fifth of the total score for the Innovation Contest. The jury will consider the following questions:

1. What unique elements or aspects of sustainability and resilience reflect noteworthy innovation?
2. To what extent does the team apply innovative strategies to reduce negative environmental impacts during the acquisition, assembly, and decommissioning of basic house components?

## **Contest 2 Architecture and Interior Design**

This contest evaluates the architecture and interior design of the model home and its ability to deliver both outstanding aesthetics and functionality. A jury of qualified professionals will assign an overall score for conceptual coherence, merit, integration, and implementation of the design. The jury will consider the team deliverables and perform an on-site evaluation of the model home. The jury will consider the following criteria:

1. How well does the team address issues pertaining to architecture and interior design for the target market?
2. Overall coherence among architectural, structural, mechanical, electrical, lighting, landscaping, and other related disciplines and systems of the model home.
3. Effectiveness of interior design to provide comfort, functionality, and adaptability.
4. Effectiveness in the use of architectural elements such as indoor/outdoor connections, composition, and transformable or multi-use spaces.
5. Integration of both natural and electric lighting in the model home, and overall effectiveness of the lighting system design.

### **Architecture and Interior Design Innovation**

In addition to and separate from the score assigned to each team for the Architecture and Interior Design Contest, the jury will assign each team a score for innovation. This score will become one-fifth of the total score for the Innovation Contest. The jury will consider the following questions:

1. What unique elements or aspects of architecture and interior design reflect noteworthy innovation?
2. How innovative is the team's approach to architectural elements, holistic and integrated design, inclusive of space, structure, and building envelope?

## **Contest 3    Engineering and Construction**

This contest evaluates the engineering and construction workmanship of the team. A jury of qualified professionals will assign an overall score for the merit and implementation of the engineering design. The jury will consider the team deliverables and perform an on-site evaluation of the model home. The jury will consider the following criteria:

1. How well does the team address issues pertaining to engineering and construction for the target market segment?
2. Demonstration of high levels of functionality, viability, reliability, and efficiency of the building and its systems, including structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and controls, and their adequate integration into the overall project.
3. Efficiency and effectiveness of the model home envelope and its effectiveness in reducing the space conditioning loads of the model home.
4. Professionalism of the team’s documentation: Construction and system drawings, diagrams, and specifications should accurately reflect the model home assembled on the competition site.

### **Engineering and Construction Innovation**

In addition to and separate from the score assigned to each team for the Engineering and Construction Contest, the jury will assign each team a score for innovation. This score will become one-fifth of the total score for the Innovation Contest. The jury will consider the following questions:

1. What unique elements or aspects of building and construction represent noteworthy innovation?
2. To what extent does the design solution utilize new, unique, or atypical processes, technologies, or engineering solutions for improved performance?

## **Contest 4    Communications and Marketing**

This contest evaluates each team’s demonstrated capacity to explain and promote their skills, ideas, and sustainable designs through compelling communications and marketing methods and materials. The goal is to create public understanding and acceptance of the model home and its constituent strategies, themes, systems, and components. Each team must emphasize the intended California target market for their completed model home, including household composition, income level, and geographic location.

Each team will devise a background “story” about their model home. This story should be a coherent narrative that explains why the team developed a particular style and design. The story should connect to the target audience, telling how and why this home is well-suited to their needs. The story should also help visitors better understand the design of the model home and provide a set of well-connected talking points to inform their experiences when touring the model home. The story can highlight elements from the ten contests to illustrate why this home is a suitable match for the target audience and how it will enhance their daily

life, while honoring the overarching theme of sustainability. Each team will present its story to the visiting public and the Communications and Marketing Jury.

A jury of qualified professionals will assign an overall score for each team's communications and marketing strategies, materials, and efforts to educate, inform, and persuade homebuyers and the general public of the value of their model home. The jury will consider the team deliverables and the effectiveness and delivery of communications and marketing activities at the competition site. The jury will consider the following criteria:

1. Quality and delivery of public profile content, social media engagement, printed materials, audio-visual media, the public exhibit experience, education and outreach activities and events on and off the competition site, the on-site presentation to the jury, a business brand/website, etc.
2. How appropriate is the message for consumers in the identified target market?
3. How well does the team highlight the sustainability and livability features of the model home to improve consumer education and marketability?

### **Communications and Marketing Innovation**

In addition to and separate from the score assigned to each team for the Communications and Marketing Contest, the jury will assign each team a score for innovation. This score will become one-fifth of the total score for the Innovation Contest. The jury will consider the following questions:

1. How innovative is the team's approach to earning acceptance of their design in the target market?
2. How innovative are the team's strategies to inspire and motivate consumers to take action steps toward opportunities for sustainable housing?
3. How creative and innovative are the materials for public display and methods of communicating with the public?

## **Contest 5    Market Potential**

This contest evaluates how prepared and well-positioned each team is to deliver energy efficient, resilient, sustainable, and affordable solutions to and for the California housing market in the 5-10 years following the competition. The range of possible solutions includes but is not limited to the research, design, development, construction, installation, manufacturing and/or sale of residential buildings, landscapes, systems, technologies, and/or products. Positive outcomes resulting from recent, current, and future activities in the areas of education, outreach, community service, market research, activism, code development, and more are also recognized in this contest.

The cumulative potential impact of each team's solution(s) over the 5-to-10-year time horizon can be estimated in terms of quantity of units sold, lives improved, patents granted, clients served, energy/water/resources/money saved, students taught, building codes amended, etc.

A jury of qualified professionals will assign an overall score for each team's potential to impact California's housing sector in positive ways. The jury will consider team deliverables and perform an on-site evaluation of the model home. The jury will consider the following criteria:

1. How effectively did the team use market analysis to identify unmet market needs and/or problems requiring solutions?
2. How successful has the team been in identifying post-competition opportunities and preparing to capitalize on those opportunities?
3. How well does the model home and the team's other project activities and outcomes to date demonstrate the team's ability to respond effectively to identified market needs and develop solutions to identified problems in the 5-10 years following the competition?
4. What size impact are the team's endeavors likely to have on California's housing market in the 5-10 years following the competition?
5. To what extent will the team's likely impact on the California housing market help California meet its need for housing options that are carbon-free, energy efficient, resilient, sustainable, and affordable?

### **Market Potential Innovation**

In addition to and separate from the score assigned to each team for the Market Potential Contest, the jury will assign each team a score for innovation. This score will become one-fifth of the total score for the Innovation Contest. The jury will consider the following questions:

1. How innovative was the team's approach to identifying an existing market need and defining its target market?
2. How innovative was the team's approach to measuring the potential market impact of its model home at the competition and/or its post-competition business activities.
3. How innovative is the team's proposed solution to meet the identified market need?

## **Contest 6 Innovation**

The Innovation Contest considers how well teams demonstrate the capacity to go above and beyond existing boundaries to push the envelope of possibilities to address climate change and critical housing issues in California. Solving complex problems calls for creative thinking and stepping outside the box to envision and develop new solutions for designs, materials, and products for the homebuilding industry. The team that nails this contest shows that it has the vision, as well as the nuts and bolts understanding, for innovative thinking for a model home appropriate for the target market segment and geographic location the team has identified.

As described in the first five contests, Sustainability and Resilience; Architecture and Interior Design; Engineering and Construction; Communications and Marketing; and Market Potential,



juries will evaluate each team project for innovation, according to targeted questions related to criteria for each of those contests. A combined total of the scores from these five separate juries will serve as the final score for the Innovation Contest.

## Contest 7 Energy Efficiency

The organizers will use accredited software tools to calculate a projected [Home Energy Rating System \(HERS\) Index](#) for each model home. The lower the projected HERS Index, the more energy efficient the home. The organizers will use the accredited software tools to develop an energy model of each model home. They will use data collected from construction documents, direct measurement activities, and performance verification activities to develop model inputs and calibrate model outputs. As the organizers learn more about the model homes to refine model inputs, the model will become progressively more accurate in predicting annual energy performance in the model home's permanent location.

**A projected HERS Index less than or equal to 40 earns all available points. A projected HERS Index greater than 40 and less than 60 earns reduced points, scaled linearly. A projected HERS Index greater than or equal to 60 earns no points.**

Notes:

- Renewable energy production is considered in the model and has the effect of reducing the projected HERS Index.
- The organizers may develop custom methods and tools for modeling innovative demand-side and supply-side energy systems and strategies that are not covered by the HERS standard.
- All supply-side and demand-side energy systems and strategies must comply with Chapter 1 of the OCSD23 Building Code. Systems and strategies that have significant benefits but do not currently comply with Chapter 2 of the OCSD23 Building Code may be approved for demonstration on the competition site and for consideration by the juries on case-by-case basis.
- When a team fails to promptly submit information required to develop well-documented and validated model inputs, the organizers may assess penalties and/or make conservative assumptions that will tend to increase the projected HERS Index.
- Teams are encouraged to use software such as the [Building Energy Optimization Tool \(BEopt\)](#) to identify cost-optimal combinations of efficiency measures and renewable energy production. The effective use of tools like BEopt may be considered by juries.

## Contest 8 Water Use and Conservation

The organizers will use approved standards and tools to calculate a projected [HERS<sub>H2O</sub> Water Efficiency Index](#) for each competition model home. The lower the projected HERS<sub>H2O</sub> Index, the more water efficient the home. The organizers will use the approved standards and tools to develop a water efficiency model for each model home. They will use data collected from construction documents, direct measurement activities, and performance verification

activities to develop the model inputs and calibrate the model outputs. As the organizers learn more about the model homes to refine model inputs, the model will become progressively more accurate in predicting annual water efficiency performance in the model home's permanent location.

**A projected HERS<sub>H2O</sub> Index less than or equal to 40 earns all available points. A projected HERS<sub>H2O</sub> Index greater than 40 and less than 60 earns reduced points, scaled linearly. A projected HERS<sub>H2O</sub> Index greater than or equal to 60 earns no points.**

Notes:

- The organizers may develop custom methods for modeling innovative demand-side and supply-side water systems and strategies that are not covered by HERS<sub>H2O</sub> standard.
- All supply-side and demand-side water systems and strategies must comply with Chapter 1 of the OCSD23 Building Code. Systems and strategies that have significant benefits but do not currently comply with Chapter 2 of the OCSD23 Building Code may be approved for demonstration on the competition site and for consideration by the juries on case-by-case basis.
- When a team fails to promptly submit information required to develop well-documented and validated model inputs, the organizers may assess penalties and/or make conservative assumptions that will tend to increase the projected HERS<sub>H2O</sub> Index.

## Contest 9 Health and Comfort

Today's homes should be safe spaces for shelter, meals, learning, professional work, recreation, entertainment, and social gatherings.

In each of the subcontests for Contest 9 and Contest 10, teams and the organizers will inspect and test different facets of each model home to verify that they function as intended and have been installed and configured per the construction documents. Systems, equipment, appliances, facilities, and electronics are examples of facets that require performance verification.

Although specific verification procedures may vary for different facets as appropriate, typical verification involves three steps:

1. Read the installation manual, operators manual, and/or relevant content in the construction documents to understand how the facet should be installed and configured, and how it should function.
2. Inspect and/or operate the facet under typical operating conditions using typical operating modes. Make observations and/or record measurements during inspection and operation.
3. Upon review of the recorded observations and/or measured data, determine if the facet functions as intended and if the facet has been installed and configured per the construction documents.

If all facets within a particular category (i.e., subcontest) function as intended and are installed and configured as presented in the construction documents, 100% of available

points will be awarded for the subcontest. Partial points between 0% and 100% of available points will be awarded for partial functionality and/or partially accurate representation in the construction documents.

## **9.1 Whole House Systems**

Demonstrate that HVAC, power generation and storage, hot water, and other whole-house systems and their components are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.

## **9.2 Bathroom Facilities and Plumbing**

Demonstrate that all bathroom facilities (shower, water closet, lavatory, etc.), including plumbing, are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.

# **Contest 10 Lighting and Appliances**

See Contest 9 introduction for a general discussion of performance verification procedures and scoring methodologies. The discussion also applies to Contest 10.

## **10.1 Lighting**

Demonstrate that all lighting and daylighting components, including controls, are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.

## **10.2 Kitchen and Laundry**

Demonstrate that appliances such as the refrigerator, freezer, dishwasher, cooktop, clothes washer, and clothes dryer are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.

## **10.3 Home Office, Security, and Electronics**

Demonstrate that all home office, security, and electronic entertainment systems and components are installed and configured per the construction documents and function as intended.

## **SECTION III GENERAL RULES**

**Exception:** Any rule regulating design applies only to the model home. It does not apply to variants of the model home presented to the juries.

### **Rule 1 Authority**

#### **1.1 Program Director**

The Program Director has final decision-making authority in all aspects of the competition and the authority to overrule any other organizer on any matter.

#### **1.2 Competition Director**

The Competition Director is the lead rules official whose primary responsibility is administering the contests fairly and efficiently.

#### **1.3 Rules Officials**

The rules officials are the only organizers authorized to interpret the official rules.

- a. If there is any doubt or ambiguity as to the wording or intent of these rules, the decision of rules officials prevails.
- b. Printed, electronic, and verbal communications from rules officials are considered part of, and have the same validity as, these rules.

#### **1.4 Organizers**

Occasionally, a rules official may not be immediately available to make a time-sensitive decision. In those cases, organizers are authorized to enforce the rules in any manner that is, in their sole judgment, required for the fair and efficient operation or safety of the competition.

#### **1.5 Staff and Volunteers**

OCSD23 staff and volunteers are not authorized to enforce the rules under any circumstances.

### **Rule 2 Administration**

#### **2.1 Precedence**

If there is a conflict between two or more rules, the rule with the later date takes precedence.

#### **2.2 Violations of Intent**

A violation of the intent of a rule is considered a violation of the rule itself.

## 2.3 Effective Date

The latest version of the Rules posted on the team portal and dated for the year of the competition represents the Rules in effect.

## 2.4 Official Communications

Teams are responsible for staying current with official communications about the competition. Official communications between teams and the organizers occur through, but are not limited to, one or more of the following:

- a. **OCSD23 Group on team portal:** Official communications suitable for viewing by all teams are posted in OCSD23 Group messages and forums on the team portal. The team portal includes document libraries for file uploads. Other team portal features are used for various purposes. Instructions for joining the team portal are provided to each team immediately following the selection of teams.
- b. **Direct message on team portal:** For confidential communications or the transfer of small (<5 MB), confidential files, teams may direct message any OCSD23 organizer via the team portal. The content of these communications remains confidential unless a team grants permission to the organizer to divulge the content of these communications to other teams. See the exception in rule 2.5 for more information about confidentiality.
- c. **Web conferencing:** Teams are strongly encouraged to participate in regularly scheduled web conferences with the organizers. Invitations and instructions for participation in conference calls are provided via the team portal.
- d. **Meetings:** Before the event, teams and the organizers may have one or more in-person meetings. Notification of the date(s) and agenda(s) for meeting(s) is made via the team portal. During the event, a meeting is held the day before assembly begins. Daily meetings are also held throughout the event.

## 2.5 Rules Decisions

Rules decisions offer interpretations of the rules contained in this document, the OCSD23 Rules.

After the rules officials make a decision that may, in their opinion, directly or indirectly affect the strategies of all teams, the rules officials post the decision one of the OCSD23 group forums on the team portal.

**Exception:** If such a notification would unfairly reveal the strategies of one or more individual teams, the organizers may, depending on the circumstances, refrain from notifying all teams of the decision.

## 2.6 Self-Reporting

Teams must self-report obvious or suspected rules infractions that have occurred or may occur.

- a. OCSD23 Rules do not address every possible scenario that may arise during the competition. Therefore, a team considering an action that is not explicitly permitted by

the Rules should ask the rules officials for a decision before proceeding with the action. If the team does not ask for an official decision, it puts itself at risk of incurring a penalty.

- b. The rules officials and Program Director exercise discretion when determining the penalty for a rules infraction. Rules infractions observed by rules officials, organizers, or other teams, (e.g., not self-reported by the team committing the infraction) may be subject to more severe penalties than self-reported rules infractions.

## 2.7 Penalties

Teams committing rules infractions, missing deadlines, and failing to promptly respond to organizer requests are subject to one or more of the following types of penalties, depending on type and severity of the infraction: 1) point penalty applied to one or more contests; 2) point penalty applied to the overall competition score; 3) disqualification from part, or all, of one or more contests or subcontests; or 4) disqualification from the competition.

- a. Rules officials determine the severity of rules infractions and classify them as **minor** or **major**.
- b. Rules officials are authorized to apply point penalties and disqualify a team from part, or all, of one or more contests or subcontests as a consequence of **minor** rules infractions.
- c. Rules officials report to the Program Director all **major** rules infractions. The Program Director is solely authorized to apply point penalties or disqualify a team from the competition or from part, or all, of one or more contests or subcontests for **major** rules infractions.
- d. Disqualification from the competition requires prior notice to the team and an opportunity for the team to make an oral or written statement on its behalf.
- e. The Competition Director notifies all teams via the team portal when a penalty has been assessed against any team. The notification includes the identity of the team receiving the penalty; a brief description of the infraction, including its severity (minor or major); and a brief description of the penalty.

## 2.8 Protests

Official written protests may be filed by a team for any reason. A filing fee of up to 10 points may be assessed to the team filing the protest if the protest is deemed by the Protest Resolution Committee to be frivolous.

- a. Teams are encouraged to communicate with rules officials to resolve issues and complaints before resorting to the protest process. Protests should be filed only if 1) the team and the rules officials are unable to resolve the dispute themselves; or 2) the team or rules officials are too busy to engage in discussions that may result in resolution of the dispute without a protest.
- b. Protests must be submitted between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. local time, and within 24 hours of the action being protested. The final opportunity to file a protest is 5 minutes following the conclusion of the final contest on the final day of contest week.

**Exception:** The results of one or more contests may be announced during the final awards ceremony. The results of contests announced during the final awards ceremony may not be protested.

- c. The protest must be submitted to the Competition Director in a sealed envelope. It must include the name and signature of a decathlete, the date of the protest submission, an acknowledgment that a filing fee may be assessed, and a clear description of the action being protested.
- d. The protest resolution procedure follows:
  - (i). Competition Director convenes the Protest Resolution Committee.
  - (ii). Competition Director submits the sealed envelope containing the team's written protest to the Committee. Unless the Competition Director is called by the Committee to testify, he is not permitted to read the protest until after the Protest Resolution Committee has submitted its written decision.
  - (iii). The Committee opens the envelope and reads the protest in private. No appearance by organizers or team members is authorized during the Committee's private deliberations. No right to counsel by organizers or team members is authorized.
  - (iv). The Committee notifies Competition Director if it would like to call any individuals for testimony. Competition Director notifies individuals called for testimony. The Committee may call the Competition Director for testimony.
  - (v). Testimony is provided by individuals called by the Committee.
  - (vi). The Committee notifies the Competition Director of its decision in writing and indicates how many points will be assessed as a filing fee. The decision of the Committee is final, and no further appeals are allowed.
  - (vii). Competition Director posts a copy of the written protest and decision on the team portal.

## **Rule 3 Participation**

### **3.1 Entry**

OCSD23 is open to colleges, universities, and other post-secondary educational institutions. The initial roster of teams is determined through a proposal process. All proposals are reviewed, scored, and ranked. Subject to the quantity and quality of proposals, a limited number of teams will be selected for entry.

### **3.2 Team Officers**

Each team must assign one or two team members to each team officer title listed in Table 3. If two team members are assigned the same title, one must be designated "primary" and the other "secondary."

- a. A team member may have multiple officer titles.
- b. Faculty members are only eligible to fill the "faculty advisor" team officer position. Eligible decathletes must fill all other team officer positions.

**Table 3: Team officers for participating OCSD23 teams**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>
Primary Student Contact	Ensures that official communications from the organizers are routed to the appropriate team member(s)
Project Manager	Leads project planning and execution
Public Relations Contact	Works in conjunction with the organizers to coordinate team interactions with the media
Construction Manager	Responsible for planning and oversight of the construction, transport, assembly, and disassembly of the model home
Architecture Project Manager	Responsible for the architectural design effort; license not required
Project Engineer	Responsible for the engineering design effort; license not required
Performance Verification POC	Serves as the primary point-of-contact (POC) for all activities related to the performance verification contests
Safety Officer	Has the following responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure team members receive adequate health &amp; safety training</li> <li>• Provide health &amp; safety oversight of the team’s activities</li> <li>• Develop the team’s health &amp; safety plan and protocols</li> <li>• Identify hazardous conditions and issue stop work orders until the hazardous condition is eliminated</li> </ul>
Faculty Advisor	Serves as the lead faculty member and primary representative of a lead participating school; also provides guidance to the team throughout the project
Sponsorship Manager	Responsible for recruiting team sponsors and ensuring compliance with Rule 10.3

### 3.3 Safety

Each team is responsible for the safety of its operations. If a hazardous condition is identified, the organizers may issue a stop work order at any time during the event. The duration of the stop work order is at the discretion of the organizers; lost work time will not be compensated.

- a. Each team member and team crewmember must work in a safe manner at all times.
- b. Each team must supply all necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment for all workers and visitors during the competition.



- c. During assembly and disassembly, a minimum level of PPE—hard hat (ANSI Z89.1 or equivalent, Type I, Class G or better); safety glasses with side shields (ANSI Z87.1 or equivalent); shirt with sleeves at least 3 in. (7.6 cm) long; long pants (the bottoms of the pant legs must, at a minimum, touch the top of the boots when standing); a Class 2 high-visibility reflective vest, shirt, or jacket; boots with ankle support; and cut resistant gloves (ANSI cut level A2 or better)—must be used by each team member and team crewmember. Additional PPE or safety equipment must be used if required for any task being performed.
- d. Individuals under the age of 18 are not permitted to be on team lots during assembly and disassembly.

### 3.4 Conduct

Improper conduct, the use of alcohol or marijuana, and the use of illegal substances are not permitted on the competition site at any time. Improper conduct may include, but is not limited to, improper language, unsportsmanlike conduct, unsafe behavior, distribution of inappropriate media, and cheating.

### 3.5 Use of Likeness, Content, and Images

Team members and crew agree to the use of their names, likenesses, content, graphics, and photos in any communications materials issued by the organizers and event sponsors.

- a. Content and images (graphics and photos) may be viewable and made available to the general public via digital and printed collateral material with unrestricted use.
- b. The organizers and event sponsors will make all reasonable efforts to credit the source of content and images, although they may be published without credit.

**Exception:** If a team submits content or images that it would like kept confidential, it should make that request, with an explanation, in writing to the recipient of the content or images. Every effort will be made to honor requests for confidentiality until the end date of the competition, when all confidentiality requests expire.

### 3.6 Withdrawals

Any team wishing to withdraw from the competition must notify the Program Director in writing. Any team considering withdrawal should communicate early and frequently with the Program Director. A written withdrawal signed by the faculty advisor is final.

## Rule 4 Site Operations

### 4.1 Damage Liability

Each team is financially responsible for any damage it causes to the competition site, except as allowed under Rule 4.3.

## 4.2 Construction Equipment

- a. While on the competition site, teams may only use heavy construction equipment that has been declared in the construction documents and subsequently approved by the organizers.
- b. Upon arrival at the competition site entrance, operators of truck-mounted cranes, trailers, semi-trailer trucks, etc. must drive their vehicles to a designated staging area. When they are instructed to drive from the staging area to the designated team lot, vehicle operators must follow established paths and the organizers' pre-planned schedule.
- c. Vehicle operators must respect the organizer-established internal circulation routes.
- d. Each team is permitted a maximum of one passenger vehicle in the village at any one time.
- e. Equipment or tools that are deemed unsafe by the organizers or do not comply with applicable requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or other applicable regulatory standards are prohibited on the competition site.

## 4.3 Ground Penetration

Explicit organizer approval must be obtained before penetrating the competition site surface for any reason.

## 4.4 Impact on the Competition Site

Low-impact footings must be used to support all model home components.

- a. All footings must comply with the bearing pressure criteria specified in the OCSD23 Building Code.

## 4.5 Construction Power and Lighting

Engine (gas, diesel, etc.) generators are not permitted on the competition site. General competition site lighting will be provided by the organizers during the assembly and disassembly periods.

- a. Each must supply general lighting and task lighting as needed to operate safely within its team lot.

## 4.6 Spill Containment

The release of water and other liquids into storm drains are prohibited without advance approval from the organizers. The organizers will designate approved locations for the release of water and other liquids.

## 4.7 Lot Conditions

Minor vertical elevation changes up to 12 in. (30 cm) may exist across a team lot, and the lateral position of each team site, as shown in the competition site plan, is imprecise and subject to change. Design and plan accordingly.

## **Rule 5 Building Envelope**

### **5.1 Lot Dimensions**

All model home components must be located and remain within the team lot boundaries. Lots are 80 ft (24.4 m) east to west by 60 ft (18.3 m) north to south.

### **5.2 Height Limit**

The maximum vertical height of the model home must be less than or equal to 18 ft (5.49 m) above the maximum grade elevation within the team lot boundaries.

- a. Small weather stations, antennas, air vents, and other similar components may be specifically exempted from Rule 5.2 if all of the following conditions are met:
  - (i). The team makes a request for an exemption to the Competition Director.
  - (ii). The team can prove to the satisfaction of the Competition Director that the component is not significantly restricting a neighbor's right to the sun.
  - (iii). The Competition Director determines that the component is sufficiently unique in function and small in size to warrant an exemption.
- b. Moveable or convertible model home components must not violate the height limit during live demonstrations or in printed or electronic media presented by the team during jury visits, public exhibit hours, or contests.

## **Rule 6 The Model Home**

### **6.1 Finished Square Footage**

The finished square footage, as defined by ANSI Z765-2003, "Square Footage—Method for Calculating," must be at least 800 ft<sup>2</sup> (74.3 m<sup>2</sup>) but must not exceed 1200 ft<sup>2</sup> (111.5 m<sup>2</sup>).

- a. If the model home has convertible or moveable components, the maximum and minimum square footages observed during live demonstrations or shown in printed or electronic media presented by the team during jury visits, public exhibit hours, or contests count as the maximum and minimum square footages of record, respectively.

### **6.2 Entrance and Exit Routes**

- a. The main housing unit entrance and exit (i.e., "entry door" and "exit door," respectively) may be placed on any side of the housing unit. However, accessible routes leading from a main village street (i.e., the street between the 100 row and 200 row or the street between the 200 row and 300 row) to the main housing unit entrance and from the main housing unit exit to the same main village street must be provided.
- b. Teams must clearly illustrate and label the entrance and exit routes between lot boundaries and housing unit entrance/exit in the design drawings.

### **6.3 Model Home and Variants**

The model home may be a detached single-family home, detached accessory dwelling unit (ADU), an attached ADU, or one unit from a multifamily low-rise or high-rise residential

building. Other residential building types may be permitted but must be proposed to and approved by the organizers in advance.

- a. The model home must comply with the OCSD23 Building Code.
- b. The model home must have, at minimum, all the following basic features and functions:
  - (i). Stand-alone electric power supply, facilities for grid interconnection, or both
  - (ii). Stand-alone potable water supply, facilities for connecting to a potable water network, or both
  - (iii). Stand-alone facilities for safely treating or disposing of greywater, human waste, and food waste; facilities for connecting to a waste treatment network; or both
  - (iv). Food preparation facilities
  - (v). Food storage facilities
  - (vi). Cooking facilities
  - (vii). Kitchenware cleaning facilities
  - (viii). Bathing facilities
  - (ix). Water closet facilities
  - (x). Clothes washing and drying facilities
  - (xi). Sleeping facilities
  - (xii). General living space
  - (xiii). Daytime and nighttime lighting facilities
  - (xiv). Active or passive means of achieving and maintaining thermal comfort
  - (xv). Active or passive means of achieving and maintaining healthy indoor air quality
- c. The model home's foundation components or foundation type on the competition site may differ from the foundation components or foundation type on which the model home will be installed at its permanent site.
- d. The model home's exterior site conditions and components may differ from the exterior site conditions and components that will exist at its target market site. However, the exterior site conditions and components that differ must not be integral or essential to the overall design.
- e. Conceptual or fully designed and documented variants of the model home may be presented digitally or as physical scale models. The presented variants will be evaluated by the juries.
- f. Because the juries and performance-based contest officials will spend the vast majority of their time and effort evaluating the model home (i.e., not variants of the model home), the model home must be the most representative version being marketed to the public. The "most representative version" is the version that is in the middle of the cost range (relative to the presented variants), in the middle of the size range (relative to the presented variants) and is anticipated to have a higher sales volume than any of the variants.

## **Rule 7 Plants**

Plants are permitted on team lots, but the competition site surface must not be disturbed or damaged during planting or placement.

### **7.1 Placement**

Plants must remain stationary until the conclusion of contest week unless drawings clearly illustrate how some or all plants are designed to be moved as part of an integrated system.

### **7.2 Watering Restrictions**

Greywater containing living organisms that could go septic may not be used to water plants at the competition site.

## **Rule 8 Energy**

### **8.1 Competition Site Constraints**

Each model home will be connected to the local electric utility via the village power network unless a model home is intended for an off-grid target market application.

- a. Parallel operation of each model home’s generation facilities with the village power network must be approved by the local electric utility. Failure to obtain approval because of a lack of promptly submitted system documentation or the proposed use of unapproved equipment may result in penalties and/or points lost in contest(s).

### **8.2 Energy Sources**

The model homes must be all-electric and designed to consume only grid electricity and electricity generated within the lot boundaries.

- a. Model home designs must not include facilities capable of directly consuming non-electrical fuel sources, such as wood, natural gas, propane, oil, hydrogen, etc., unless all the fuel is produced on the team lot.
- b. Electric vehicle systems designed to push power from EV batteries to the electrical system of the model home will be treated as de-facto extensions of the utility grid in the energy models for the energy performance rating.

### **8.3 Batteries**

Hard-wired battery banks, large plug-in uninterruptible power supplies (UPS), and devices with small secondary (rechargeable) batteries designed to be recharged by the electrical system of the model home are permitted.

- a. Batteries include most commercially available energy storage devices, such as electrochemical batteries and capacitors.
- b. The use of primary (non-rechargeable) batteries (no larger than “9V” size) is limited to smoke detectors, remote controls, thermostats, alarm clock backups, and other small devices that typically use small primary batteries.

## 8.4 Desiccant Systems

If a desiccant system is used, it must be regenerative.

- a. To enable verification that the desiccant system is regenerative, the desiccant material or device must be easily measurable.
- b. Some desiccant systems with very low moisture storage capacities may be exempt from this requirement. Exemptions will be granted on a case-by-case basis.

## Rule 9 Liquids

### 9.1 Competition Site Constraints

Teams may not connect to the municipal supply, sewer, or storm water networks on the competition site by laying pipe beyond their respective lot perimeters. The organizers will supply and remove water by request.

- a. Teams must provide the means to store the requested supply water, distribute water through the model home, and store all water outputted by the drain-waste-vent (DWV) system of the model home.
- b. To avoid confusing visitors and jurors, water storage and distribution vessels, pumps, pipes, and additional components intended only for use on the competition site must be clearly identified as such in the design deliverables; organizer-provided labels must be affixed to these physical components before contest week and must remain affixed during contest week.

### 9.2 Container Locations

- a. Temporary supply water and greywater containers intended to be used only while the model home is on the competition site must be located outside the model home's finished square footage footprint.

**Exception:** Teams may locate one or more small containers below the housing unit's floor structure within the finished square footage footprint to accept wastewater discharge that will subsequently be pumped to the main wastewater tank(s), up to a maximum aggregate volume of 20 gallons.

- b. Solar thermal storage, domestic hot water storage, or other thermal storage containers may be located within the finished square footage footprint.
- c. Temporary supply water tank(s) must be fully shaded from direct solar radiation between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. PDT during contest week.

### 9.3 Team-Provided Liquids

A team may provide its own liquids for the following purposes:

- a. Personal hydration
- b. Irrigation (only during assembly and disassembly)
- c. Thermal mass
- d. Food preparation

- e. Hydronic system pressure testing
- f. Small volumes of glycol, deionized water, or other working fluids for thermodynamic systems that use working fluids other than non-potable water
- g. Assembly (e.g., hydraulic fluid), finishing (e.g., paint), and cleaning (e.g., mineral spirits).

## 9.4 Water Delivery

The organizers will deliver water by request from a fixed hose bibb located somewhere on the competition site. Water will be delivered via standard garden hose.

- a. Each delivery request must be for at least 100 gallons.
- b. The design deliverables must clearly indicate the fill location(s), container dimensions, diameter of the opening(s), and clearance above the container(s) fill location(s) (minimum 12 in., or 30.48 cm). All openings must be easily accessible.
- c. Water deliveries must be requested via the team portal. Deliveries will be made in the order requests were received.
- d. Teams are responsible for distributing water for use within their model homes. This includes all necessary pumps, containers, lines, valves, etc.

## 9.5 Water Removal

The organizers will use a portable transfer pump or submersible pump to remove water by request. Water will be removed via standard garden hose.

- a. Each removal request must be for at least 100 gallons.
- b. The design deliverables must clearly indicate the removal location(s), container dimensions, diameter of the opening(s), and clearance above the container(s) fill location(s) (minimum 12 in., or 30.48 cm). All openings must be easily accessible.
- c. Water removals must be requested via the team portal. Removals will be made in the order the requests were received.
- d. Teams are responsible for either transporting remaining water from the site or disposing of it in approved locations.

# Rule 10 The Event

## 10.1 Registration

All team members must register through the online registration site or at the competition site.

- a. The following rules apply to all registrants:
  - (i). Each team member must register individually. Group registrations are not allowed.
  - (ii). Team members must complete the registration process before entering the village.
- b. The organizers will issue a badge to all registrants. The badge must be visible at all times while on the competition site.

## Exceptions:

- Visiting media are not required to register but must check in at the registration desk. Due to safety concerns, site access for visiting media may be restricted.

## 10.2 Using the OCSD23 Brand

All references to OCSD23 in team-produced communication materials must comply with the Brand Guidelines and Assets document, which is available for download on the team portal.

## 10.3 Team Sponsor Recognition

Team sponsors may be recognized with text, brands, or both. However, the competition must not become a de-facto “billboard” for recognizing team sponsors.

- a. The combined area of all fixed (i.e., non-distributable) marketing and communications materials or other products that are located on the team lot and exist largely for the recognition of sponsors is limited to 20 ft<sup>2</sup> (1.89 m<sup>2</sup>). “Other products” include, but are not limited to, signs, exhibits, posters, plaques, photos, wall art, and furnishings.
- b. For distributable and online marketing and communications materials or other products distributed from or promoted on the competition site, no more than 20% of the surface area may be dedicated to recognition of team sponsors.
- c. For multimedia or audio presentations shown on the competition site, no more than 20% of the total time, one minute, or whichever is less, may be dedicated to recognition of team sponsors.
- d. Team uniforms are exempt from Rule 10.3. See Rule 11.4 for specifics.

## 10.4 Logistics

- a. Each team is responsible for the transport of its model home, contents of its model home, and all necessary tools and equipment. Each team is responsible for any damage to or loss of such items.
- b. Each team is responsible for procuring all necessary equipment, tools, and supplies.
- c. Each team is responsible for transportation, accommodations, lodging, food, and beverages.  
**Exception:** The organizers will provide drinking water for the duration of the event.
- d. Each team is responsible for making its own arrangements and to cover all necessary costs.

## 10.5 Inspections

Each model home will be inspected for compliance with the OCSD23 Rules and Building Code.

- a. A team must notify the appropriate inspector when it is ready for a formal inspection.
- b. Random compliance checks may occur at any time.
- c. Jury visits will proceed as scheduled, regardless of any team’s inspection status. However, jurors may be aware of the team’s inspection status and may consider this in their evaluations.



- d. Because open, partially functioning model homes are preferable to closed, fully functioning model homes, the organizers may direct inspectors to require that an unsafe condition be corrected or temporarily mitigated to ensure safe conditions for public visits—even if, as a consequence, the team’s progress toward assembly completion is temporarily suspended during public exhibit hours.

## **Rule 11 Contest Week**

### **11.1 Model Home Occupancy**

- a. The number of model home occupants must never exceed the occupancy limit established by the Building Official.
- b. Teams must promptly comply with temporary and scheduled organizer requests for reduced occupancy to allow for contest operations, inspections, VIP visits, media visits, fire drills, etc.

### **11.2 Late Design Changes**

Each model home assembled on the competition site must be consistent with the design and specifications presented in the as-built construction drawings.

- a. If there are known inconsistencies between the model home and the as-built construction drawings, the team must document these inconsistencies and submit documentation to the Competition Director as soon as possible after the inconsistency is known.

### **11.3 Public Exhibit**

- a. Teams are required to provide an accessible route and/or reasonable accommodations so people with disabilities can experience all areas of the model home that are open during public exhibit hours.
- b. Teams are permitted to produce and distribute no more than one informational brochure or handout at the competition site.
- c. Teams must develop signage that complements public exhibit tours by informing visitors about the model home and engaging visitors who are waiting in line for a tour.
- d. Only the organizers and organizer-approved vendors may provide food and beverages to the general public at the competition site.
- e. Teams may sell items on their lots if they have the necessary licenses and permissions to do so.

### **11.4 Team Uniforms**

- a. During contest week and special events specified by the organizers, all team members present on the competition site or the site of a special event must wear uniforms that represent their team.
- b. Team uniforms are exempt from Rule 10.3.
- c. Team sponsor brands are approved to be visible ONLY on the back of the team uniform (jacket, shirt, hat, or other wearable item).

- d. The only information or graphics approved to be visible from the front of the team uniform (jacket, shirt, hat, or other wearable item) are the name of the institution(s) and its brand, the team's name and brand, and the OCSD23 brand.
- e. A built-in clothing manufacturer brand may be visible on the front or back of the team uniform, or both.

### **11.5 Village Occupancy**

Team members and team crewmembers must not occupy the village when the village is closed.

### **11.6 Participation**

OCSD23 is, first and foremost, a project-based learning experience for the decathletes. As such, decathletes must be the primary participants in all contest week activities, including jury walkthroughs, performance verifications, guided public tours, submitting protests, etc.

- a. Non-decathlete team members should mentor the decathletes, but must limit themselves to a secondary, supporting role in the contest activities.