1. **Does each presenter or each team have to touch on all five bills? Does each bill need to be mentioned in the summary?**

   No – the five bills are provided as reference. We recommend that you read them all as a starting point for your research, so you understand what was being proposed to the 111th Congress. You may want to pull ideas from all 5, or only 1, or possibly not any of the bills if you feel that everything is being proposed will negatively impact your stakeholder.

2. **Impact - a score of "5" appears to require power point slides in order to earn 5 points. This seems to contradict statement on page 3 of 9 in instructions.**

   The PowerPoint reference was a typo; it should have read visual aids. A new rubric was posted on March 3, 2011, which corrected that error, and we sent out a notification to the coaches that an updated rubric was available.

   A new rubric was posted today (4/1/2011) to address Question #4.

3. **Rubric question: Final recommendations. How are individual team members graded on final recommendations? Not clear where team final recommendations are graded as marks are listed for each team member. Does not appear to be a separate category for the final recommendations at the end of the 5 presentations.**

   Each stakeholder is graded on the recommendations they make for their individual stakeholder in their individual stakeholder report. The team as a whole is graded on the final recommendation that takes into account all the stakeholders’ views.

4. **Rubric question: In accordance with rubric, teams are penalized if more than one minute remains out of 11 allotted (see score 4), but when recommended times are added together, it only totals 8.5 minutes. If team members hit their individual time marks, there will be more than one minute left out of 11 minutes total. What is correct?**

   The 11 minutes provides for a little flexibility and transition time between each presenter, so teams do not need to rush like crazy to present all their information in exactly 8.5 minutes. However, this question brings up an excellent point that 2.5 minutes or 30 seconds of transition time between each presenter is probably too much time, especially given the original rubric requirement.

   To fix this issue, we have adjusted the rubric under the Time category to now state, “... The team finishes their presentation with more than two minutes remaining in the 11 minute block.” This change ensures that teams that transition quickly (i.e. a total of 30 seconds of transition) aren't penalized.

   Teams should note; however, that this “extra” 2 minutes does not provide their team with an additional two- minutes of “free” presentation time to make their arguments. Team’s individual stakeholder presentations and their team final recommendation presentation should be timed to stay close to the approved allotted individual presentation times, and teams should not purposely have slow transitions to use up time, as the judges will take that into consideration when they are scoring the team.
5. Written report question: Since APA style is being used, assume that written testimony must include "in-text citations" as appropriate but that these will be omitted when oral testimony is presented in Galveston. Correct? Of course a works cited (reference or bibliography) page will be included for each person.

You are correct; during the oral presentation you should omit reading the “in-text” citations. Please include a works cited/reference page for each team member.

6. According to the rules, the captain needs to be the first one to present. Does this mean that the captain has to be the government representative even if they don’t want to be?

The captain does not have to be the government representative. The captain should be the first person to present, but the presentation order for the stakeholders is entirely up to the team.

7. How should the bills be used in our testimonies? Should the testimonies be based around the bills and their views on aquaculture or should we try to represent what the stakeholder thinks of aquaculture?

Depending on your stakeholder your testimony will likely be a combination of how your stakeholder feels about the bills and what actions your stakeholder feels “Congress” should take with new bills. Be careful not to write a testimony that focuses entirely on your stakeholder’s view of aquaculture, as it will likely sound more like a history of aquaculture from one group’s view point. We’re looking for testimonies that are action focused – a request to Congress – what new bills or changes to the current bills would like to see put in place regarding aquaculture that will benefit or protect your stakeholder.

8. Should there be quotes in the testimonies from the bills?

Quotes from the bills are not required, nor necessary, but may be use if you feel it strengthens your point or argument. It is entirely up to you.

9. Do we get to choose who gets to answer the questions?

Each judge will ask a specific team member to answer his/her question. As a team you will have the opportunity to confer on the answer, but the person who the question was originally addressed to must be the one to provide the answer to the judging panel / “Congress.”

10. Do we have to use every single act provided?

No – you can use one act, all the acts, or based on your stakeholders view you even may feel that none of the acts appropriately address your stakeholder’s views.

11. Should the final summary be a consensus of what every stakeholder agrees with or should it be a majority decision?

That is up to your team and what you feel is the best approach. No matter, which approach you take you should be prepared to state why you feel your approach is the best.

12. Is there a specific way you would like to see the citations made- MLA, APA or some other format?

APA style.