



## 2026 Fire Sprinkler Competition

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### FACT SHEET

#### Project Manager:

##### David Victor, VSC Fire and Security

For questions related specifically to the fire sprinkler competition, contact David Victor at [dbvictor@vscfs.com](mailto:dbvictor@vscfs.com). For all event questions, contact Jarrell Jackson, National Craft Championships director, at (202) 595-1789 or [jackson@abc.org](mailto:jackson@abc.org).

#### Specific Competition Eligibility

The fire sprinkler competition has no competition-specific eligibility requirements. Please refer to overall eligibility requirements of the guidebook.

#### Online Exam

Competitors will have one (1) hour to complete the 50-question exam. Every competitor should thoroughly understand the craft in which he/she is registered. All exams/tests are based on the standardized craft training process. In addition to the knowledge and skills required for each competition, all competitors should have completed the NCCER Core Curriculum modules. All competitors must sit for the exam or face disqualification from the NCC. The written exam makes up 25% of one's overall competition score. ABC will provide pencils, scratch paper, and a calculator for mathematical problems (if necessary). Scientific/graphing calculators and loose notes are prohibited. No reference materials are permitted. *Please refer to the 2026 NCC Guidebook for more details.*

#### Practical Performance Test Description

The practical portion of the fire sprinkler competition will consist of installing a 2½-inch butterfly valve, a 2½-inch alarm check valve with loose trim, flow switch, water pressure switch and a three sprinkler heads. The three sprinkler heads shall consist of an upright, a pendent and a sidewall. This will all be piped from 2½-inch schedule 10 pipe. The competitor will be given drawings with various views of the riser and sprinklers as well as the manufacturer data sheet showing the arrangement of the valve trim. A loose assortment of steel pipe and cast-iron fittings will be given to the competitors to complete the task. After the riser assembly and sprinklers are complete, they will be connected to a water source and checked for leaks. When the project is **leak free**, each competitor will need to place three tags on the appropriate device, according to the description.

No competitor will be allowed to leave the competition area until the tagging is complete. When the horn blows at 3 p.m., all work shall stop. At 4 p.m., all competitors shall return to the competition area to completely break down and clean the competition area.

#### Knowledge and Skills Required

The knowledge and skills for this competition are based on all levels of the NCCER sprinkler fitting curriculum. It is strongly recommended that competitors have a working knowledge equivalent to a third-year apprentice. It is also recommended that each competitor works with his/her employer and/or instructor on the assembly of alarm valve trim. The competitor will be judged on all aspects of installation with a strong emphasis on safety and procedure.

## Tools Provided

ABC will provide the following tools:

- 10-inch crescent wrench
- 8- or 10-inch pipe wrench
- 12-inch pipe wrench
- Torpedo level
- File, to clean pipe ends
- 420 Channellock pliers
- 25-foot tape measure
- Socket set with deep set sockets and ratchet
- 10-inch channel locks
- Hacksaw with new blade
- Battery powered drill

The afternoon prior to the competition each competitor will be given the opportunity to use the 2 ½" pipe hand cutters, threading machine and groover provided by Wheeler-Rex. **Refer to the safety scope for proper power tool usage.**

## Sample Score Sheet

The following sample score sheet is provided to give competitors an *example* of the criteria that may be included in the practical performance test. **However, this score sheet is not intended to act as a study guide in preparation or to imply specific criteria that will be judged during the actual practical performance test.**

ABC National Craft Championships  
Fire Sprinkler Sample Score Sheet

Judging Criteria	Competitor Identification Numbers					
	Maximum					
Plan preparation						
Fabrication procedure						
Material organization						
Proper pipe location						
Proper sprinkler location						
Proper hangers						
Appearance						
Leaks						
Sequence of work						
Care and use of tools						
General – ability to follow directions, quality of workmanship, neatness, best use of time and completion						
Project disassembly						
<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	160					
Safety – housekeeping						
Use of hard hat						
Use of safety glasses						
Use of power tools						
Proper footwear						
<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	40					
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	200					
Tie Breaker #1						
Tie Breaker #2						
Tie Breaker #3						
Tie Breaker #4						