

2022 KEYSTONE CHALLENGE



SQUAD REQUIREMENTS/RULES

HOW TO GET INTO A SQUAD:

1. Look at the existing map and see what squad is in your area.
 - a. If there is a squad in your area, contact that Squad's Leader (all of them are on Facebook) and ask if there are any vacancies on the squad.
 - b. If there is no Squad Leader/Contact listed, then get in touch with the Keystone Challenger Organizer, Heather Hiller.
 - c. If the existing Squad's Leader says their squad is full, then contact the Keystone Challenger Organizer (Heather Hiller) and they will discuss options.
 - d. For out of state ZERT members, please contact the Keystone Challenger Organizer (Heather Hiller) about what might be available near you.

SQUAD PARAMETERS/RULES:

1. ZERT Squads must be made up, entirely, of ZERT members, and those members MUST be on one of the PA ZERT Rosters!!! This applies to out-of-state Squad members as well! All ZERT members should supply TCK Organizer with a picture of either a valid firearm's carry permit, or a government-issued photo ID (please feel free to redact street address and # of the ID if they will be carrying a pistol during the competition).
2. Non-ZERT Squads must be "vetted" upon registration. I will ask to see a legal photo ID as well as a copy of each member's carry permit (if they will be carrying a pistol). Non-ZERT Squads may be made up of ZERT family members, Law Enforcement groups, Firefighter groups, EMS groups, and the public (if they can show proof of relevant training prior to the registration deadline)
3. Squads must contain at least one highly knowledgeable person for each of the modules the Squad will be tested on. It is the responsibility of those people to make sure everyone in the Squad has a firm understanding of the modules and information they will all be tested on. Non-ZERT Squads must be able to show certification in first aid, and firearms safety.
4. Each squad must designate a Squad Leader
5. Maximum number of members on a squad: 20
6. Minimum number of members on a squad (to compete): 6
7. **IMPORTANT: Only 8 members from each squad will be able to compete...so pick your very best members!!!**
8. If, for whatever reason, you do not have a complete squad (ie. You have 3-4 members), you have 2 choices:
 - a. You may compete with our Misfits Squad, or
 - b. You can compete as a "limited" (less than 6) Squad. Your Squad will receive deductions for each member you are short, per Module that requires a full Squad (6-8 people). For example...Survival (entire squad), Team Movements (entire squad), Land Navigation (entire squad), Combat Obstacle Course (5 members). 5 points, per module, per person short of a full Squad
9. ZERT Squad Leaders: You may include members in your squad **ONLY** from the counties assigned to your Squad! The **ONLY** exceptions to this:
 - a. The neighboring county does not have an active Squad,
 - b. Your Squad is a "border" Squad, and that border state does not have an active Squad.

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10. ZERT Squads may not “poach” from other Squads, unless given conditional permission from the event organizer (Heather Hiller).
11. ZERT Squads may not join with another ZERT Squad, for the actual competition, unless given conditional permission from the event organizer. However, Squads are encouraged to train together throughout the year.
12. No sabotaging of other Squads. No exceptions to this rule! Sabotage to be defined as [deliberately destroy, damage, or obstruct (something), especially for political or military advantage.]. The Keystone Challenge is a friendly (& FAMILY) competition...however it is also a way to develop a network of like-minded persons who are available to help each other out during natural/man-made disasters. To actively set out to destroy/damage/obstruct a fellow Squad in turn cripples your own Squad should a real need for assistance occur. Any Squad found to have violated this rule will be removed, in its entirety, from the competition and/or banned from competing in the future. This rule and the consequences should exhibit how strongly Keystone Challenge feels about this. There will be no exceptions.
13. All Squads **MUST** practice and train numerous times before attending the Keystone Challenge Finals on September 16-18th, 2022.
14. All Squads should establish a group chat, on Facebook, containing all the squad members, as well as including the Keystone Challenge Organizer. This chat is where the squad discusses their training schedule, etc.
15. All Squads must create a name for themselves
 - a. Squads may **NOT** use the word ZERT in the squad's name or any artwork the squad may create!!!
16. All Squad members should be willing to present a legal photo ID & Firearm's Carry Permit (we have alternatives for Junior Members) to Keystone Challenger Organizer & host, Heather Hiller, to be allowed to step foot on the host property if they will be carrying a pistol.
17. **All Squad members must sign a legal waiver, prior to entering the Keystone Challenge.**
18. The Keystone Challenge is not a spectator sport. No spectators will be allowed on the host property, without written permission by host Heather Hiller. There are no exceptions to this rule.
19. Due to liability issues, no competitor may “Block” either the event organizer (Heather Hiller), on Facebook. If any Squad member has the Organizer “blocked” ...there is obviously a trust issue, and that person will not be allowed on the host's property.
20. The use of personal drones is prohibited, except by those authorized by the event organizers & the landowners.
21. Any competitor/guest found damaging/destroying host property, insulting/disrespecting event organizers, judges, or sponsors, fighting with any other competitor, practicing unsafe gun handling, littering, and/or breaking any of the event rules/regulations will be escorted off the property and will no longer be allowed to participate in any future events held at host property.
22. The KC Judges decisions are binding. Should there be an issue with a judge's decision...the Squad Leader must bring this to the attention to Heather Hiller for discussion. The Squad may **NOT** debate directly with the judges! If a Squad contests a judge's decision, they may present their argument only to Heather Hiller.
23. Any competitor found to be disrespecting/arguing with one of the event judges, shall be removed from the event and no longer allowed to participate.
24. **EVENT REGISTRATION DEADLINE: August 26th, 2022!!!!**
 - a. Only the squad Leader may register the squad for the Final event!
25. **ENTRY FEE:** The cost to host this event is extreme. There is an entry fee to compete. Each Squad must pay a \$350.00 (100% ZERT Squad) Entry Fee or a \$600.00 (Non-ZERT Squad) to compete in the 2022 Keystone Challenge.
 - a. Your Squad may find a “Squad Sponsor” to cover your Squad's Entry Fee. Squad Sponsor must communicate with the TKC Organizer directly (Heather Hiller)
26. **GROUNDS FEE:** Currently, there are no Grounds Fees!

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The Keystone Challenge

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Tioga County, PA

