




Virtual 2020 Conclusion Plan

 **Goal:** Complete the 2020 season virtually while making it as accessible and engaging as possible for the contestants. We're so close to the finish line here. Only nine contests and 222 contestants left—a manageable number for a virtual conclusion.

How: RDs will lead their states/regions to complete the contests either fully remote or a hybrid option.

Options:

- Full virtual contests – contestants shoot at a hometown gym with the Lodge Hoop Shoot Director (or other Elk representative) present and the SD and/or RD on Zoom. Family members, friends, or other Elk volunteers would serve as the officials.
- Hybrid virtual contests – contestants from each state would meet to shoot with SD and other volunteers present, if the contest can be held safely and in one day. RDs and other states would be on Zoom.
- National Finals would be virtual via Zoom. RDs could decide its feasible to host an in-person contest with their six National Finalists, if the contest can be held safely and in one day.

Possible Contest Rule Changes:

- Contestants shoot an additional 5 sets of 5 shoot-offs for tiebreakers.
- One scorer, one rebounder, one line judge per contest to limit volunteers onsite.
- Rebounder can be family/friends if hosting it at home.
- Line judge must be Elk representative with Hoop Shoot experience AND/OR
- Line judge must be SD or RD on Zoom, depending on their availability.
- Scorer should be an Elk or the SD or RD on Zoom.
- If Facetiming or on Zoom, the court and lines must be visible on screen.

Timelines:

- Decision to go virtual on or before January 4
- Regional Contests March 1 – March 31
- National Finals April 1 – 30

Concerns: Venue spaces. Virus surge. Virtual fatigue. Low turn-out. Lack of volunteer interest. Long travel days for FL, MI, NM, TX (among others) for a single day contest.

Steps for Virtual Contests:

Step 1: Regional Directors decide how they want to host their contests, using the options above, based on what works best for their participants and community.

Step 2: The ENF will email all State Champs and National Finalists the decision to move the contest conclusion virtual. Regional Directors will follow up with each of their families to ensure they received the message.

Step 3: Participants register with the ENF between Jan 5 – Feb 28 to indicate that they would like to take part.

Step 4: Regional contests take place between March 1 – 31. Contests can take place any day of the week. Regional Directors will manage their contests and schedule each virtual contest or in person contest as it works for them.

Step 5: The Lodge Director or Elk volunteer submits scorecards to the State or Regional Directors. Regional Directors will then submit their winners via email to the ENF.

Step 6: The National Finals will be held between April 1 – 30 using a virtual format. Regional Directors will have the choice to either hold a Zoom contest with all six participants on the same day or to schedule 6 different Zoom contests. Each Finalist will shoot an additional set of 25 shots for tiebreakers.

Step 7: Regional Directors will submit scores to the ENF and the National Champions will be determined. Ties will be broken based off the additional 25 shots, then by comparing Regional, State, District, and Lodge scores, and, finally, by coin toss. Winners should be announced no later than May 15.

Promotion & Gift Ideas:

- Before Contests – Promote on social media and via email to Lodge, District, and State Directors. Include plan on ENF and HS homepages. Send out a press release.
- Before Contests – Set up e-Greetings page for the National Finals.
- Before/During Contests – ENF will send out masks to 198 Regional Semi-Finalists & 24 National Finalists. Swag bags will be sent out to the 72 National Finalists with:
 - 2020 tote bag
 - 2020 binder
 - Set of trading cards – both their own and complete set
 - E-Greetings
 - Pens
- During Contests – ENF could host virtual interviews with contestants and their families for Griteos. Videos could be supplemented with photo and video submissions from families and volunteers.
- During/After Contests – Ask families to take photos and videos or record the Zoom sessions as they are able. Could then use the content for videos and other social content.

After the Contests:

- We'll have 72 National Finalists and Six National Champions.
 - All should be sent to the HoF for inclusion in the Hoop Shoot exhibit but possibly could have an asterisk to indicate that the contests took place virtually.
 - Send out plaques to 72 Finalists and trophies to the Champions, second place winners, and third place winners. 2020 engraved basketballs should also be sent to the Champions.
 - Include the 2020 Finalists and Champions on elkshoopshoot.org again possibly with an asterisk to explain the virtual contest.