



2026 DSBN REGIONAL CABINETMAKING SKILLS CHALLENGE SECONDARY LEVEL SCOPE

CHAIR: Peter Ciesinski
Thorold Secondary
peter.ciesinski@dsbn.org

PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST:

To provide competitors with the opportunity to demonstrate, through practical application, their skills and task knowledge in fine woodworking/cabinetmaking, and to help prepare each student for the demands of industry.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Thursday March 12, 2026

Time: 8:00AM (Arrival & Setup) to 3:00PM (Clean-up & Judging)

Location: Thorold Secondary School

ENTRY: Please connect with a teacher advisor at your school to complete your registration for this competition to be eligible to participate.

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE TESTED:

- Blueprint reading and interpretation.
- Layout and construction of woodworking joints.
- Metric measurement.
- Safe use of hand tools, portable and stationary power tools.
- Cabinet assembly.
- Finishing preparation.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:

Competitors are required to follow all “Industry Safety Standards” during the competition.

- It is mandatory for all competitors to wear CSA approved **EYEWEAR**.
- If a competitor has prescription eyewear, they may either:
 - a) wear CSA approved eyewear (oversized) overtop of their prescription eyewear, OR
 - b) wear CSA approved prescription eyewear.
- Prescription eyewear not CSA approved worn (everyday prescription eyewear) with side shields is not CSA approved for class 1 as being impact resistant and therefore one of the two options above must be followed
- It is mandatory for all competitors to wear CSA approved **FOOTWEAR**.
- Jewelry such as rings, bracelets and necklaces or any items deemed unsafe by competition judges shall be removed.
- Proper shop attire is to be worn (no loose straps, baggy sleeves). Any attire that is deemed unsafe by competition judges will not be permitted.

EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND SUPPLIES:

Prior to attending the DSBN Skills Competition, students should be familiar and competent in the use of the tools and equipment listed below as well as what safety precautions will be observed.

Equipment Supplied by the DSBN Tech Department:

- Table saw
- Sliding compound mitre saw
- Assembly clamps
- Drill Press
- Work bench with vise

Material supplied by the DSBN:

- All material required to complete the project (delivered to Skills Challenge).
- All hardware, glue and fasteners to complete the project.

Hand Tools & Equipment Supplied by the Competitor:

- Refillable water bottle, water stations will be on/near the contest site.
- Brad point drill bit set including - 3/8", 1/4", 1/8"
- Twist drill bit set including 3/16", 1/8", 7/64"
- Drill bit depth stops
- Dovetail Saw/Dozuki Saw
- Dovetail marker - 1:6
- 1/4", 3/8", 1/2", 3/4", 1" hand chisels
- Block plane
- Metric tape measure/ 300 mm steel ruler/ 150 mm ruler
- Pencils
- Sandpaper 120, 150 grit
- Sanding block
- #0, #1 and #2 Robertson driver bits and screwdrivers
- #1 and #2 Philips screwdriver
- Utility knife
- Try square
- Assembly hammer or mallet
- Dowel jig that can accommodate 1/4" bit
- 1/4" dowel centers (3 pcs min)
- Small clamps for bench work
- Biscuit jointer
- 5" random orbital sander (with sandpaper)
- Cordless drill
- Cordless tool charger and batteries
- All general health and safety guidelines and protective equipment as noted in the Safety section.

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

- Competitors are to be dressed in a clean appropriate manner.
- Competitors are to wear DSBN technology shirts.
- Competitors are not permitted to wear clothing with any other logo than the DSBN.
- Pants (no shorts)
- Safety Glasses and CSA Footwear are required at "ALL TIMES".
- Any added PPE as per safety policies.

PROJECT AND COMPETITION EXPECTATIONS:

- To be disclosed on **TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE COMPETITION**
- Competitors will receive the blueprints and the evaluation two weeks prior to the day of the challenge.
- **Students are required to bring their own copy of the plans as well as their own cutlist(s)**

No wood fillers are permitted in a competitor's toolbox. Use of a wood filler may be grounds for disqualification.

Books, notes, materials, and assisting devices are not permitted unless listed above.

Cell phones and other media devices are not permitted on the contest site. They may be kept in a bag or in pockets but are not to be used during the competition.

Prior to attending the DSBN Skills Competition, students should be familiar and competent in the use of the tools and equipment listed above as well as the safety precautions that will be observed.

Please Note: Tools and materials may change based on availability.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

- Judging will be conducted by specialists in cabinetmaking with the following rubric:

Criteria	Marks	Comments
Accuracy of part sizes to drawing	30	
Accuracy of joints	35	
Fit and finish of assembled project	25	
Material use	5	
Safety	5	
Overall	/100	

There can be no ties – if the score is even after the contest, the score in the Accuracy of **joints** section will be used as the tie breaker. If a tie still occurs the next section to be compared will be **accuracy of part sizes to drawings**, followed by **fit and finish of assembled project** if needed.

ENTRY:

- Students must be registered online prior to the **Competition Date: March 12**, with all of the required information completed to be eligible to participate.

TRANSPORTATION:

- Teachers and students are responsible for their own transportation to and from their respective schools on the day of the competition.

TEACHER'S ROLE:

- Instructors are expected to acquaint their student participants with all of the enclosed guidelines. Teachers/Guests may accompany their students or visit any time during the competition, ***"But may not assist their own competitors during the challenge."***

****Please Note: **** ***Judges will be instructed to deduct marks from participants that are deemed to be receiving instructions from TEACHERS/Mentors during the build.***

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES:

- The use of pneumatic tools is "PROHIBITED"
- Teachers and competitors are responsible for the removal of the project at the end of the Cabinetmaking Challenge.

COMPETITION AGENDA:

8:00 a.m.	Arrival at Contest Site & Set Up
8:15 a.m.	Orientation & Opening Remarks
8:30- 8:45 a.m.	Competition begins
11:30 a.m.-12:00pm	***** Lunch (will be provided) *****
2:30 p.m.	Clean up
3:00 p.m.	Competition Ends - Final Judging and Closing Remarks

**** Each competitor will be given a number by their coordinator upon registration at the location and will be judged anonymously during the competition.**