

# Pringle Mail

WATERTOWN (February 2010)

Goal: To mail ONLY 5 Regular size Pringle potato chips to Mr. Duggan's house in the lightest package possible without breaking any of the chips.

## Rules:

1. Anything can be used to pack the chips except more Pringles. The only requirements are that the chips cannot be coated with any substances. The packing materials must be removed when the package is opened for inspection of the chips.
2. Maximum weight of all packages is 13 ounces (mass under 0.364kg; USPS constraint).
3. **All packages must be sent through the U.S. Postal Service using 1<sup>st</sup> class mail or priority mail.** Packages that are sent FedEx, UPS, or any other non U.S. Postal Service mail will be discounted (-5, ranked below legal entries). **All packages must have a postmark from your school's post office.** Teams must have a receipt from the post office to prove that the package was sent *incase* package is lost. No receipt, team receives a zero. Teams **CANNOT** certify their packages. All USPS rules and laws apply to this event; i.e., you cannot put a substance inside the package that violates federal law.
4. **All packages must be postmarked by January 30, 2010.** Packages postmarked after this date will be discounted (5pts/day)
5. Any flavor of Pringle chips is acceptable. Chips with ridges are unacceptable. Mini-Pringles are unacceptable.
6. Teams will mass and open their own packages in front of the judges. **Chips that are broken in the opening process will be considered broken in transit.** Teams will get one chance to mass their package. There will be no re-massing of packages after the opening process begins.
7. Cracks and chips in the chips are considered breaks. Chips with what appear to be popped bubbles will be evaluated on a chip-by-chip basis.
8. Chips **CANNOT** be stacked (face to face). They must be placed side-by-side, edge-on-edge (they do not have to be touching). Any rotation of the package that makes the chips assume a stacked configuration will be discounted (-5pts and ranked behind legal entries). This includes any rotation due to shipping. Judges reserve the right to rule on this item without recourse by the team and understand that there is some movement during the shipping process.
9. Teams can send multiple packages of chips (5/box) but teams that choose to send multiple boxes cannot have transparent packaging that results in the inspection of the contents before opening. The box to be evaluated must be chosen before opening, massing, or any evaluation takes place. Teams sending ONLY one entry can use transparent packing materials.

## Scoring:

1. Scores will be earned by placement among your peers. The first place entry will earn 50 points. All subsequent places will receive lesser points (2<sup>nd</sup>=49, 3<sup>rd</sup>=48, etc)
2. **Order of importance: Unbroken chips, mass, postmark.** Postmarks will be the tie-breaker; packages with the postmarks displaying an earlier date of shipment will have the advantage.
3. Late postmarks will have an automatic 5 point deduction/day. Packages received at a point where they cannot be opened in time or the loss of points exceeds the amount of the project will receive a zero.
4. Teams will mass and open their own packages.

**Send To:** Mr Duggan, 664 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148