

A Method for Determining Qualifying for Career Development Events

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Problem

The need to limit the number of teams for state finals competition

Current Practice

- ❖ Regional Qualifying: Teams compete at a regional level and winners move on to the state level. Issue: Weak regions qualify weak teams.
- ❖ Qualifying Events: Top teams from qualifying statewide events are ranked to compete at the state level. Issue: Not all contests are of the same quality or size.

Issue

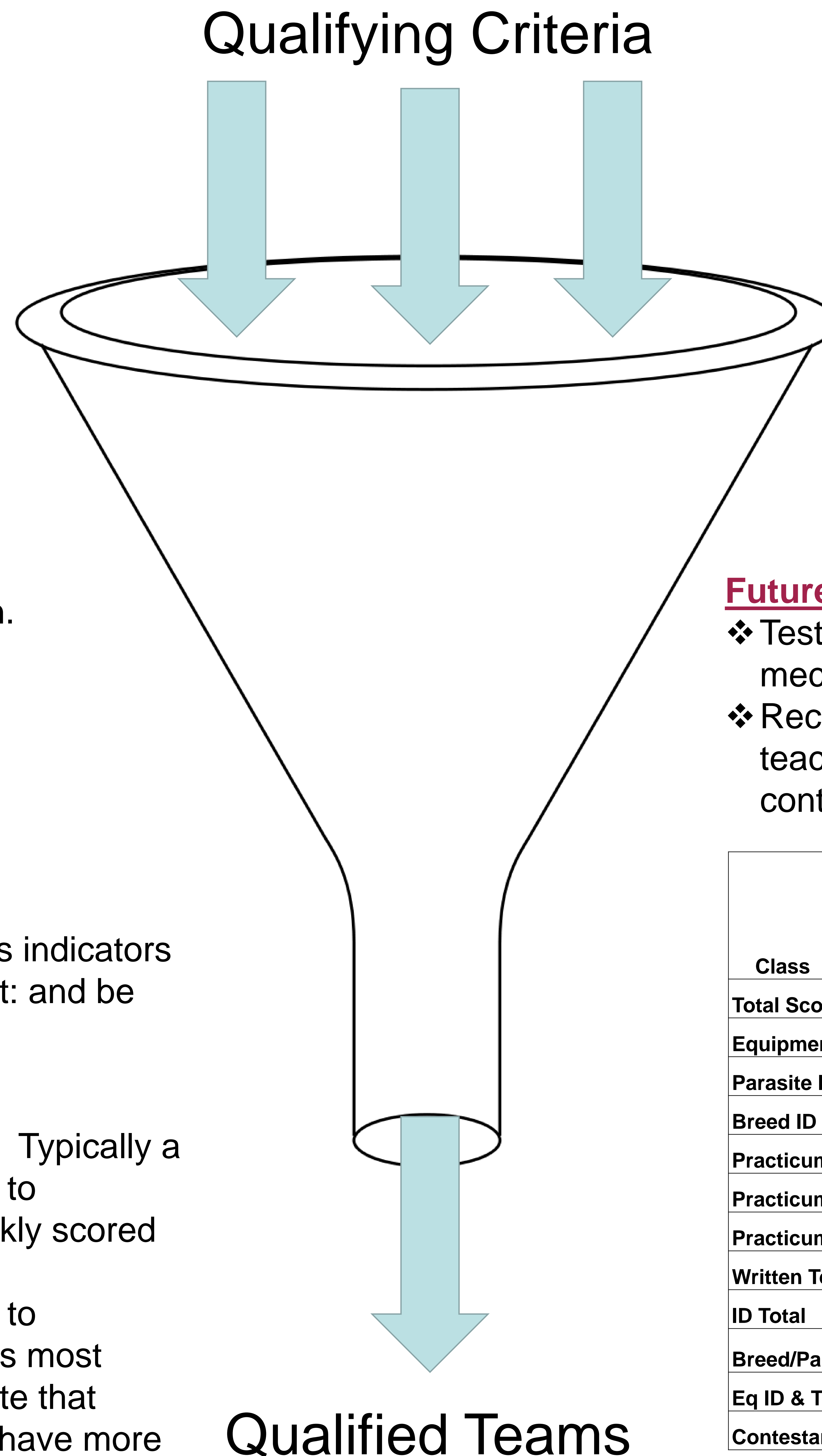
- ❖ The need to limit the number of teams for state finals competition.
- ❖ Selected areas (classes) are used to qualify at the contest. Issue: No evidence has been developed that the qualifying classes are indicators of overall performance.

Goal

Identify classes that can be used as indicators of performance in the entire contest: and be used to streamline the contest.

Methodology

1. Determine appropriate classes. Typically a test not a practicum with is hard to administer. Class must be quickly scored to produce intermediate results.
2. Analyze past complete contests to determine which class or classes most closely predict the winners. Note that classes with higher weights will have more influence.
3. Test at a large contest.



Results

- ❖ The Veterinary Science contest was chosen as a highly impacted contest. The contest generally follows the national contest with three time consuming practicums.
- ❖ An analysis was performed (see table) to see which classes and groups of classes would correlate with final scores..
- ❖ The ID classes were chosen as a qualifying round since they could be tabulated quickly.
- ❖ 63 teams and 20 teams were qualified to complete the contest. The contest was shortened from 9 hours to 6 hours.

Future Plans

- ❖ Test methodology on floriculture and agricultural mechanics contests.
- ❖ Recommend changes to the agricultural teacher's curricular code for state finals contests.

Class	Correlation with TOTAL Score	Highest Qualifying Rank of the Top 40 high individuals				
		Contest				
		1	2	3	4	5
Total Score	1.000	40	40	40	40	40
Equipment ID	0.896	59	64	51	67	67
Parasite ID	0.862	56	69	50	57	*
Breed ID	0.875	74	74	58	60	*
Practicums I	0.649					
Practicums II	0.711					
Practicums III	0.634					
Written Test	0.683	89	100	91	88	100
ID Total	0.898	49	57	43	51	71
Breed/Parasite ID	0.908	58	66	47	66	72
Eq ID & Test	0.924	54	56	46	69	68
Contestants		104	112	115	110	132

* Parasite and Breed ID sections were combined in tabulations.