**UW – Stout Polytechnic**

**SkillsUSA Welding Competition Overview**

**Contest Scope**

To evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of welding. The contest will consist of two parts:

1) **General Welding Knowledge Exam**

The welding knowledge exam consists of approximately 50 multiple choice/true false questions related to the following topics:
- General Welding/Fabrication Knowledge
- SMAW
- GMAW
- GTAW
- Oxy Fuel Welding and Cutting

2) **Weldment Skills Assessment**

The welding skills assessment will evaluate the contestants' ability to interpret and complete welds per a welding blueprint. The print and material will be supplied on the day of the competition.

**Equipment and Supplies**

Contestants will be required to supply their own personal protective equipment and supplies.

Required supplies – Students without these items will not be permitted to participate in the hands-on portions of the assessment:

- Safety glasses meeting ANSI Z87.1, with side shields; must be worn under the welding helmet
- Hearing and/or ear protection
- Appropriate welding attire, including a welding jacket or flame-resistant clothing, welding gloves, long pants, and appropriate closed toes boots or shoes
- Welding helmet with appropriate filter plate/lens and protective cover plate/lens in a flip or slide front. Auto darkening shields are permissible.

Recommended Items – these items may be useful during the competition:

- Spare welding helmet filter and cover lenses
- Pocket calculator; pencil and/or ballpoint pen
- Soapstone with holder; magnetic scribe
- Combination square set; tape measure; fillet weld gauge
- 16-ounce (0.45 kg) ball-peen hammer; center punch
- 10-inch (254 mm) vise grips; 6-inch (152 mm) diagonal-cutting pliers; 6-inch (152 mm) needle-nose pliers
- GMAW (MIG) welding pliers
- Chipping hammer; wire brush
- Small C-clamps or locking clamps