

Missing puzzle pieces due to manufacturer defect shall be considered an act of nature and changes to the final team score shall not be made.

The competition area will be demarcated by ribbon, caution tape, or some other temporary barrier. Only participants, judges, and authorized personnel are allowed within the competition area.

All the jigsaw puzzles used in the competitions are the property of the participants once the competition is finished.

Participants can only assemble the jigsaw puzzle on their assigned table and within the competition area. The sign indicating the table number must always be visible to facilitate the work of the judges.

It is not allowed to use risers or any object that changes the height or layout of the tables.

Box top holders or supports are allowed to keep the box top upright and easily viewed while puzzling.

Headphones are allowed as long as they do not disturb the rest of the participants.

The organization may disqualify participants after two verbal warnings for conduct that causes inconvenience to other participants.

It is not allowed to bring extra lighting or use printed or digital templates in which you can see any type of manufacturer's cutting pattern.

Any outside help during the competition may be grounds for disqualification.

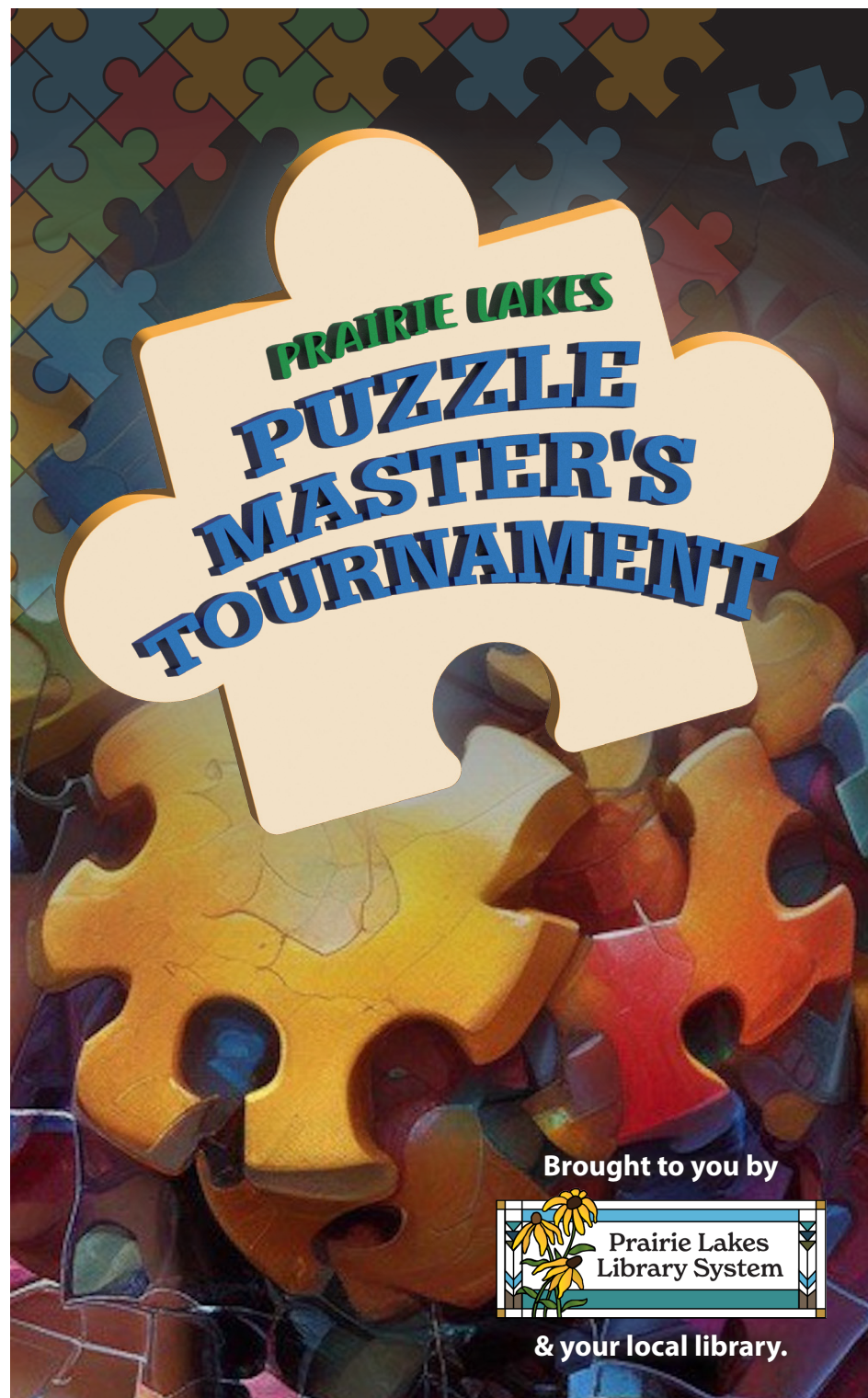
All the jigsaw puzzles used in the contests are the property of the teams once the competition is finished.

Participants' names and images may appear in published content from the tournament.

No library card required. *If you are a WI resident residing outside of Milwaukee County and would like a free library card, please bring an ID and proof of address (a bill or other semi-official piece of mail).*

PLAN YOUR TEAM

Name: _____ Email: _____	Phone: _____	REQUIRED
Name: _____ Email: _____	Phone: _____	REQUIRED
Name: _____ Email: _____	Phone: _____	OPTIONAL
Name: _____ Email: _____	Phone: _____	OPTIONAL



TOURNAMENT OVERVIEW

Public Libraries will hold one local puzzle contest between August and October. The top two finishing teams may advance to a county semifinal held in November.

The top three teams from each county semifinal may advance to the tri-county final on December 7, 2024. A plaque or trophy will be given as a prize at the final contest. No prizes will be awarded at semifinal contests.



PROGRAM TIMELINE

Local Contest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 500 piece puzzle.• Max # of teams – TBD.• Registration is open, see general rules for details.• Date, time, & location are determined by each library.					
County Semifinal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 750 piece puzzle.• Max # of teams – Walworth Co. 20, Rock Co.14, Racine Co. 10.• Registration by qualification. Entry deadline: Thursday prior to competition, at 4:30 PM. <table><tr><td><u>Walworth County:</u> Sat., Nov. 2, 10:30 AM Matheson Memorial Library, Elkhorn</td><td><u>Rock County:</u> Sat., Nov. 9, 9:30 AM Hedberg Public Library, Janesville</td><td><u>Racine County:</u> Sat., Nov. 16, 10:30 AM Rochester Village Hall, Rochester</td></tr></table>			<u>Walworth County:</u> Sat., Nov. 2, 10:30 AM Matheson Memorial Library, Elkhorn	<u>Rock County:</u> Sat., Nov. 9, 9:30 AM Hedberg Public Library, Janesville	<u>Racine County:</u> Sat., Nov. 16, 10:30 AM Rochester Village Hall, Rochester
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Tri-County Final	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1,000 piece puzzle.• Max # of teams – 3 per county.• Registration by qualification. Entry deadline: Thursday, December 5, at 4:30 PM.• Sat., Dec. 7, 9:30 AM. Waters Edge Event Venue, Delavan					

Any changes to contest information will be posted at <https://www.prairielakes.info/puzzle/>

TEAM REGISTRATION DETAILS

A team places in top two of a local library contest. Local library staff provide the team captain with a URL to register the team for a home-county semifinal contest.

The team captain fills out a web registration form prior to the submission deadline.

The team is admitted into a semifinal based on order of registration and the number of team slots available - team captains are notified via email.

The team participates in a semifinal contest and places in the top 3 teams. The semifinal site team provides the team captain with a URL to register the team for the final contest.

The team is admitted into the final based on order of registration and the number of team slots available – team captains will be notified via email.

TEAMS

Each team will be provided with a commonly-sized playing surface (for example: same-size round tables, or same-size rectangular tables).

Teams must be composed of a minimum of 2 people and a maximum of 4. Young participants (under the age of 16) are allowed as long as they are competing with at least one accompanying adult. No changes in team members will be allowed during the competition.

Regional and final contests will last 2 hours each. Regional contest teams will have to assemble one 750-piece jigsaw puzzle, and finals contest teams will have to assemble one 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle. Puzzles will be stored in the factory-sealed box. Once the timer begins, the box may be opened.

When a team manages to finish the puzzle before the 2 hours, a judge will register the final time in the record. The team's players must collect the puzzles and their belongings and leave the competition area to avoid distracting neighboring puzzlers who are still competing.

GENERAL RULES

Only participants over 16 years old are accepted, unless they are accompanied by a parent or guardian that is competing with them on the same team.

Until the host indicates the start of the competition and starts the timer, the participants cannot manipulate, unseal, or open the puzzle boxes that are on the table.

A player cannot be part of two different teams.

Only designated judges can take note of the finishing times of the completed puzzles and enter the completion time into the record.

During the competition, organizers will monitor the progress of the assembly, so that when a team is close to finishing a puzzle, they will be waiting by the table to register the exact time in the record.

If, once the maximum time has elapsed, a team has not finished the puzzle, a judge will take a smartphone photo of your table. A judge will then count the remaining pieces not yet placed into the puzzle. Teams who have not completed the puzzle will be ranked according to the fewest number of remaining pieces.

Each team can provide up to 4 trays of cardboard, foam or other material of a maximum size of 16" x 24" or A2 as an aid during the puzzle assembly. Box top holders are allowed. No other tools or aids are allowed.

Each puzzler is strongly encouraged to wear a name tag (provided on-site).

Participants must be at the venue 15 minutes before the start of each competition. Each team will draw a number from a hat or bowl to assign table of play.

For final count purposes "loose pieces" shall be defined as singular puzzle pieces or pieces joined to two or fewer other puzzle pieces.