



Newberry Jigsaw Puzzle Competition

January 2026

JIGSAW PUZZLE COMPETITION RULES:

- ✚ Each team must have the correct number of members based on the division registered and each team is encouraged to have a team shirt (see team shirt competition guidelines for more information – this is optional). Additionally, each team must have a team captain or spokesperson who is 18 years of age or older (this includes the youth division; team spokesperson is NOT a team member). This person will be required to sign the waiver when completing the online registration.
 - Quad Puzzlers – teams of four (4) – any age
 - Puzzling Duos – teams of two (2) – any age
 - Puzzle Fanatics – teams of three (3) – YOUTH ONLY DIVISION (ages 7 to 13)
- ✚ There is to be no assistance from non-team members.
- ✚ Each team within a division will be provided with an identical puzzle. The puzzle will not be pre-released.
- ✚ Puzzles are to remain in a bag on the table until the judge indicates it is time to start. The box will be provided face down and should remain face down until the judge indicates it is time to start.
- ✚ No members of the public (non-staff and non-team members) will be allowed on the competition floor.
- ✚ There will be no official breaks, but team members are permitted to take breaks throughout the competition as needed.
- ✚ Teams are permitted to bring their own battery-operated light and/or magnifying glass – power will not be made available (only one of each permitted per team).
- ✚ Teams are permitted to bring bowls, boxes, or other like items to use to sort pieces (maximum of three per team).
- ✚ Light snacks and drinks will be provided.
- ✚ Team members are not to distract members of other teams and must remain at their pre-assigned table (other than breaking as needed).
- ✚ In the event of an emergency, the time clock will be paused and work on the puzzles will cease until the judge declares it safe to resume.
- ✚ The first team to complete their puzzle (all pieces assembled correctly) will be declared the Newberry Jigsaw Puzzle Competition Master for their respective division.
- ✚ Puzzle assembly will continue until the 1st runner up positions have been determined. Awards will be handed out at that time.
- ✚ If desired, non-winning teams will be permitted to continue assembly of their puzzle until 8 PM.
- ✚ If time runs out before a team completes their puzzle, the team with the fewest “loose” pieces will be declared the winner. In the event of a tie, a 5-minute sudden death round will be conducted and loose pieces will be counted again.
- ✚ The decision of the judges is final.

