INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS OLYMPIAD (IEO) 2025
OPENTRACK SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

Paragraph 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. According to the IEO Articles of Association, Paragraph 1.2. and the IEO Regulations of Competition, Paragraph 2.7.3., **the International Economics Olympiad (IEO)** is an intellectual competition designed specifically for secondary education (high school) students, with specific conditions for participation eligibility.

1.1.1. In the scope of the present document, the main mode of participation in the IEO described and regulated in the documents above — ergo, the elite intellectual competition between representatives of National Teams, who have undergone selection in their country of citizenship or residence by means of a national competition — is referred to as ***the MainTrack***, in contrast to ***the OpenTrack*** as described and regulated hereinafter.

The MainTrack may also be referred to as ***the main IEO*** in general communication.

1.2. The OpenTrack was proposed by the President and the Secretary of the IEO Executive Board (EB) in 2020, in the wake of the covid-19 sanitary crisis, and is implemented by a group of professionals drawn from members of the Executive Board (EB), International Board (IB), IEO Alumni, the IEOx Community, and the wider Economics education public, hereby referred to collectively as **the IEO OpenTrack Team** or **the Organizers**.

1.3. The *raison d'être* of **the OpenTrack** is to offer an alternative mode of participation to a wider audience parallel to the MainTrack, with more relaxed conditions, as **a full, live demonstration of the IEO's activities**.

The principles behind such an initiative are as follows:

- to enable a **wider audience**, which would otherwise not be eligible for participation on the MainTrack, to test their knowledge in Economics, Finance, and Business;
- to provide an additional means of **active observation** of the IEO's processes to representatives of prospective national Olympiads;
- to establish an **intermediate step** between being an outsider and a full member of core IEO structures and the IEOx Community, for both prospective contestants and organizers of Science Olympiads.

1.4. The intended audiences for **the OpenTrack** are mainly:

- students **younger** than high school age, thus not yet eligible for participation in the MainTrack, but who are already interested in Economics;
- contestants of national Olympiads who were **not selected** for their respective Delegations in the given year;
- individuals **older** than the eligible age for participation in the MainTrack (as per IEO Regulations of Competition 2.7.3.) who are also interested in the IEO's subject matter and would like to try it out, test their knowledge, and learn something new;
- prospective **organizers** of national Olympiads who are observers at the IEO, who would thus be given a means of *active observation* and a direct channel of communication with the IEO and the IEOx Community, on an intermediate level between being an outsider and a full-fledged member of it, which would help them structure their respective competitions in accordance with the IEO's requirements for the acceptance of 1-Year and even 3-Year Agreements.

1.4.1. With that said, ***anyone*** of any age and background can participate with **no restrictions** whatsoever.

Paragraph 2. ON REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPATION

2.1. Participation in **the OpenTrack** is **free and unrestricted** (see Paragraph 1.4.1 above): one does **not** have to fulfill the criteria stated in IEO Regulations of Competition 2.7.3. in order to be eligible.

2.1.1. Registration is operationalized by means of an online form, which collects personal information directly necessary for participation, such as country of citizenship/residency, name(s), surname(s), date(s) of birth, email address(es), phone number(s), and, (optionally) institution(s) represented.

2.1.2. The aforementioned data are stored indefinitely in the IEO's database, except personal identification and contact details, which can be deleted upon request one calendar year after the event is over.

2.2 Registration can be undergone either **as an individual** or **as a team of at least two and up to five members**.

2.2.1. If a Contestant registers as an individual, they are entered into a pool out of which teams will be formed by the Organizers using such criteria as location, timezone, and expected language(s) spoken - optimizing for that team's logistical capability to work together..

2.2.2. If Contestants register as a team, no matter its size, their team roster will not be modified by the Organizers unless explicitly requested in writing (via support email, see Paragraph 8.4. below).

2.3. Registration for the IEO 2025 OpenTrack **opens** by default **four months before** (in the second half of March) and **closes** by default **four days before** (in the second half of July) the start of the Olympiad.

2.3.1. The IEO OpenTrack Team reserves itself the prerogative to close registration before the default closing date, should the number of registered Contestants exceed 10000.

2.4. In the week prior to the beginning of the IEO, Contestants registered for the OpenTrack will be reminded of their registration via email and other communication channels, to gauge and renew their intention to participate.

Paragraph 3. ON ACTIVITIES AND MATERIAL

3.1. OpenTrack Contestants will be invited to watch **the live streams and recordings of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies**, as well as those of guest lectures and assorted culture and edutainment activities where possible.

3.2. OpenTrack Contestants participate in the three main Rounds of the IEO: Economics **[Econ]**, Finance (Financial Literacy) **[FL]**, and the Business Case **[BC]**.

> **3.2.1.** OpenTrack Contestants compete **in a category of their own**, parallel to the MainTrack, **with its own scoring and normalization**.

3.3. The **material** (content of the rounds as listed in Paragraph 3.2. above) **is the same** as in the MainTrack (see the IEO Syllabus for a detailed description), but **examination** (see Paragraph 5. below) and **grading** (Paragraph 6. below) procedures **may differ**.

Paragraph 4. ON INFRASTRUCTURE

4.1. The OpenTrack takes place **online** and **its general schedule mirrors that of the MainTrack's**.

> **4.1.1.** The Rounds (see Paragraph 3.2. above) of the OpenTrack may take place at different times than those of the MainTrack for security reasons.

4.2. The OpenTrack's public-facing infrastructure consists of:

- an **email broadcast service** for one-way announcements;
- a **support email address** for queries and official two-way communication between Contestants and Organizers;
- a **course on Moodle** for online participation in the Economics and Finance (Financial Literacy) rounds;
- a series of **forms and tables on Airtable** for the upload and download of Business Case work and peer-grading assignments;

- a **channel and linked group chat on Telegram** for official one-way announcements and two-way communication;
- a **channel and linked group chat ("community") on WhatsApp** for official one-way announcements and two-way communication;
- a **group chat on WeChat** for official one-way announcements and two-way communication;
- a **Zoom address with "breakout rooms"** for proctoring (if applicable);
- as well as **proprietary IEO software** and **other ancillary systems** the IEO OpenTrack Team may judge necessary.

4.3. Contestants are responsible for having access to **email, using the email address provided at registration**, and to **at least one of the chat systems** (among Telegram, WhatsApp, and WeChat) used.

4.4. For full-fledged participation in the OpenTrack, the use of **a desktop PC** with access to the **Google Chrome** web browser is necessary.

> **4.4.1.** The IEO OpenTrack Team **cannot** provide technical support to users of tablets or mobile phones and takes no responsibility for attempts to participate in the Rounds using such devices.

Paragraph 5. ON EXAMINATION PROCEDURES

5.1. Basic proctoring procedures for exam security may be present in the OpenTrack.

> **5.1.1.** The Economics round may be held with proctoring in parallel Zoom rooms ("breakout rooms"), with their exact number scaled as a function of the number of Contestants, so as to allow for a proctor-to-Contestant ratio adequate for exam security.
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> **5.1.2.** The Finance (Financial Literacy) round may be held with proctoring in parallel Zoom rooms ("breakout rooms"), with their exact

number scaled as a function of the number of Contestants, so as to allow for a proctor-to-Contestant ratio adequate for exam security.

5.1.3. The Business Case resolution will be organized freely by each team. The IEO OpenTrack Team **facilitates initial contact** between the members of each team by means of the contact details provided at registration, but **does not further interfere** with each team's self-organization.

Paragraph 6. ON GRADING AND MODERATION

6.1. The **multiple-choice questions (MCQ)** on the Economics and Finance (Financial Literacy) rounds are **graded automatically.**

6.2. The open questions (OQ) on the Economics Test are graded by **a Grade Brigade drawn up from IEO Alumni** professionally selected by the IEO OpenTrack Team, facilitated by artificial intelligence tools closely supervised by the Grade Brigade.

6.2.1. A minimal score in the Economics multiple-choice questions (see Paragraph 6.1. above) may be required in order for a given Contestant to have their Economics open questions considered for grading.

6.3. The Business Case resolution is evaluated by means of peer grading with the official rubrics provided by the IEO Problem Committee and by means of **an Alumni Jury** professionally selected by the IEO OpenTrack Team, at two subsequent phases of evaluation.

6.3.1. Peer grading is designed and conducted so as to ensure the integrity of the process and avoid conflicts of interest.

6.4. Any changes in the Economics or Finance (Financial Literacy) Rounds' official answer key, brought about by Moderation on the MainTrack, will be **retroactively applied to the OpenTrack** as well.

6.4.1. Otherwise, OpenTrack Contestants may **not** appeal their grades directly and have no access to Moderation.

Paragraph 7. ON AWARDS AND CERTIFICATION

7.1. OpenTrack Contestants will earn **secure digital Certificates**, e-signed by the Governor of the IEO OpenTrack and hosted on a public list, containing their individual and team results in each round of the competition.

7.1.1. The OpenTrack's status as a massive open online version of the IEO, to which they have not undergone national selection, is highlighted in the OpenTrack Certificates, so as not to deface the prestige of the MainTrack and its awards.

7.2. Some special categories of digital Certificates may also be awarded, at the prerogative of the IEO OpenTrack Team.

7.3. OpenTrack Contestants are **not** eligible for medals or trophies.

Paragraph 8. CLOSING REMARKS

8.1. With the creation and consistent continuation of the OpenTrack as a project directly under the IEO's aegis, we, the IEO OpenTrack Team, reiterate our commitment to making Economics, Finance, and Business education available to an ever wider audience, our intention to create and uphold good precedent in the International Economics Olympiad as an institution, and our efforts to strengthen the professional and personal bonds that bring core IEO structures and the surrounding IEOx Community together.

As an institution within an institution, we renew our commitment to being a beacon of excellent governance, an innovation hub, and an academy of Alumni in the IEO ecosystem.

8.2. These Specific Regulations refer only to the IEO 2025. They may be changed pending detailed review by the IEO EB.

The current version of the document is dated **3rd of March, 2025** and replaces any previous iterations.

8.2.1. History of Changes

i. 3rd of March, 2025 — first official version of document.

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8.3. The IEO EB has the last word on the interpretation of these Specific Regulations, and any cases of conflicting readings shall be solved in the general spirit of higher-standing IEO normative acts (Articles of Association; Regulations of Competition) and institutional precedent.

8.4. The IEO OpenTrack Team can be directly reached at opentrack@ieo-official.org and will officially answer any questions that may arise from reading these Specific Regulations.

IEO OpenTrack Team, 3rd of March, 2025.