ETHICS OLYMPIAD STUDENTS KIT

The following information is for students who are part of a team at the 2026 Ethics Olympiad. In conducting the Ethics Olympiad, we hope to raise the profile and promote the study of Ethics in secondary schools. Congratulations on being selected to represent your school.

- Schools are entering teams of four/five students with a maximum of two teams from each school.
- The Ethics Olympiad is based on a US competition called an Ethics Bowl. Originally this event was held face to face but due to COVID restrictions we are conducting these online in Zoom Breakout rooms.
- On the day all students will be involved in a series of four online Ethics Olympiad heats.
- There are eight ethical cases that all participants have access to before the event.
- At the end of each case you will find some questions which your team might be asked to address on the day.
- You will work together as a team to come up with the best response to the question.

- The scoring criteria rewards, clear, concise, respectful discourse around interesting ethical cases. Please familiarise yourself with the cases.
- Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be awarded to top three teams and each student will receive a certificate to acknowledge the fact that they have been selected to represent their school. Please note the results will be announced on the following day and medals will be posted to coaches to be awarded at a school assembly. Certificates will also be emailed to coaches to be awarded to all participating students at an assembly.
- Gold and Silver medal winning teams will be invited to participate in and International final.

Prior to the event

Students will need to be familiar with the eight ethical cases provided with this kit.

Students will need to be dressed in school uniform on the day.

Program for the Day:

- Starts 9 am - 9.15 am - Preparation
- 9.15-10.30 am - Heat One (Practice round)
- 10.30 am -11.45 am - Heat Two
- 11.45 Morning tea
- 12-1.15 - Heat Three
- 1.15 pm – 1.45 Lunch
- 1.45-3pm- Heat Four
- 3 pm – Finish

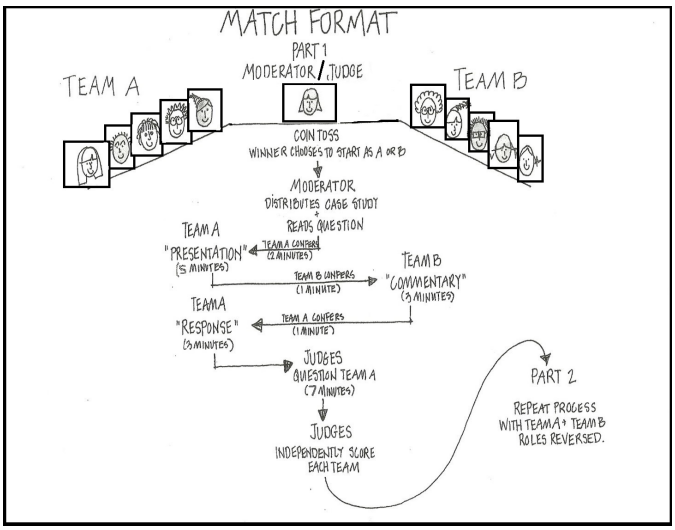
Heat Format, Rules & scoring

Each breakout room will have two teams and a moderator/judge. After brief introductions, the moderator will toss a coin to determine which is team A and which is team B. The case will then be announced, and the question will be read out. Students will then be invited to have a two-minute team meeting. With their microphone off students have 2 minutes to discuss and plan their response to the question. Team A then have 5 minutes to present their case. (Only one person can speak at a time) The moderator will provide time warning so students know when time is nearly up. A one-minute conference will then be provided for Team B before they offer their critique. Team A will then have a 1-minute meeting to prepare their response to the critique. Another three-minute period is provided for Team A to respond.

Following this the judge (s) will have 7 minute Q & A with Team A. (Students can ask to have a 30 second private conference before responding to their questions)

Once the judges have finished their Q & A the moderator will read out the next case and Team A swaps rolls with team B and the same process is repeated as above. Please remember to thank the judges/moderator at the end.

Note: All eight cases will be covered over the day. Also, no notes are permitted to be used.



Participants

Teams will be made up of five students with a max of two teams from each school. The Olympians can be from any year level but ideally Year 10-13. (HongKong and Singapore students should be in Form 4-6) Schools do not have to be registered members of the Ethics Olympiad. Students must be 15-18 years old at some stage during the year. Any school can participate.

Topics for the 2026 Senior Students Ethics Olympiad;

Case 1 - Salacious Gossip

Case 2 - Digital Afterlife Management: Who Speaks for the Dead?

Case 3 - In-Vitro Meat

Case 4 - Redefining Humanity

Case 5 - A Phenotypic Prometheus?

Case 6 - Ode to a Scab

Case 7 - A Monthly Subscription to Brutality

Case 8 - Taking the Spot or Earning it? - University Scholarship

You can find these online at:

http://ethicsolympiad.org/2026SeniorEthicsOlympiad/EthicsOlympiadSHSCases2026.pdf

Prizes

Please note that medals will not be awarded during the day but announced within 24 hours to the coach. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be posted to the winning schools soon after the event and can then be awarded at a school assembly.

Gold and Silver medal winning teams will be invited to represent their regional and the International final.

2026 Ethics Olympiad Scoring Criteria

The Ethics Olympiad scoring criteria should be used in conjunction with the score sheet. Please remember, teams are strongly encouraged to think of themselves as being on the same side rather than as opponents. That is, both teams are working together to solve a difficult problem–while impressing the judges with thoughtful analysis and support. Listening to the other team with an aim to affirm, supplement, or build on their argument is a prudent approach.

Part 1: PRESENTING Team's initial presentation (15 Points Total)

A) *Did the presentation* ***clearly and systematically address the moderator's question****? (5 points)*

5 = Extremely clear presentation that systematically addressed the key dimensions of the question.
4 = Reasonably clear presentation that systematically addressed most key dimensions of the question.
3 = Hard to follow the argument. Significant dimensions of the question missed (passable).
2 = Serious logical problems or underdeveloped argument (poor).
1 = Incoherent presentation.

B) *Did the team* ***clearly identify and thoroughly discuss the central moral dimensions*** *of the case? (5 points)*

5 = Clearly and precisely identified central moral dimensions, and discussed these dimensions thoroughly.
4 = Mostly identified central moral dimensions and discussed major issues.
3 = Adequately identified and discussed some central moral dimensions (passable).
2 = Misidentified some moral dimensions of the case and inadequately discussed (poor).
1 = Misidentified the central moral dimensions.

C) *Did the team's presentation* ***indicate both awareness and thoughtful consideration of different viewpoints, including especially those that would loom large in the reasoning of individuals who disagree with the team's position?*** *(5 points)*

5 = Insightful analysis and discussion of the most significant viewpoints, including full and careful attention to opposing points of view.
4 = Solid analysis and discussion of some different viewpoints.
3 = Underdeveloped discussion of different viewpoints (passable).
2 = Minimal consideration of different viewpoints (poor).
1 = Minimal awareness of different viewpoints.

Part 2: RESPONDING Team's Commentary on Opposing Team's Initial Presentation (10 Points)

To what extent has the team effectively and directly responded to and engaged the presenting team's argument?

10 = Especially insightful, complete, and composed commentary.
9 = Key points excellently addressed.
8-7 = Solid response to presenting team's points.
6-5 = Some points made, but few insights or constructive ideas (passable).
4-3 = Weak or irrelevant response or merely asking a series of questions (poor).
2-1 = Failure to respond to presenting team or resorting to personal attacks.

Part 3: PRESENTING Team's Response to Opposing Team's commentary (15 Points)

How did the team respond to the opposing team's commentary?
15 = Especially insightful, complete, and composed response.
12-14 = Key points are excellently addressed.
9-11 = Solid response to commenting team.
6-8 = Some relevant points are made (passable).
3-5 = Weak or irrelevant response (poor).
1-2= Failure to respond to commentary

Part 4: PRESENTING Team's Response to Judges' Questions (15 Points)

How did the team respond to the judges' questions?
15 = Especially insightful, complete, and composed response.
14 = The most pressing points are identified and discussed.
13-12 = Several of the most important points are identified and discussed.
11-10 = Some relevant points are made (passable).
9-4 = Weak or irrelevant response (poor).
3-1 = Failure to respond to commentary and judges

Overall: Points for engaging in Respectful Dialogue, as opposed to Combative Debate (5 Points)

Did the team demonstrate their awareness that an ethics bowl is about participating in a collaborative discussion aimed at earnestly thinking through difficult ethical issues?

5 = Respectfully engaged all parties in exceptionally productive and collaborative discussion.
4 = Respectfully engaged other team's arguments and points.
3 = Respectful of other team's argument but only marginal engagement and pursuit.
2 = Unengaged with other team's arguments.
1 = Combative or dismissive of other team's arguments.

HIGH SCHOOL ETHICS OLYMPIAD SCORE SHEET

TEAM A _____

Team A Presentation (First case)

A. Was Team A's presentation clear and systematic? (1-5) _____
B. Did the team's presentation identify and thoroughly discuss the central moral dimensions of the case? (1-5) _____
C. Did the team's presentation indicate both awareness and thoughtful consideration of different viewpoints, including those that would loom large in the reasoning of individuals who disagree with the team's position? (1-5) _____

1. Team A presentation score (Total A-C above) ____ of 15

3. Team A response to commentary ____ of 15

4. Team A response to Judges' questions ____ of 15

----------*end of case 1*----------

TEAM B _____

2. Team B commentary ____ of 10

----------*end of case 1*----------

Team B Presentation (Second case)

A. Was Team B's presentation clear and systematic? (1-5) _____
B. Did the team's presentation identify and thoroughly discuss the central moral dimensions of the case? (1-5) _____
C. Did the team's presentation indicate both awareness and thoughtful consideration of different viewpoints, including those that would loom large in the reasoning of individuals who disagree with the team's position? (1-5) _____

1. Team B presentation score (Total A-C above) ____ of 15

3. Team B response to commentary ____ of 15

4. Team B response to Judges' questions ____ of 15

----------*end of case 2*----------

6. Team A commentary ____ of 10

----------*end of case 2*----------

9. Team A respectful dialogue ____ of 5

10. TOTAL ____ of 60

9. Team B respectful dialogue ____ of 5

10. TOTAL ____ of 60

Comments for Team A:

Comments for Team B:

Print Judges Name _____

Please email the final scores to admin@ethicsolympiad.org