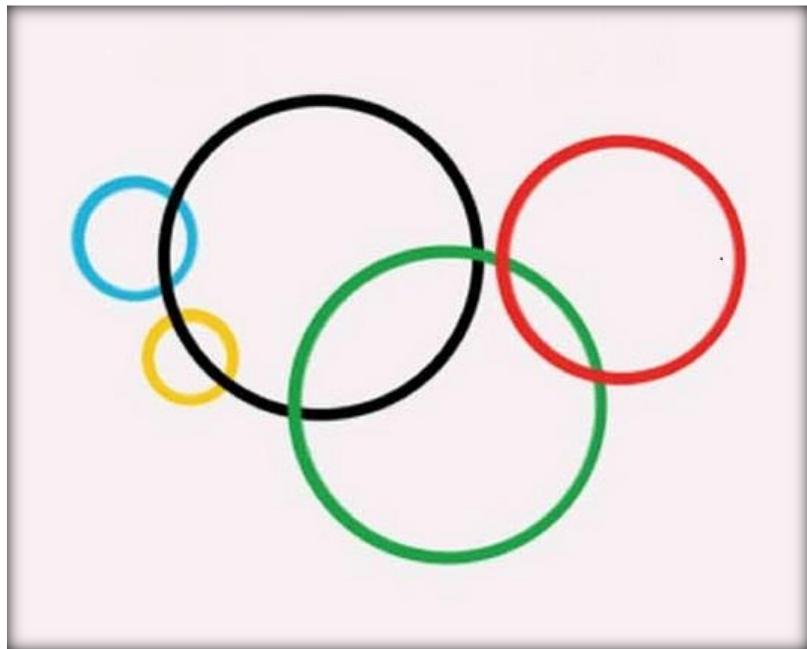


# ETHICS OLYMPIAD

## TERTIARY TEAM MEMBERS

### INFORMATION KIT



The following information is for team members participating in the 2026 Tertiary Ethics Olympiad. In conducting the Ethics Olympiad, we hope to raise the profile and promote the study of Ethics in the tertiary sector. Congratulations on being selected to represent your university.

- The Ethics Olympiad is based on a US competition called an Ethics Bowl.
- Each team consists of a maximum of five undergraduate students and a post-graduate student (coach).
- On the day teams will be involved in a series of three Ethics Olympiad heats with teams from throughout Australasia.
- There are eight ethical cases that all participants have access to before the event. (See page 4) Please familiarise yourself with the cases.
- You will work together as a team to come up with the best response to a question provided to you on the day. While the Ethics Olympiad is a team event and we encourage all team-members to play a role, there are no formal requirements for how speaking roles should be shared or allocated. Teams can benefit from being flexible and strategic in how they allocate and share these roles, catering to strengths and specialisations. That said, anecdotally, judges report that having multiple perspectives from different speakers generally tends to enrich the presentations and makes the arguments presented more compelling.
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- Please note the results will be announced on the following day and medals will be posted to coaches. Certificates will also be emailed to coaches.
- This event is hosted by the Australian Association for Professional and Applied Ethics. (AAPAE)
- The scoring criteria rewards, clear, concise, respectful discourse. Please familiarise yourself marking criteria.
- Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be awarded to top three teams and each ethlete will receive a certificate to acknowledge the fact that they have been selected to represent their university. Please note the results will be announced on the following day and medals will be posted to coaches. Certificates will also be emailed to coaches to be distributed later.

**Ethics Olympiad for Tertiary Students- will be held on**  
**October 8th 2026**



**Start times:**

- 8 am – Western Australia, Singapore & Hong Kong
- 10 am – Queensland
- 10.30 am – South Australia & Northern Territory
- 11 am – ACT, N.S.W, Tas & Victoria
- 1 pm – New Zealand

**Finish times:**

- 12.30 pm – Western Australia, Singapore and Hong Kong
- 2.30 pm – Queensland
- 3 pm – South Australia and Northern Territory
- 3.30pm– ACT, N.S.W, Tas & Victoria
- 5.30pm– New Zealand

**Program for the Day:**

Note: As we are all in different time zones we are not going refer to times of the day.

- Welcome & Preparation – 20 minutes – Main Zoom Foyer
- Heat One – 1 ¼ hours Breakout Rooms
- Break – 15 minutes
- Heat Two – 1 ¼ hours Breakout Rooms
- Break – 10 minutes
- Announcements – 5 minutes
- Heat Three – 1 ¼ hours Breakout Room
- Finish Team Photos and Thankyous

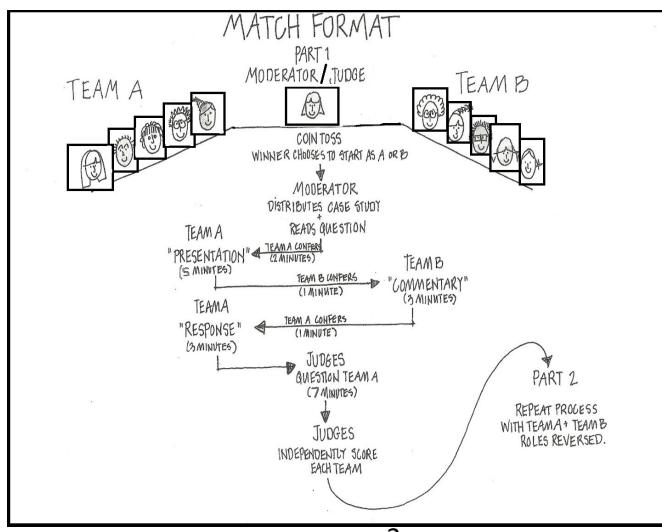
## Heat Format, Rules & scoring

Pre-prepared notes are not permitted. Participants are allowed to have blank scrap paper on which to make notes and copies of the cases. No pre-prepared notes are permitted.

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. Participants will then be invited to have a two-minute team meeting. With their microphone off you have two minutes to discuss and plan your response to the question. Team A then has up to five minutes to present their case. (Only one person can speak at a time) 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 up to seven 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, 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.



## **Participants**

Teams will be made up of five students with a max of two teams from each University. The Olympians can be current undergraduate students from a tertiary institution in Australasia. Coaches are usually graduate students.

## **Topics for the 2026 Tertiary Ethics Olympiad:**

Case 1: Brave New World

Case 2: Curb Your Overtourism

Case 3: Tamil Autonomy

Case 4: Cruising at the End of the World

Case 5: Torture

Case 6: No-platforming

Case 7: Births of a Nation

Case 8: And Now You Care?

**You can find these online at:**

**<http://ethicsolympiad.org/2026TertiaryEthicsOlympiad/2026TertiaryCases.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 team coaches soon after the event.



## 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.

## TERTIARY ETHICS OLYMPIAD SCORE SHEET

<p><b>TEAM A</b> _____ Team A Presentation (First case)</p> <p>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) _____</p> <p>1. Team A presentation score (Total A-C above) _____ of 15</p> <p>3. Team A response to commentary _____ of 15</p> <p>4. Team A response to Judges' questions _____ of 15</p> <p>-----end of case 1-----</p>	<p><b>TEAM B</b> _____</p> <p>2. Team B commentary _____ of 10</p> <p>-----end of case 1-----</p> <p>Team B Presentation (Second case)</p> <p>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) _____</p> <p>1. Team B presentation score (Total A-C above) _____ of 15</p> <p>3. Team B response to commentary _____ of 15</p> <p>4. Team B response to Judges' questions _____ of 15</p> <p>-----end of case 2-----</p> <p>9. Team A respectful dialogue _____ of 5 of 60</p> <p><b>10. TOTAL</b> _____ of 60</p> <p>Comments for Team A:</p>
<p>9. Team B respectful dialogue _____ of 5 of 60</p> <p><b>10. TOTAL</b> _____ of 60</p> <p>Comments for Team B:</p>	<p>Print Judges Name _____</p> <p>Please email the final scores to <a href="mailto:admin@ethicsolympiad.org">admin@ethicsolympiad.org</a></p>

