



INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS OLYMPIAD (IEO) 2021 OPENTRACK SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

1. Introduction

1.1. According to the [Statute](#), Paragraphs 1.1 and 2.3.3, the International Economics Olympiad (IEO) is an intellectual competition designed specifically for high school students, with specific conditions for participation eligibility.

1.1.1. In these Specific Regulations, this main mode of participation is referred to as the *MainTrack*, in contrast with the *OpenTrack* as described hereinafter.

1.2. The OpenTrack was proposed by the President and the Secretary of the Executive Board (EB) in 2020 and is implemented by a group of specialists drawn from members of the EB and of the IEOx Community, hereby referred to as the IEO OpenTrack Workgroup.

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 demonstration of the IEO's activities. The principles behind this 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 the IEO Community, for both prospective contestants and Olympiad organizers.

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 to their respective Delegations in the given year;
- individuals older than the eligible age for participation in the MainTrack (as per Statute, 2.3.3) 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 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.

With that said, anyone of any age and background can participate.

2. On Participation and Registration

2.1. Participation in the OpenTrack is unrestricted: one does not have to fulfill the criteria stated on paragraph 2.3.3 of the Statute 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 origin, name(s), date(s) of birth, e-mail address(es), phone number(s), and (optionally) institution represented.

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

2.2 Registration can be undergone either as an individual or as a team.

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 IEO OpenTrack Workgroup using such criteria as age and country of origin.

2.3. Registration for the OpenTrack closes by default one week before the start of the Olympiad.

2.3.1. The IEO OpenTrack Workgroup reserves itself the prerogative to close registration before that, should the number of registered contestants exceed 1500.

2.4. In the week prior to the beginning of the IEO, contestants registered on the OpenTrack will be asked, by means of a follow-up form, to confirm whether their intention to participate stands.

3. On Activities and Material

3.1. OpenTrack contestants will be able to watch the livestreams of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, as well as those of guest lectures and assorted activities.

3.2. OpenTrack contestants participate in the three main rounds of the IEO: the Financial Literacy Game, the Economics Test, and the Business Case.

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 activities as listed on Paragraph 3.2) is the same as in the MainTrack (see the [Syllabus](#) for a detailed description), but examination (see Paragraph 5) and grading (Paragraph 6) procedures may differ.

4. On Infrastructure

4.1. The OpenTrack takes place online and its general schedule runs in parallel with the MainTrack's.

4.1.1. The Rounds on the OpenTrack may take place at different times than those of the MainTrack for security reasons.

4.2. The OpenTrack's infrastructure consists of a channel and chat on Telegram for official announcements and two-way communication and a number of rooms on [Zoom](#) for proctoring, as well as proprietary IEO software and other systems the IEO OpenTrack Workgroup may judge necessary.

4.3. Contestants are responsible for having access to the systems used.

5. On Examination Procedures

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

5.1.1. The Financial Literacy Game runs on the same proprietary server as the MainTrack, with the same server-side security measures in place. User-side proctoring may also be present.

5.1.2. The Economics Test is held with proctoring in parallel Zoom rooms, with their exact number scaled as a function of the

amount 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 group. The IEO OpenTrack Workgroup will facilitate initial contact between the members of each group by means of the contact details provided at registration.

6. On Grading and Moderation

6.1. The Financial Literacy Game and the multiple choice questions on the Economics Test are graded automatically.

6.2. The open questions on the Economics Test and the Business Case resolution are graded by means of peer-grading with the official rubrics provided by the IEO Problem Committee or by means of a Jury selected by the IEO OpenTrack Workgroup, at different stages of evaluation.

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

6.3. Any changes in the Economics Test's official answer key or the Financial Literacy Game's scoring system, brought about by Moderation on the MainTrack, will be retroactively applied to the OpenTrack as well. Otherwise, OpenTrack contestants will **not** be able to appeal their grades.

7. On Awards and Certification

7.1. OpenTrack contestants will earn a digital Certificate containing their individual and team results in each round of the competition, in which the OpenTrack's status as an open version of the IEO is highlighted.

7.2. OpenTrack contestants are not eligible for medals or trophies.

8. Closing Remarks

8.1. With the creation of the OpenTrack, we (the IEO OpenTrack Workgroup) reiterate our commitment to making Economics, Finance and Business education available to an ever wider audience, our intention to create a good precedent in the International Economics

Olympiad community, and our efforts to strengthen the bonds that bring the IEO Community together.

8.2. These Specific Regulations refer only to the IEO 2021. They may be changed pending detailed review by the EB. This current version of the document is dated **June 11th, 2021** and replaces any previous iterations.

8.2.1. History of Changes

i. June 11th, 2021 — first official version of document.

8.3. The 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 the Statute.

8.4. The IEO OpenTrack Workgroup can be directly reached at opentrack@ecolymp.org, and will officially answer any questions that may arise from reading these Specific Regulations.

IEO OpenTrack Workgroup, June 11th, 2021.