



Competition rules – Annual Conference

AEHT Competition Rules

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1. Preliminary remark:

Since the creation of AEHT in 1988, the competitions organized during the Annual Conference have greatly evolved and they now occupy a predominant place in this event. With the steady increase of participants and their ambitions and desires to win, competition rules and regulations had to be constantly adapted and today they define in detail their organization and conduct.

The principle of making mixed teams of students from different countries had the objective to focus more on rapprochement and communication of young people from the 4 corners of Europe than on the strict desire to win. In recent years, it appeared however that the pressure made by schools on their participants to be among the winners was still very present and that sometimes less honest means were used to influence the juries of competitions to provide an advantage to a candidate.

To avoid such unworthy maneuvers, procedures were implemented to minimize the possibility of conflicts of interest between jury members and candidates. Unfortunately, these procedures have become so heavy and cumbersome that the organization of competitions has reached an unacceptable level of work for the organizing school and the Presidium.

Starting from the Annual Meetings of 2012, various changes were agreed to limit the influence of external on juries and facilitate the general organization of the competitions. These changes concern in particular Articles 8 and 9 of this Regulation.



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2. Preamble

For the students, the competitions represent the main part of the Annual Meeting. The spirit advanced by the AEHT is to learn to work in a team with one or more partners from other countries and other cultures while communicating in a foreign language, thus living a unique experience that only the AEHT platform can provide.

The rules developed for these competitions are the result of long discussions and continuous adaptations, based on the evaluation and the experience of the past years and if they cannot pretend to be perfect, they try at least to offer the students a consistent and fair frame for competing.

There is no doubt that their application is only possible with the co-operation of all those concerned, in particular in the choice of the students by the schools.

3. Competition Commission (CC)

To guarantee fair competitions during the Annual Meeting, the AEHT appoints a **supervisory commission** to adapt continuously the AEHT competition rules, help the organizer to prepare the competitions and monitor their progress. The actual commission is composed of:

- BAUER Romana, Bad Leonfelden (A)
- CVIKL Helena , Maribor (SLO)
- VATNSDAL, Asdis, Kopavogur (ISL)
- ROBERT Louis , Wiltz (L); AEHT-Vice-President & Coordinator

Members of the supervisory commission attend, if possible, all competition briefings. Similarly, they have access to all competition areas while competitions are in progress and have the authority to interact with all judges.

In the event of non-compliance with the competition rules, the supervisory commission or any of its members has the authority to instruct the judges to ensure that the rules are implemented.

Final marking sheets may be passed to the supervisory commission for final checking before results are announced.

The organizer takes care to inform the juries of the presence of the commission members and their authorization to enter at all times the competition areas. They will wear special badges mentioning their identity and their function.

The competition organizers and/or their helpers may not be part of the supervisory commission.

4. Entry Requirements

- Students eligible for competition must be registered in a course of study at an AEHT member school and in the second half of their course.
Students being temporarily registered in a school in the context of an exchange are not allowed to compete for their host school.
- **The age limit to participate in a competition is 26 years at the moment of the Annual Meeting.**
- Students are required to communicate either in English or in French during competition. The organizer is not allowed to provide explanations in another language than those



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specified here above. This includes also the ban of giving explanations in their native language to indigenous students. Students whose mother tongue is French must communicate in English and English-speaking students must communicate in French during the competition.

- In competitions where communicating with the jury part of the test, students whose native language is French must communicate in English and English-speaking students must communicate in French;
- Except for the competitions for higher education students, all contests are reserved for students in **initial training**.
- For reasons of equity, a student who participated once in a competition during an Annual Meeting is not allowed to register a second time for any competition.

5. Registration

All sections of the registration forms should be fully and accurately completed and returned to the administrator by the required dates inclusive of full payment.

Please note: Only fully completed registration forms will be processed for competitions. The organizers of the competitions will not accept responsibility for the consequences of incomplete or inaccurate registration forms, or those not accompanied by payment.

- Each school is allowed to enrol only one student per competition.
- Except for the organizing country, each participating country may fill a maximum of 25% of the available places per competition; For the organizing country this limit is fixed to 50%.
- Places will be allocated to those whose registration forms are accurately completed and who have paid their full registration fee, on a “first come, first served” basis.
- The organizers reserve the right to reject a registration. If a registration is rejected, the school in question will receive a written explanation.
- The organizers reserve the right to cancel a competition if there are not enough participants enrolled; they will inform already registered candidates of their decision in good time.
- All exemptions from the above points need the approval of the AEHT Presidium.

6. Competition Environment and Organisation

- Ideally, competitions should be open to the public where possible, in order to support and encourage the participants. In all cases the end-products could be put on display.
- However, in the case the public accesses a competition area, care must be taken to avoid too much comings and goings and to invite the spectators to keep silent, in particular in using mobile phones.
- The organizer should provide the competitors in advance with a detailed list of equipment and ingredients which will be supplied by the organisers and what the participants may bring themselves. Service equipment may not be used in the presentation of dishes in any of the competitions for preparing food or beverages.
- Competitors should present themselves for the competition in the appropriate professional uniforms.
- First-aid kits should be available and accessible throughout the competitions.



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7. Competition Specifications

- In all competitions the competitors must work in multi-national teams. Composition of the teams should ideally be established by drawing lots.
A team can have only one participant from the same country.
- Competition specifications should be as detailed and precise as possible. The competitions should encourage creativity, innovation, communication and teamwork while at the same time presenting the students with sufficient professional challenge.
- The competition specifications must be written both in English and French and must be published in a downloadable form on the Internet latest for September 1st. The English and French versions of the specifications must be checked for accuracy and consistency prior to publication.
- The marking criteria and marking scheme for each competition must be written in both English and in French and published on the Internet at the same time as the competition specifications.
- No changes may be made to the competition specifications, marking criteria and marking scheme later than thirty days pre commencement of the annual conference. Any changes made up to this time must be clearly and easily noticed on the website.

8. Judging Panel

- The organisers will ensure that the competitions are run in a manner that is favourable and fair to all participants. To support this, the organisers and judging panels must be fully familiar with the rules and ethos of the competition. The host organisation is required to select jury members in advance and forward the competition rules to them. Judges must then meet prior to the competitions at a special technical meeting held by the organisers for familiarisation with the rules and the marking criteria. Judges who do not attend this familiarisation session can be excluded by the supervisory commission.
- The role of the judging panel is to ensure that the competition is conducted with fairness, integrity and according to the rules.

Concerning the composition of the Judging Panel:

- The jury will consist of three to seven members including a teacher of the organizing school, the other members being teachers from AEHT members attending the Annual Meeting;
- The president, teacher of the organizing school, will not mark any participants of his country;
- Each member of the judging panel must be fluent in either French or English. Where all members of the judging panel speak only English or French an interpreter is added if necessary;
- For the Tourism, Reception and Management competitions the panel must be bilingual (English and French);
- Confidentiality binds the judging panel at all times.
- In the spirit of the competition, members of the judging panel should exercise respect, tolerance and support for the participants. At no time should they cause embarrassment to the competitors.
- Prior to the competitions, the jury must become familiar with the rules and specifications, the marking criteria and note scales;



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- The president of the panel of judges, accompanied by the panel of judges and the organizer, will thoroughly brief the competing teams on all aspects of the competition, inclusive of marking criteria and marking schemes.
- The panel of judges will check that:
 - The competition area and equipment are in accordance with the brief. If not, the foreman should call the overall competition organizer and the individual competition organizer to rectify the situation.
 - The teams do not bring to the competition any unauthorised equipment or ingredients.

9. The medals and awards

Medals will be awarded based on points earned in the contest:

- for 90% or more of the points a gold medal;
- from 80% to 89% a silver medal;
- from 70% to 79% a bronze medal.

Therefore zero, one or more teams can have medals in each category. **To avoid an inflation of medals, the maximum of teams awarded a medal in each colour, gold, silver and bronze, is limited to three.**

Each competition participant will have a certificate specifying, where appropriate, the medal obtained.

The host school will present awards to winners in function of its financial resources.

The decision of the judging panel cannot be disputed.

10. Disqualification

The judging panel may declare a team disqualified for one or more of the following reasons:

- Prompting of teams by teachers or members of the public.
- Violation of the entry conditions.
- Use of equipment and materials other than those permitted by the organisers.

In case of justified doubts about a candidate's language skills, the supervisory commission can subject the student to a language test to decide about his/her admission to the competition.