GROUND RULES

General Caveats

1. Decisions taken by ICAP-nominated adjudicators with respect to the proceedings of competition including the interpretation of rules and regulations shall be considered final and binding.
2. All questions will be derived from pre-defined syllabus outline, available at ICAP NFO website. Participants cannot challenge the authenticity and relevance of any part of the competition during or after the Olympiad.
3. Only those answers will be considered as correct which match with the answers defined by the technical partners of ICAP, comprising of leading audit firms. ICAP is not bound to disclose the answers or the basis of the answers to the participants.
4. ICAP is not bound to disclose the aggregate scores of participating teams to any person.
5. ICAP reserves the rights to add or amend the rules and regulations at its sole discretion, if considered necessary. Any addition or change will be shared with all participating teams.

Qualifying Round

This is the first round of the competition scheduled for **January 17, 2026**, held virtually

1. Qualifying Round comprises of computer-based MCQs of 75 marks followed by QuickSim of 25 marks.
2. Test will be conducted online simultaneously for all registered teams.
3. Testing pattern is available on ICAP NFO website and defined in the brochure.
4. Sample paper is available on ICAP NFO website to registered teams only.
5. The computer-based MCQs is an open book test including soft copies and access to internet.
6. The maximum time allocated for the MCQs will be 2 hours.
7. Negative marking will be done for each wrong answer.
8. QuickSim is another segment added to the round.
9. Instructions will be shared with registered teams before the Qualifying Round for requirements of browser and other technical requirements. Therefore, keep posted to your email inboxes closer to the event.
10. This round will be conducted virtually for all teams. Whereas all 3 team members in a team are required to be available together to attempt the round.
11. Scores of this round for qualifying teams will be carried forward to round two.

Simulation & Assessment Round

This is the second round of the Competition scheduled for **January 20, 2026, held hybrid.**

1. The simulation round will be conducted online simultaneously for all registered teams in Karachi, Lahore, and any other team joining internationally.
2. A professor from the Karachi School of Business and Leadership (KSBL) will conduct the simulation while independent facilitators will conduct the assessment activity.
3. Facilitators will brief the teams to ensure a complete understanding of the requirements and the KPIs for online simulation.
4. The other half of the round will comprise any exciting activity. Each team will be considered as a single unit.
5. The top six teams will advance to the Grand Finale based on consolidated scoring of both rounds.
6. Instructions will be shared with qualifying teams before the Round.

Grand Finale

This is the third round of the Competition scheduled. Part A will be **The Board Room**

a. Each team will be required to present a solution to a business, finance, economic, or environmental problem which will be assigned after the Simulation & Assessment Round.
b. Time allotted for presenting the solution and convincing the jury will be a maximum of 8 minutes, followed by a 2-minute Q/A session by the jury.
c. Maximum score for Part A will be 60 marks.
d. ICAP nominated panel of judges and audience will evaluate all teams according to the pre-defined criteria.

1. Part B will be **100 Seconds**
   a. An ICAP-nominated facilitator/adjudicator will conduct this round.
   b. All teams will be given 100 seconds simultaneously to answer the maximum number of questions possible.
   c. Each team will have the option to pass a maximum of 3 questions, in case they don't want to answer it.
   d. Each question carries 3 marks.
      i. Key financial and economic trends in Pakistan during the last 3 years.
      ii. Key technological trends in the corporate sector across the world in the last 3 years.
      iii. Pakistan international relations.
   e. Negative marking will apply for each wrong answer.

2. Part C will be **Spin the Wheel**
   a. An ICAP-nominated facilitator/adjudicator will conduct this round.
   b. Teams will have 6 categories to choose the questions from, these categories are emancipating from the Syllabus as ;
      i. Accounting concepts and applications ii) Business financial management iii) Risk & control iv) Compliance and Governance v) Ethics (vi) Economy
   c. Each team will have 3 turns in this round to choose a category each time
   d. Once the spin stops, participants will have 10 seconds to choose risk as High or Low.
   e. Team will have 45 seconds to respond and lock the selected answer.
   f. Risk in score will be associated with each category.

The team that scores the highest aggregate marks in all parts of the **Grand Finale** will be declared the **National Finance Champion 2025.**

In the event of a tie, applicable rules as advised by the ICAP nominated panel of judges would apply and shall be binding on all the concerned participants.

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Signature of Team Leader or Coach/Mentor