

NATIONAL COMPETITION RULES AND FORMAT

The following rules aim to be as detailed as possible. Should any doubts or concerns arise our organizing team is available to provide additional clarifications.

I - Team eligibility

- (1) Each team will comprise 4 full-time students enrolled in an undergraduate or Master programme at the time of the competition.
- (2) The age limit for participating team members is 25 years of age.
- (3) A maximum of 40 teams will be accepted to participate (first come first serve). If applications exceed 40 teams a balanced number of teams per school will be used as criteria to select the participating teams (first come first serve per school).
- (4) Only students from invited schools are allowed to participate.

II - Team application

- (1) To apply, each team should send an e-mail to FEUP.UPORTONCC@gmail.com with information about:
 - a. school(s) of origin
 - b. each of the 4 team members' information: name, e-mail, degree, Short CV or LinkedIn Profile.
- (2) Acceptance to the NCC will be communicated by e-mail together with info for payment of the participation fee (30€ per team)
- (3) Proof of fee payment must be sent by e-mail to FEUP.UPORTONCC@gmail.com until 10th of November.
- (4) After having received confirmation and paid the fee each team will receive a confirmation of participation
- (5) Info of selected teams/students may also be shared with Sponsors for recruitment purpose.

III - Case Solving Period

- (1) Case Launch will take place on the 20th November at 9 a.m.
- (2) Enrolled Teams will receive a written Case Study on the and must deliver their recommendations until the 20th November (24:00).
- (3) Teams are expected to address the case in the most innovative, logical and efficient way and to develop a PPT presentation with their analysis and recommendations.
- (4) Until the deadline of the Solving Period, Teams are required to upload a PowerPoint presentation (MS PPT) to a specific drive previously shared with competing teams.

IV - Details and Restrictions during the Case Preparation Period

- (1) Participants are allowed to use an unlimited number of textbooks and reference materials.
- (2) Internet access is allowed, however, only info from free websites and sources are permitted. Internet use is allowed during the case preparation period, but access to any source that requires passwords is strictly forbidden (including paid AI).
- (3) Any form of input of any other people that are not the four participating team members is strictly forbidden.
- (4) Teams that do not respect the rules will be automatically disqualified

V - Preliminary round

- (1) In the Preliminary Round there are no oral presentations, just a submission of a PowerPoint (PPT) presentation.
- (2) All PPTs must be in English. Presentations must also be done in English.
- (3) The submitted PPT presentations will be screened by a panel of Judges invited by FEP School of Economics and Management.

VI - Finals

- (1) The eight best teams from the Preliminary Round will be announced by e-mail on the 26th of November and invited to participate in the NCC Finals (online).
- (2) NCC Finals will take place online on the 28th November.
- (3) All 4 team members must participate in the case presentation.
- (4) Presentations will be limited to 12 minutes, followed by a 10 minutes' question and answer (Q&A) period. Once the said time limit has been reached, presenters may only finish their current sentence.
- (5) Participants are NOT allowed to use their official University name and logo in their PowerPoint Presentations, just their names and a fictional team name.
- (6) Finalists are not allowed to make any slide changes between the preliminary and final rounds.
- (7) All materials produced by teams during the competition are property of UPORTO NCC Organizing Committee: i.e. slides, pictures, videos, etc. and may be shared with Sponsors.

VII - Judging

- (1) Judges will consist of senior business executives and business experts.
- (2) The judging criteria will be as follows:

Judging criteria
Problem identification and quality of analysis
Innovative ideas and evaluation of alternatives
Detail and feasibility of recommended solutions
Adequate analysis of financial and operational implications
Performance in the Q&A session
Structure and quality of the presentation
Overall performance (flow, team, persuasiveness...)

VIII - Authorization

By enrolling in the Competition students allow the Organizing Committee to share their contacts (Name, E-mail, Phone number; short CV) with Sponsors.

IX - Disclaimer

Circumstances for which no provision is made in these rules shall be decided by the Organising Committee and its decision shall be final.