



# ETHICS OLYMPIAD

*"The world has achieved brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience. Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants." Bradley Omar*

Your school is invited to register teams to participate in the  
**2023 Senior High School Ethics Olympiad**



*"The Ethics Olympiad makes an exciting and educationally important international experience integral to an academic competition incorporating core elements of both the Ethics Bowl and the Philosothon, two innovative approaches to teaching ethics hugely popular with students, and acclaimed widely by educators. I anticipate great success for the Ethics Olympiad."*

- Dr Rob Ladenson Founder of the US Ethics Bowl

## What is an Ethics Olympiad?

During the day all students will be involved in a series of four Ethics Olympiad heats where they will be scored according to set criteria which rewards, clear, concise, respectful discourse around challenging ethical cases. At the end of the day, three teams will be awarded Gold Silver and Bronze medals and invited to represent their region in an international event. The Ethics Olympiad will provide your students with a unique and rewarding experience as they engage with other students in a format that promotes civil critical and collaborative discourse.

## How does it work?

Each school will send a team or two teams of five students (eth-letes). The heats will be run simultaneously with a common format and common timing. We will use Zoom on the day. Coaches and eth-letes will receive training kits and 8 ethical cases. On the day Tertiary specialists will be judging each heat although the first heat is a practice/preparation round. There will be a round robin format with each team taking turns to present and critique arguments. Please note, this is not a debate as teams can agree with each other about the best ethical outcome. All participating students will receive a certificate and the winning schools in each regional will receive medals to be awarded at a school assembly.

**WWW.ETHICSOLYMPIAD.ORG**

## Locations (Please note these Olympiads will be held online)

- Victoria – Monday 1st May 2023
- ACT – Tuesday 2nd May 2023
- N.S.W. 1 – Thursday 4th May 2023
- Tasmania – Friday 5th May 2023
- Western Australia 1 – Monday 8th May 2023
- Singapore – Monday 8th May 2023
- Queensland 1 – Tuesday 9th May 2023
- Queensland 2 – Thursday 11th May 2023
- N.S.W. 2 – Friday 12th May 2023
- North Island 1 -NZ – Monday 15th May 2023
- North Island 2 -NZ – Wed. 17th May 2023
- South Island NZ – Friday 19th May 2023
- Western Australia 1 – Monday 22nd May 2023
- Hong Kong – Monday 22nd May 2023
- India – Monday 22nd May 2023
- South Australia - Wednesday 24th May 2023
- Northern Territory- Wednesday 24th May 2023
- Victoria 2 – Friday 26th May 2023
- NSW 3 – Saturday 27th May 2023

In Australasia, NZ, India, Singapore and Hong Kong we are inviting 15-18 year old High Schools students to participate. Younger students can also participate.

Registration fee: \$44 per student for members - \$48 per student for non-members. There is no cost for supervising teachers and a discount for early bird registrations.

Sign up your school here: [www.ethicsolympiad.yahoosites.com/2023-senior-high-school-students-ethics-olympiad.html](http://www.ethicsolympiad.yahoosites.com/2023-senior-high-school-students-ethics-olympiad.html)

ABN: 52 606 554 367 | Ethics Olympiad - PO BOX 116, Dernancourt SA 5075

## Background

Ethics Olympiads are being run throughout Australia, India, Hong Kong, Singapore and New Zealand. In the US it is called the 'Ethics Bowl' and this is run for College and High School students in most US states and Canada. In the UK the John Stuart Mill Cup is held annually for high school students at universities throughout the country and the final is held at St Andrew's University. There are also several Ethics Bowls held in China.



The purpose of the Ethics Olympiad is to assist schools as they help students develop important skills in communication, collaboration and critical thinking.

Unlike a debate, students are not assigned a position. Rather they take their own considered position in relation to an ethical question. As a team, students consider carefully their response to the question and collectively present their position. The alternate team can agree with the position taken and they might choose to reinforce the position, offering other arguments that reinforce the argument. Alternatively, a team might take a different position and choose to demonstrate the weaknesses in the alternate view while offering arguments that sustain their own position. It is important that students provide careful sustained reasoning in response to the question. If they disagree with the position taken by the other team, they must always demonstrate respect and civility. In the end all teams are given a mark for their critical thinking skills, but also the degree of respect and care they demonstrate.

## Process and Feedback

Most of the work happens in the lead up to the event as students train for the day. Like a sporting event we believe that training and practice are key to developing excellence in reasoning. Coaches and eth-letes receive a training kit at the time of registration. At the event eth-letes are presented with a question related to one of the eight cases. As a team and together with the other team they have to construct the best possible answer. Gold and Silver medal winning teams will be invited to represent their region at the Australasian final.

The following feedback is not uncommon after the event;

*"This event was highly enjoyable and very interesting topics were given which helped me think more deeply about issues in this world. Also, I really enjoyed meeting new people and it was a great opportunity."*

### Program for the Day:

- Starts 9 am - 9.15 am - Preparation
- 9.15-10.30 am - Heat One (Practice Heat)
- 10.30 am -11.45 am - Heat Two
- 11.45 Morning tea
- 12-1.15 - Heat Three
- 1.15 pm – 1.45 Lunch
- 1.45-3pm- Heat Four
- 3 pm – Finish

*"Thanks for a wonderful day!"*

*"A fantastic experience and opportunity to be challenged by ethical issues in a supportive environment."*

*"The Ethics Olympiad was incredible and definitely a life changing experience. It really opened my eyes to the ethical possibilities and also allowed me to hear and respect other peoples positions on the case topics."*



We welcome any questions you might have. Please email us if you would like to find out more or go to the website.

Further information can be found at [www.ethicsolympiad.org](http://www.ethicsolympiad.org)  
Email: [admin@ethicsolympiad.org](mailto:admin@ethicsolympiad.org)

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