

# IOAI REGULATIONS

## Regulations of the International Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence (IOAI)

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## 1. Introduction

This document contains the regulations of the International Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence (IOAI). The name of the organisation in each language shall be agreed by countries where that language is spoken officially.

## 2. Abbreviations, Definitions, General Statements

### Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
AI	Artificial Intelligence
GA	General Assembly
GAITE	Global AI Talent Empowerment
IOAI	International Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence
ISO	International Science Olympiad
ISC	International Scientific Committee
HOC	Host Organizing Committee
HSC	Host Scientific Committee
NOAI	National Olympiad in AI
ROAI	Regional Olympiad in AI

### Definitions

**Accredited Organization** – An organization officially accredited by the IOAI Board to represent its country or territory in the IOAI.

**Board or International Board or IOAI Board** – Mean one and the same body.

**Conflict of Interest** – Any situation in which an individual’s personal, financial, professional, or institutional affiliations compromise or could reasonably be perceived to compromise their impartiality or integrity in IOAI processes or decisions.

**Country / Territory** – Shall mean both internationally recognized sovereign states and territories, as defined by the United Nations

(<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/member-states>) or listed as non-self-governing (<https://www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/nsgt>), or those approved for separate participation by the IOAI Board and the host country.

*When using the word “country” in this document, it shall mean “country or territory” unless otherwise specified.*

**Day** – Shall mean calendar day.

**Founder** – The founding entity of IOAI is the LERAI Foundation.

**Founding Country / Territory** – A country or territory that participated in the first IOAI with a team or as an observer.

**Host Country / Host Institution** – The country or institution selected and confirmed by the Board to organize and implement a specific edition of the IOAI, including the formation of the Host Organizing Committee and Host Scientific Committee.

**Host Organizing Committee (HOC)** – The HOC is the host country’s organizing team responsible for all logistical, operational, and administrative aspects of delivering the IOAI event. This includes accommodation, transportation, scheduling, volunteer management, venue setup, and coordination with the IOAI Board. The HOC may include representatives from the host institution, government, or educational partners.

**Host Scientific Committee (HSC)** – The HSC is appointed by the host organization of a given IOAI edition and is responsible for the practical preparation, testing, and implementation of competition tasks under the supervision and in collaboration with the ISC. The HSC ensures the local delivery of all scientific aspects of the contest.

**Hybrid Event** – An IOAI event format that includes both physical and virtual participation options, as approved by the Board under specific circumstances.

**International Jury or Jury** – The official judging body of the IOAI. Its members are selected from the Scientific Committee and affiliated experts, ensuring a high level of expertise and fairness in the evaluation process during IOAI.

**International Scientific Committee (ISC)** - the academic backbone of the International Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence (IOAI). It is responsible for upholding the scientific

quality, fairness, and educational value of the Olympiad, in line with IOAI's mission and vision. While the ISC operates year-round, a designated subset of the ISC and in some cases additional members, known as the International Jury or Jury, takes on specific responsibilities during the IOAI event itself.

**IOAI Community** – All individuals and organizations that are interested in IOAI.

**IOAI Initiators** – IOAI initiators are the persons that initiated the IOAI.

**IOAI Website** – The official website of the IOAI is <https://ioai-official.org/>. Separate websites may be created for specific editions of the IOAI; however, all such websites must be linked from the official IOAI site to ensure consistency and accessibility.

**LERAI** – LERAI foundation, a non-governmental and non-profit organization, acting as the administrator of IOAI directly or via legal entities owned by it. LERAI foundation is registered in Bulgaria with number 207631900 in December 2023.

**Meeting** – Shall mean a scheduled gathering of two or more people for the purpose of discussing, deciding, or coordinating on specific topics or objectives. Meetings can be held in any form – online, offline, or hybrid unless otherwise specified.

**Participants** – All persons present at an IOAI event, in person or virtually (only in cases when the Board has decided to hold an online IOAI).

#### Participant Categories

- **Contestants** – All members of the registered teams that participated in at least one day of the IOAI competition.
- **Team Leaders** – The official representatives responsible for guiding and supervising the teams of contestants from registered countries or territories. Each team has one Team Leader.
- **Observers** – Representatives of countries, territories, or organizations approved by the Board to visit the IOAI.
- **International VIP Guests** – Guests to the IOAI invited by LERAI, the Board, or the Host Organizing Committee. These are usually heads of state, ministers, mayors, leaders of international organizations, or major contributors to IOAI.
- **Local Guests** – Guests of IOAI from the host country.
- **Additional Attendees** – All other guests of an IOAI event that do not fall in the defined groups.

**Registered Country or Territory** – An accredited country or territory that has officially registered a team to participate in the IOAI and has paid the corresponding participation fee.

**Syllabus** – The official academic framework approved by the ISC and the Board that outlines the scope of knowledge and skills expected for participation in the IOAI. It serves as a guideline for task development and team preparation.

**Task Call** – The formal invitation issued by the ISC for the submission of task proposals for an upcoming IOAI edition. It may include elements such as task categories, formatting guidelines, submission deadlines, eligibility criteria, or other requirements as defined by the ISC.

**Voting and Effect** – Any voting is open unless otherwise defined, any voted decisions are passed with a simple (50%+1) majority unless otherwise defined and come into effect immediately unless otherwise defined.

**Week** – Shall mean calendar week.

**Year** – Shall mean calendar year starting January 1 and ending December 31.

## General Statements

### Official Language

The official language of IOAI is English. All official documents, communications, meetings, and competition materials must be conducted or made available in English.

### General Note on Language Usage

In this document, the masculine form includes the feminine, and the singular includes the plural where appropriate.

### Neutrality Statement

IOAI does not take political positions regarding the status of Registered countries or territories. Approval for participation does not imply recognition of sovereignty but solely ensures equal access to IOAI's educational platform and activities.

### **3. IOAI overview**

#### **3.1. What is IOAI**

IOAI is the International Science Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence for high school students.

In addition to the annual global competition week with accompanying academic and social programs, IOAI has under its umbrella Regional OAI. IOAI supports the National IOAs around the world, and builds a network of organizations and individuals in the field of AI.

#### **3.2. Initiation**

IOAI was initiated by: Lora Dineva, Elena Marinova, Rositsa Dekova, Aleksandar Velinov, and Iva Gumnishka.

The IOAI was founded by the LERAI Foundation, a non-governmental and non-profit organization registered in Bulgaria under the identification number 207631900, in December 2023.

The first Chair of the Board of IOAI was Elena Marinova.

The first President of IOAI was Aleksandar Velinov.

The first Chair of the IOAI Scientific Committee and 2024 Jury was Yova Kementchedjhieva.

The Founding countries / territories of IOAI are the counties / territories that participated in the 1st IOAI: Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, El Salvador (observer), Estonia, Hong Kong, Hungary, Isle of Man, Japan, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, team Letovo, Singapore, Sweden, Chinese Taipei, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, USA, Vietnam.

#### **3.3. 1st IOAI**

The 1st edition of IOAI took place in Burgas, Bulgaria, August 8-15, 2024. 41 (forty-one) teams from 32 (thirty-two) countries and territories across 6 (six) continents participated in the competition's 2 rounds: Scientific Round, with a focus on Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, and Computer Vision, and Practical Round, with a focus on AI and Arts.

#### **3.4. Mission**

IOAI's mission is to inspire and engage young people in science, with a focus on AI. We aim to provide a platform for the world's top AI students, selected through fair national

competitions, to compete, exchange ideas, and build connections. Our goal is to foster a global dialogue on AI's opportunities and ethical challenges, involving both students and the broader community.

### **3.5. Vision**

IOAI aspires to become an International Science Olympiad on par with the established ones in terms of participating countries and task level. In collaboration with global organizations and AI experts, IOAI builds a network of future innovators who will shape AI for the benefit of humankind and our planet, while ensuring financial accessibility for all participants, ensuring inclusivity and global reach.

We are working to build a diverse and sustainable community of financial supporters with the ultimate goal to create an IOAI endowment.

### **3.6. Values**

IOAI stands for transformative education, ethical leadership, and global collaboration in artificial intelligence. It empowers young minds from all backgrounds to explore, learn, and innovate through inclusive competition, mentorship, and real-world problem-solving. Grounded in values of diversity, responsibility, and connection, IOAI nurtures the next generation of leaders committed to using AI for the common good and fostering a more inclusive, sustainable future.

#### **Core Values of IOAI:**

- **Education** – Transformative, hands-on learning that inspires critical thinking, creativity, and deep engagement with AI.
- **Equal Opportunity, Diversity, and Inclusion** – A commitment to fairness and accessibility for all students, regardless of background.
- **Leadership and Inspiration** – Empowering a new generation of ethical, visionary leaders in AI.
- **Responsible and Impactful AI for Good** – Promoting AI that serves humanity, upholds ethical standards, and addresses global challenges.
- **Networking** – Building a global, collaborative community across disciplines, cultures, and sectors.

## 4. IOAI GAITE

### 4.1. Summary

The IOAI Global AI Talent Empowerment (GAITE) initiative supports countries and territories with limited International Science Olympiads history, helping them integrate into the IOAI community joining it on an equal footing.

### 4.2. Goals

- Promote STEM and AI globally;
- Foster inclusivity;
- Expand the IOAI community;
- Support national STEM and AI culture;
- Attract international partners.

### 4.3. Format

GAITE aligns with IOAI's format - team structure, timing, topics, etc. while being more flexible and accessible.

- Eligibility: Open to all countries / territories that have not participated in IOAI before
- Team Selection: Flexible, with a goal of establishing a national selection process by the end of the period.
- Tasks: adapted to the level of the GAITE members
- Awards: Unique for GAITE, different from IOAI medals
- Time limit: A country / territory must move from GAITE to the standard IOAI after no more than 5 years.. Once a country or territory decides to transition from GAITE to the standard IOAI competition, there is no option to return to GAITE.

### 4.4. Hubs and Partners

IOAI is building a network of regional hubs and partners with host, regional, and global organizations to promote IOAI GAITE and support its teams.

A regional hub will follow the guidelines for Regional OAs described in Section 5

## 4.5. GAITE Pioneers

IOAI GAITE was initiated by IOAI founder Elena Marinova and ratified by the IOAI Board in 2024.

IOAI GAITE first hubs, 2024/2025 were: Rwanda, for Africa, Brazil for Central and South America, China and Japan jointly for Asia - Pacific, Serbia for the Adriatic region.

IOAI GAITE's first partnering organization was Deep Learning INDABA for Africa.

## 5. Regional OAI

### 5.1. Summary

IOAI supports the creation of regional OAIs under its umbrella.

### 5.2. Goals

- Creating regional communities;
- Building regional practices and overcoming common challenges;
- Support national OAIs;
- Attract regional partners;
- Consolidate regional experience to be more effective in the global sharing of ideas and practices..

### 5.3. Format

Regional OAIs have the freedom to choose their own format, experiment and be the sandbox for IOAI innovations, still here are some guidelines:

- **General:** it is advised the majority of the Regional OAIs content to be aligned with the IOAI's format - team structure, timing, topics, etc. in order to play the role of a training platform for IOAI;
- **Eligibility:** Open to all countries / territories in the region and can be open to guest teams if decided by the organizers and local hosts;
- **Team Selection:** Flexible, with a goal of establishing national selection process
- **Tasks:** following the IOAI syllabus;
- **Awards:** following the distribution of IOAI;

- **In-person / online / hybrid:** While the Regional OAI s are expected to align as closely as possible with the IOAI format, it is more important to provide students with greater opportunities to participate in competitions and prepare for the IOAI. Therefore, it is recommended to prioritize inclusivity and allow more countries to take part - even if variations in format may create some imbalances in the awarding process at the Regional OAI s.
- A Regional OAI may be additionally aligned with the objectives of GAITE. See Section 4.

## 5.4. Creation of Regional OAI

Any member of the General Assembly may propose the creation of a Regional Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence (Regional OAI). The proposal is subject to approval by the Board through a vote.

## 5.5. Regional OAI s Pioneers

The first Regional OAI s were established just after the 1st IOAI, in 2024/2025. They were all held online and were open to any country to participate. Here are the regions and the initiators in alphabetical order:

- Adriatic - AI Association and ITS, Mr Dalibor Marinovic, Mrs Milena Ilić
- Asia-Pacific - Kazune Sato, Prof. Yong Mao
- North America - Steven Chen
- Northern Eurasia - Ekaterina Protsko, Alexander Gushchin, Meri Khusainova, Central University, AI Alliance

# 6. NOAI

## 6.1. Summary

The National OAI s are the base of the IOAI. While they are organized by the countries and territories on their own, in 2024, after the first IOAI, the IOAI International Board created guidelines and suggested four stages for the NOAI s. They can be found at the IOAI website.

Countries and territories are encouraged but not obliged to join the Regional OAI s.

## 6.2. Stages

- **Ignite:** Inspiring interest in AI and selecting motivated students.
- **Orient:** Basic training and community engagement.
- **Advance:** In-depth training with specialized resources.
- **Immerse:** Intensive preparation for international competition.

## 6.3. Goals

The first rounds of the NOAIs should be inspiring and inclusive, encouraging as many students as possible to develop interest in science, and AI in particular.

The last rounds should be selective and prepare the students to represent their countries or territories in the best way.

## 6.4. Format

The format of the NOAIs can be chosen by the different countries and territories. However, the IOAI sets the following minimum requirements:

- Free for the students, and in exceptional cases with a minor affordable by all the participants fee which can be subsidised in case of inability to be paid by a participant;
- Non discriminatory;
- Inclusive within the age range of the IOAI.

# 7. Bodies of IOAI

## 7.1. Overview

IOAI's General Assembly (GA) is the highest governing body.

IOAI is managed by an International Board responsible for the strategy and operations of IOAI; the Board reports directly to the GA.

IOAI International Scientific Committee is responsible for the scientific development, and coordination of the competition's scientific content, ensuring that it meets high academic standards and aligns with the latest advancements in the AI field; ISC reports to the Board and its decisions are approved by the Board.

The LERAI Foundation is the legal entity behind IOAI, responsible for its legal and financial administration. It operates under Bulgarian law and in accordance with the guidelines set by the IOAI Board.

## **7.2. LERAI Foundation (LERAI)**

LERAI Foundation is a non-governmental and non-profit organization, acting as the administrator of IOAI directly or via legal entities owned by it. LERAI Foundation is registered under the Law on Non-Profit Legal Entities of the Republic of Bulgaria and is entered in the Commercial Register and the Register of Non-Profit Legal Entities under UIC (Unique Identification Code): 207631900, in December 2023.

International Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence, IOAI, and the Logo of the Olympiad are intellectual property owned by LERAI Foundation. The name and logo must be used in accordance with the official brand guidelines.

### **7.2.1. LERAI Members**

The members of LERAI Foundation are listed in the Bulgarian Commercial Register and the Register of Non-Profit Legal Entities.

### **7.2.2. LERAI Rights and responsibilities**

- Recruit, compensate, and oversee IOAI staff to ensure the smooth, professional, and mission-aligned operation of IOAI.
- Sign and handle all legal and operational agreements worldwide, requiring coordination with partners, legal review, and compliance across jurisdictions.
- Manage bank accounts, process transactions, ensure compliance with banking regulations, and maintain financial accuracy.
- Track, invoice, and process payments from IOAI teams, observers and other global participants and contributors, managing different currencies, systems, and deadlines.
- Lead the management of IOAI's operational costs related to external vendors and service providers.
- Oversee IOAI's budgeting, financial planning, and investment strategy—ensuring responsible stewardship of funds to support long-term sustainability, strategic growth, and future initiatives. Manage and invest IOAI's financial resources, and review and approve expenditures proposed by the Board.

- Actively support fundraising efforts and manage external funding, including donor relations, compliance, and reporting.
- Lead and manage IOAI's commercial operations in the interest of the IOAI, including partnerships, merchandising, licensing, and other revenue-generating activities that support its mission and sustainability.
- Establish an IOAI endowment when conditions permit, to provide sustainable, long-term support for IOAI's mission.
- Approve proposals from the IOAI Board related to memberships, affiliations, joint ventures, mergers, and acquisitions.
- Assume full management and operational control of IOAI if requested by the Board, or in the event that the Board becomes inactive (e.g., fails to convene meetings or make decisions), non-functional (e.g., unable to achieve quorum or fulfill its duties), or obstructed (e.g., internal conflict or external interference prevents effective governance) for a period of three months or more.
- Act directly, or through legal entities under LERAI's control, including the use of powers of attorney where appropriate.
- To ensure the continuity of core operations, support all administrative activities, and build a resilient reserve, allocate and manage a minimum of 20% of all incoming funds to a dedicated operations and contingency fund.

### **7.2.3. LERAI Meetings**

Held in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bulgarian legislation.

## **7.3. General Assembly (GA)**

### **7.3.1. GA Members**

The **General Assembly (GA)** consists of:

- **One representative from each accredited country or territory.**
  - **When held during the annual IOAI event**, each country or territory is free to appoint a representative for the GA as long as the person is present at the event. If no appointment is made, the representative is typically considered to be the Team Leader of the respective delegation present at the event. In the case of two Team Leaders, the Team Leader of the first team will be regarded as the default representative.

Each country or territory should appoint its General Assembly representative **at least one (1) month before the IOAI event**. If no appointment is received, the IOAI Board and host may, if feasible, identify the Team Leader of the first team as a default. If this is not practical, the country or territory may not receive communications including regarding General Assembly topics or voting matters. In such cases, this will be regarded as equivalent to having received the information.

- **When held outside the IOAI event**, the representative is the accredited national or territorial contact, unless the country or territory explicitly designates someone else.
- **All members of the Board.**
- **Up to 5 (five) members of the ISC.**
- **Up to 3 (three) members of LERAI Foundation.**

### 7.3.2. **GA Rights and responsibilities**

- **Approve the official Regulations of IOAI**, including their amendments, through a formal voting process
- **Initiate and propose strategic topics** for discussion by the IOAI Board, contributing to the long-term vision and direction of the IOAI
- **Submit recommendations** to the IOAI Board on matters of structure, policy, and improvement
- **Vote on proposals** submitted by the Board, including changes to operational, structural, or strategic policies
- **Participate in the Call for Tasks process** initiated by the International Scientific Committee (ISC), by contributing original and high-quality problems
- **If invited by ISC, support the ISC in task selection, translation or other related activities** to ensure quality, diversity, and fairness in the task set
- **Receive an annual summary report from the IOAI Board**, outlining key decisions, developments, and progress across the organization
- **Propose and vote on the (re-)election of IOAI Board members**, ensuring democratic representation and continuity

- **Propose ISC members**, supporting the integrity and excellence of the Scientific Committee

### 7.3.3. GA Meetings

All meetings must be announced by the Chair or Secretary of the Board at least 14 (fourteen days) in advance, accompanied by the meeting agenda and any materials subject to a vote.

During the IOAI, a minimum notice period of 48 (forty-eight) hours applies.

The meetings are chaired by the Chair of the Board or a person appointed by the Chair of the Board.

Meetings may be held in person, online, or in hybrid format, provided that the Chair or a designated Board member is able to verify the presence of all participating Board members.

#### 7.3.3.1. Formal meetings

The General Assembly meets at least once per year during the annual IOAI event for a formal meeting where voting is expected.

If more formal meetings where voting is expected are needed, they should be announced as such.

#### 7.3.3.2. Community meetings

IOAI is dedicated to create a community and thus open meetings can be held at or in between the annual IOAI events where the General Assembly members but also others (such as team trainers, partners, sponsors etc.) can participate. No voting is expected to happen at these meetings.

### 7.3.4. Voting

- **Number of votes:** Each Accredited country or territory has one vote, each Board member has two votes, each LERAI member has three votes. When a person takes more than one role, only their role with the highest number of votes is the one that counts (for example: if a person is both a Team Leader and a Board member, they will have the higher of 1 vote as Team Leader and 2 votes as a Board Member; in that case the person will vote with 2 votes).

Each Accredited Country or Territory has the right to one (1) vote, exercised by the appointed representative, usually the Team Leader. If their representative holds a different role with higher voting weight, the country / territory may appoint

another representative; if no such appointment is made, the country or territory forfeits its vote for that meeting.

The Chair of the Board may invite other attendees such as ISC members, sponsors and partners to participate and speak at the meetings but they do not have voting rights.

- **Public vote:** All voting is public unless otherwise indicated in these regulations or in the meeting invitation.

- **Quorums:**

A quorum of 50% of the voting members is required for online and hybrid meetings and meetings in between IOAI.

A quorum of 75% of the present at the IOAI voting members is required when the GA meeting is physical and during a physical IOAI.

In the absence of a quorum the meeting is postponed for 1 (one) hour and held regardless of the number of participants present.

- **Majority:** Decisions are made based on a simple majority (50% of the votes +1 vote) of the present at the meeting voting members unless otherwise defined in these regulations. In case of equal votes, In case of equal votes, the Chair of the Board may facilitate further discussion to seek consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, the Chair may exercise a casting vote..
- **Immediate effect:** All decisions voted come into effect immediately unless clearly stated otherwise in the voting procedure.
- **Voting rights:** Voting rights are non-transferable and cannot be delegated.

## 7.4. IOAI International Board (Board)

The IOAI International Board consists of elected and non-elected members.

### 7.4.1. Board Rights and responsibilities

- **Strategic Leadership**
  - Define and refine the long-term vision and strategic direction of the IOAI.
  - Promote the global visibility, impact, and educational relevance of the Olympiad.
  - Propose to the LERAI Foundation matters related to strategic expansion, including:

- Memberships and partnerships;
  - Affiliations with international bodies and educational institutions;
  - Joint ventures, mergers, or acquisitions aligned with IOAI’s mission.
- **Governance and Oversight**
  - Provide comprehensive oversight of all IOAI operational activities, including:
    - Annual Olympiad organization and delivery;
    - Compliance with IOAI rules, regulations, and ethical guidelines;
    - Monitoring the work of the Scientific and Organizing Committees.
  - Ensure financial responsibility and transparency, in collaboration with the LERAI Foundation. This includes an annual financial report, which is made available to the General Assembly.
  - Ensure adherence to the ethical standards and core values of IOAI.
  - Engage meaningfully with the global IOAI community and uphold a culture of openness, inclusion, and accountability.
  - Represent IOAI at external events, conferences, and high-level forums - coordinated in advance with fellow Board members to ensure consistency and alignment with IOAI’s strategy.
  - Decide on matters not explicitly addressed in the IOAI Regulations.
- **Operational Decision-Making**
  - Together with LERAI Foundation approve and periodically adjust **participation fees**, ensuring fairness and sustainability
  - Select and confirm the **host country or territory** for future editions of the IOAI
  - Accredite the organizations representing countries and territories
  - Ratify proposals from the International Scientific Committee (ISC) such as but not limited to::

- Approve the Chair of the ISC;
- Approve the Jury;
- Approve the official IOAI Contest Rules, ensuring fairness, clarity, and alignment with the competition's goals;
- Medal and award criteria;
- Distribution of awards, medals, trophies, and special recognitions;
- Other forms of official competition acknowledgment.

## 7.4.2. Board Members

The Board consists of:

### 7.4.2.1. IOAI GA representatives

#### 7.4.2.2. Non-elected - up to 5 (five)

- 1 (one) representative of the International Scientific Committee - the Chair or an ISC member appointed by them. The members of the Board cannot be members of the ISC, except the ISC representative to the Board.
- 4 (four) IOAI hosts representatives, the current edition in preparation being IOAI n:
  - 1 representative from the HOC of IOAI n-1;
  - 1 representative from the HOC of IOAI n;
  - 1 representative from the HOC of IOAI n+1;
  - 1 representative from the HOC of IOAI n+2.

#### 7.4.2.3. Elected - up to 3 (three)

### Terms

- At the **2024 IOAI General Assembly**, three members were elected to the Board for a **one (1) year term**.
- At the **2025 IOAI General Assembly**, each newly elected Board member shall be assigned a term of **one (1), two (2), or three (3) years**, respectively. This staggered arrangement contributes to the Board continuity.
- Following the expiration of the terms assigned in 2025, **all subsequent Board elections** shall be for **three (3) year terms**, with each term concluding at the IOAI edition **closest to the end of the three-calendar-year period**.

- Elected members may serve a **maximum of three (3) consecutive full terms**. Board service continues across IOAI cycles regardless of whether the Olympiad is held **physically, online, or in hybrid format**.

## Election process

- **Formation of the Election Committee**

An **Election Committee** consisting of **three members**—a **Chair of the Election Committee** and **two additional members**—is appointed by the Board at least **four (4) weeks prior** to the scheduled elections. The Chair of the Election Committee may invite an additional participant to attend meetings and serve as backups, should any of the core members be unable to participate in the voting process.

- **Voting Procedure and Method**

The **voting procedure** and the **method of voting** (e.g., paper ballot or other approved means) are proposed by the **Election Committee** and must be **approved by the Board**.

- **Announcement and Nominations**

The Election Committee:

- Announce to the **General Assembly (GA)** the **open positions** on the Board.
- Opens a **call for nominations**, collecting a **list of candidates**.
- **Any member of the IOAI Community** may nominate a candidate, including **self-nomination**.
- The Election Committee must confirm each candidate's **willingness to serve** on the Board.

- **Communication to GA**

The **final list of candidates**, along with the **voting procedure** and **voting method**, is submitted to the **Board** and then announced by the **Board Secretary** to the **General Assembly**. This announcement must be made at least **three (3) days before the election**, via email or another communication method approved by the Board.

- **Candidate Presentations**

All confirmed candidates must be given the opportunity to **briefly present themselves** to the GA—either **in person** or via a **pre-recorded video message**—before or during the GA meeting.

- **Restrictions on Nominations**

**No new nominations** will be accepted at the GA meeting where voting takes place.

- **Voting Process**

Voting is **secret**.

Each GA member may vote for **as many candidates as they wish**, but **no more than the number of open positions**.

The Election Committee is responsible for:

- Maintaining the confidentiality of all votes.
- Ensuring voter anonymity throughout the process.

- **Election Outcome**

**All open Board positions** are voted on **simultaneously**. The candidates receiving the **highest number of votes** are elected to the open positions.

- **Tie-Breaking Procedure**

In the event of a tie:

- The LERAI representatives present at the GA meeting will hold an internal meeting during the GA session to make a decision.
- If they are unable to reach a consensus, the Chair of the IOAI Board holds the casting vote.

**7.4.2.4. Reserved positions - LERAI foundation members - up to 3 (three)**

- LERAI Foundation holds 3 (three) reserved seats on the IOAI Board.
- The LERAI members have no limitation on the number of their terms.

- If a member resigned or ceases to be part of the LERAI Foundation for any reason, their membership on the IOAI Board is automatically terminated. LERAI may immediately appoint a substitute.

### 7.4.3. Board members Termination

#### **Resignation**

A Board member may resign from their position at any time by submitting a written notice to the Board or the Chair of the Board. The resignation shall take effect immediately upon receipt, unless a later date is specified in the notice. The seat is considered vacant and the GA can elect a new Board member at the next General Assembly Meeting. The term of the newly elected member is a standard new term.

#### **Voluntary Temporary Withdrawal**

A Board member may request, once during their term, a temporary withdrawal from active duties for personal reasons - on a “no questions asked” basis - by submitting a written notice to the Chair of the Board. While no explanation is required, it is expected that such a request is based on a serious, objective and legitimate reason, such as illness, family emergency, or unforeseen and exceptional personal or professional obligations that, despite their best effort, make it temporarily impossible to fulfill their responsibilities as members of the Board. It is also expected that the member will be able to resume their duties after the period of absence.

Upon review and approval by a majority of the Board, the member retains their position for the duration of the approved withdrawal period. During this time:

- The member's seat shall not be considered vacant
- The member may resume full responsibilities at any time within the approved timeframe by notifying the Chair in writing

The initial withdrawal period may not exceed six (6) months. An extension of up to three (3) additional months (for a maximum total of nine (9) months). In this case a written explanation must be provided to the Board. This explanation must address the justification for both the initial withdrawal period and the need for the extension. The extension is subject to approval by a majority of the Board.

#### **Removal**

Under exceptional and well-documented circumstances that constitute a serious breach of responsibility, ethics, or trust, the IOAI Board may remove one of its

members during a duly convened Board meeting. A written proposal for removal should be submitted to the Chair of the Board by any member of the General Assembly or the Board, and must include clearly stated grounds and supporting evidence.

- **Grounds for Removal**

- **Inactivity**

A Board member shall be removed due to inactivity if they fail to attend all duly convened Board meetings over a continuous period of at least three (3) months, provided that the period between the first and last missed meetings spans at least three (3) months.

An exception to this rule applies in cases of **Voluntary Temporary Withdrawal** for personal reasons approved by the Board.

- **Unacceptable Professional or Political Affiliations**

- Holding a high political position, including senior roles in government or elected office, which may compromise the political neutrality of the IOAI;
- Employment by industries incompatible with IOAI's mission as a youth-focused initiative, including but not limited to: Defense and arms manufacturing, Alcohol and tobacco, Gambling and betting, Adult entertainment;
- Demonstrated involvement in, or association with, intelligence or security agencies in a manner that poses a risk, creates a conflict of interest, or compromises the integrity, neutrality, or values of the IOAI.

- **Gross misconduct, including but not limited to:**

- Engagement in criminal activity (e.g., fraud, corruption, theft);
- Illegal drug use, sexual misconduct, or harassment;
- Severe abuse of authority or fiduciary negligence;
- Deliberate breach of IOAI's legal or ethical obligations.

- **Demonstrable reputational harm to IOAI, including but not limited to:**

- Verified public scandals or legal proceedings directly attributable to the member's actions;

- Unauthorized use or misrepresentation of IOAI’s name, platform, or authority;
- Proven association with extremist, discriminatory, or unethical individuals or causes that materially damage IOAI's reputation.

- **Right to Respond and Option to Remedy**

Before any vote is taken, the Board member in question must receive a formal written notice detailing the grounds for proposed removal, including any supporting evidence. The member shall be granted a fair and reasonable opportunity to respond either in writing or in person within no less than 10 (ten) days and no more than 30 (thirty) days from the date of the notice.

In cases where the alleged breach is considered remediable (e.g., non-participation, procedural noncompliance), the Board shall, where feasible, provide a clear corrective pathway, including a specific timeline for addressing the issue prior to any removal vote.

- **Voting Requirement**

If, after due consideration, the Board finds the issue unresolved or irreparable, it may proceed to vote. A decision to remove a Board member requires the support of at least 75% of the voting members of the Board.

#### 7.4.4. Chair of the Board

The Chair of the Board is the highest representative and executive figure of IOAI, leading the vision, mission, strategy, operations and governance of the IOAI.

The role of the Chair of the Board is functionally equivalent to the official title of President of IOAI in alignment with naming conventions used by other International Science Olympiads (ISOs), and may be referred to as such in official communications and public engagements.

- **Rights and Responsibilities**

- Develops the IOAI vision, mission, strategy, policies and plans with the board to ensure the growth, success, and sustainability of the IOAI.
- Acts as representative of the IOAI at official functions and public engagements.
- Builds and maintains relationships with IOAI and the broader ISO community.

- Proactively looks for sponsorships, partnerships, and funding opportunities to support IOAI's activities and expansion.
- Chairs the Board meetings ensuring that they are conducted efficiently and effectively in accordance with the directions of the GA, the Board, the IOAI's rules and regulations, and the relevant legal and regulatory requirements.
- Works with the ISC Chair to drive innovation in IOAI task design and competition format, ensuring continued relevance and global impact.
- Together with the Board ensures the host candidates meet IOAI host standards.
- Together with LERAI foundation ensures adequate use of funds.
- Acts independently when necessary, making decisions and taking actions to ensure the functioning of IOAI.
- Chairs the GA meetings or appoints Chair of the GA meetings.
- Works closely with the IOAI staff.

- **Election process**

After the voting for the elected Board members and among all the Board members in the new Board that expressed willingness to serve as Chair of the Board, the Board elects the Chair of the Board.

If none of the Board members is willing to serve as Chair of the Board, the Election Committee facilitates conversations with the Board to choose a Chair of the Board.

If there is still no candidate, the position has to be filled by LERAI Foundation members.

- **Term and Termination**

The term of the Chair of the Board is 3 (three) years, starting from the date of election.

The Chair of the Board may serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive full terms. The Chair of the Board service continues across IOAI cycles regardless of whether the Olympiad is held physically, online, or in hybrid format.

#### 7.4.5. Other functions and committees of the Board

The Board may decide to create and appoint specific Board members with temporary or permanent (during their term) functions such as secretary, treasurer, representative of the Board to the ISC, accreditation leader, registration leader, NOAIs leader, etc.

The Board may also decide to create temporary or permanent committees such as Ethics, Future hosts, Financial, etc.

#### 7.4.6. Board Meetings

The Board shall meet at least once at the IOAI and at least once per quarter in between. The meetings may be held in person, online, or in hybrid format, provided that the Chair or a designated Board member is able to verify the presence of all participating Board members. It is recommended that there is at least 1 (one) physical meeting during IOAI.

Meetings may be held in person, online, or in hybrid format, provided that the Chair or a designated Board member is able to verify the presence of all participating Board members.

#### 7.4.7. Board Voting

##### Quorum Requirements

- A quorum is established when more than 50% (50% + 1) of all Board members are present.
- If a quorum is not reached, the Chair of the Board may convene a new meeting with at least **seven (7)** days' notice.
- The notice must explicitly state that the previous meeting failed to reach quorum.
- If the second meeting also lacks quorum, it may proceed **one hour later** regardless of attendance, and any decisions taken will be based on a majority of the members present.

##### Majority Requirements

- Unless otherwise specified, all decisions are made by a **simple majority (50% + 1)** of the Board members present.
- In specific cases, the Chair of the Board may require a **two-thirds (2/3) majority of all Board members** for a decision to be valid.

##### Voting Rights and Tie-Breaking

- Each Board member has **one vote**.
- In the event of a tie:
  - The Chair of the Board must make **reasonable efforts to facilitate consensus**.
  - If consensus cannot be reached, the Chair holds a **casting vote** to break the tie.

### **Asynchronous Voting**

- In urgent cases, the Chair of the Board may initiate an **asynchronous voting process**.
- This may be conducted via secure digital platforms or through signed written communication (e.g., email with a verifiable digital signature).
- A quorum must still be reached for the vote to be valid.
- The **voting deadline** must be clearly stated in the invitation.
- All results must be **documented and shared** with the Board within **3 (three) days** after the voting period ends.

## 7.5. Host Organizing Committee (HOC)

### 7.5.1. HOC General information

The Host Organising Committee (HOC) is the body responsible for organizing an edition of IOAI. It is defined by the Host Country or Territory. It has to have a Chair of the HOC with prior experience in organizing competitions for secondary school students at a national and preferably international level.

The members and their functions are prerogative of the host.

### 7.5.2. HOC Rights and Responsibilities

- **Visual**
  - Creates logo and theme of the IOAI edition and gets approval for it from the Board.
  - Creates a media pack and uploads it on the official website. That should include logo and other visuals, general info about IOAI, info about the IOAI edition, the host country, and other materials that might be appropriate.

- **Positioning**
  - **Guests**
    - Secures the highest local attendance at opening and / or closing ceremony - Head of state, Minister of Education, Mayor of the city or equivalent;
    - Hosts and covers the accommodation costs for the VIP guests from other countries (within reasonable number of guests and costs) and assists with their agendas;
  - **Sponsors**
    - Provides for what is included in the sponsorship packages for both the local and global sponsors and covers the costs for space and technical infrastructure where needed;
  - **Media**
    - Collaborates with the Board regarding international media and secures the media coverage of IOA by local media and local representatives of international media.
- **Organization**
  - Agrees the dates with the Board;
  - Creates timeline of the event;
  - Creates agenda for the event following the guidelines provided by the Board;
  - is responsible for planning and executing the respective edition of IOAI;
  - is responsible for all the local logistics from the moment the teams arrive until their departure including airport transfers and local transportation, accommodation and food, venues of IOAI and its accompanying academic and social events;
  - Secures volunteers to assist with the event;
  - Provides media corner for national and international media;
  - Reserves meeting rooms for the General Assembly, the Board, and the Jury;
  - Procures medals, prizes, diplomas, and certificates for participants;
  - Handles appropriately all groups of attendees - VIPs, contestants, Team Leaders, observers, Sponsors, Partners, Media, Jury, and the Board;

- Ensures security and safety measures are in place for all participants, guests, and attendees throughout the event;
- Communicates with the IOAI community when asked by the Board to inform them about key milestones, event details, contest specifics, etc.
- **Administration**
  - Creates a website and / or a webpage - subdomain under the main IOAI website (<https://ioai-official.org/>), with information about the Olympiad;
  - Administers the communication with interested participants, sponsors and partners via ioai[year]@ioai-official.org and other channel/s defined by the Board. This includes relaying specific topics to the appropriate persons or bodies as defined by the Board. For example, accreditation requests go to the accreditation email;
  - Processes registrations from Accredited organizations and collects details about members of the delegations, payments, travel plans etc.;
  - Provides support to Team Leaders by issuing official invitations, including Visa invitations, and offers information about the local specifics, logistics, timetable, etc.;
  - Keeps track of registered countries and territories and communicates their status and number to the Board.
- **Financial**
  - Receives from LERAI financial support of up to 80% of the participation fees;
  - Covers all expenses of the IOAI attendees onsite throughout IOAI including accommodation and full board, refreshments during the contest days, social and academic events, transportation, welcome packages etc.;
  - Covers the travel expenses of the International Jury to the Olympiad site, including any visa fees that may be required in cases when their sending organizations are not covering them;
  - Covers all technical costs, including the infrastructure, cloud and computing power;
  - Covers the costs (if any) for venues and equipment for the opening ceremony, meetings, contests, closing ceremony, and other events in the IOAI agenda onsite;
  - Covers the costs for welcome packages, awards, medals, recognitions, certificates, and other similar materials;

- May seek additional funding through local sponsors, grants, and institutional support, provided that such sources are aligned with the values and independence of IOAI;
- Ensures transparent financial management and is prepared to report on expenditures to LERAI and the IOAI Board upon request.

- **Participating Countries**

The Host Organizing Committee (HOC) must follow the official IOAI regulations regarding eligible countries and territories.

In exceptional circumstances, the host country -based on advice from its Ministry of Foreign Affairs or another competent government body -may impose limitations on the participation of certain countries or territories. These limitations may be partial (e.g. exclusion of national flags or symbols) or total.

- **Host Regulations and Limitations**

- Non-Discrimination

The host country may not reject the participation of any individual on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, religion, culture, or similar characteristics.

The HOC may ask participants to respect the norms and laws of the host country. If such expectations exist, they must be communicated clearly and in writing well in advance of the IOAI.

- Political Expression

All participants must refrain from expressing political positions or displaying political symbols during the competition, in order to maintain the neutrality and educational focus of IOAI.

In exceptional cases, the host country may restrict the participation of specific individuals due to verified involvement in extreme or destabilizing political activity.

The IOAI Board reserves the right to impose sanctions on a country or delegation in cases of serious or repeated violations of this policy. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to: restriction of participation in the next edition of IOAI and / or withholding of medals or awards from the offending country or team.

These measures are intended to preserve the non-political, inclusive, and globally cooperative nature of the Olympiad.

- **Health and Safety**

The host should make sure to provide a healthy and safe environment.

- **Force Majeure**

In the event of significant health, safety, or logistical risks that may affect the normal execution of the IOAI, the HOC must immediately inform the IOAI Board and LERAI foundation. In such extreme circumstances, the Board and LERAI foundation may decide to:

- Support the HOC in managing the situation (if feasible), or
- Relocate the IOAI to another host country, or
- Transition the competition to an online format.

## 7.6. International Scientific Committee (ISC)

The **International Scientific Committee (ISC)** is the academic backbone of the International Olympiad in Artificial Intelligence (IOAI). It is responsible for upholding the scientific quality, fairness, and educational value of the Olympiad, in line with IOAI's mission and vision. The ISC defines the academic direction of the competition and oversees the development, testing, and implementation of all scientific components.

While the ISC operates year-round, **a designated subset of the ISC, known as the *International Jury*, takes on specific responsibilities during the IOAI event itself.**

### 7.6.1. ISC Rights and responsibilities

**Year-Round** the **ISC** ensures the academic integrity and excellence of the IOAI through the following core functions:

- Developing and maintaining the IOAI Syllabus;
- Organizing the Call for Tasks and reviewing submissions;
- Creating, curating, testing, and finalizing the competition tasks;
- Coordinating with the HSC on task delivery and execution;
- Proposing contest formats and innovative task structures;
- Ensuring clarity, fairness, and diversity in the task set;
- Safeguarding academic integrity of the competition;
- Evaluating feedback from past editions and incorporating improvements;

- Submitting all decisions to the IOAI Board for approval;
- Maintaining dialogue with the IOAI community on academic matters.
- Nominating members of the International Jury for the IOAI and supporting their work;
- Others assigned by the Board

**During the IOAI competition, a subset of the ISC present on-site forms the core of the International Jury.** It may also include additional experts — such as, but not limited to renowned scientists, sponsor representatives, academic or business professionals — nominated by the ISC or the IOAI Board and approved by the Board. This group is directly responsible for executing the academic aspects of the competition in real time, including clarification, evaluation, scoring, and rankings.

**Responsibilities of the Jury include:**

- Explaining contest rules during official briefings;
- Responding to contestant questions about problem statements;
- Evaluating and scoring submitted solutions;
- Moderation and appeals session(s) after the competitions;
- Producing the ranked score list used for awarding medals and prizes;
- Nominating recipients for special prizes and awards based on the competition performance;
- Leading post-contest discussions of problems and solutions;
- Ensuring fairness and maintaining academic integrity.

The **International Jury is chaired by the Chair of the ISC**. If the Chair is unavailable for any reason, the ISC may nominate a substitute, subject to approval by the IOAI Board.

**Composition and Expansion:**

- The Jury typically consists of five members: the Chair, representatives from the ISC and HSC, and invited experts.

- The Jury may be expanded for a specific edition if necessary, provided the sending organizations (other than IOAI) cover travel and participation costs and the expansion is approved by the Board.

#### **Cost Coverage:**

- Local costs for up to five Jury members are covered by the host.
- Travel insurance is the responsibility of each Jury member.
- Travel to/from the IOAI venue is generally covered by the sending organizations or the host.
- In exceptional cases, travel expenses may be covered by IOAI, subject to budget availability and Board approval.

#### **Code of Conduct:**

All Jury members must adhere to strict standards of **confidentiality, impartiality, and academic integrity**. Members who have not participated in task creation must familiarize themselves with the tasks ahead of the competition and may not share any content outside the Jury.

### 7.6.2. ISC Members

While the number of ISC members may vary, it is recommended to maintain a compact and active **ISC** of 7–9 individuals, supported by nonvoting honorary or affiliated contributors.

#### **ISC Composition**

- **Chair:** Nominated by the ISC members and approved by the IOAI Board as the chair of ISC. Leads all activities of the ISC and chairs the International Jury.
- **Secretary (optional):** Elected by the ISC among its members. Handles scheduling, logistics, and documentation.
- **Elected Members:** Selected through open calls, proposed by the ISC, and approved by the Board.
- **Non-Elected Members:** 4 (four) IOAI hosts representatives, the current edition in preparation being IOAI n):
  - 1 representative from the HSC of IOAI n-1;

- 1 representative from the HSC of IOAI n;
- 1 representative from the HSC of IOAI n+1;
- 1 representative from the HSC of IOAI n+2.
- **Liaison to the Board (optional):** Appointed by the Board to ensure communication and alignment.

## **ISC Appointment, Election and Terms**

### **Nomination Process:**

- Open calls are held twice per year: during IOAI and after the Chair's election (typically October–December);
- Community nominations and self-nominations are welcome;
- Candidates submit a statement or brief presentation;
- Final selections are made by the current ISC and approved by the Board.

### **Terms:**

- One-year term, renewable with no term limits;
- During IOAI, all ISC members are reviewed and may be:
  - Reconfirmed automatically if their term has not expired and no written notice of withdrawal was received by the Chair of ISC;
  - Terminated if a written notice of withdrawal was received by the Chair of ISC;
  - Terminated if they were inactive;
  - Reelected for another term if they have confirmed their willingness to serve the ISC in a written notice to the Chair of ISC.

### **7.6.3. ISC Members Termination**

The termination procedure for members of the International Scientific Committee (ISC) shall follow the same rules and procedures as those applicable to members of the IOAI Board, as outlined in the relevant provisions.

### **7.6.4. Chair of the International Scientific Committee (ISC)**

The **Chair of the ISC** is the lead academic figure of the IOAI responsible for guiding the overall academic direction of the Olympiad and ensuring that the ISC all year round and the International Jury during the IOAI competition function effectively, collaboratively, and in alignment with the values and goals of the IOAI.

**Appointment:**

- Nominated by ISC among its members, and approved by the Board;
- Serves a one-year term, renewable for up to three consecutive terms.

**Responsibilities:**

- Oversees the work, structure, and timelines of the ISC and its working groups;
- Ensures timely development, review, and finalization of preparation materials and competition tasks;
- Coordinates closely with the Host Scientific Committee (HSC) to ensure smooth delivery and execution of the contest;
- Chairs meetings of the ISC and the International Jury;
- Represents the ISC on the IOAI Board as its official member;
- Makes timely, on-site decisions related to academic integrity, such as suspected cheating, appeals, and scoring disputes;
- In alignment with the Chair of the Board serves as the public scientific face of the IOAI, representing its academic mission at events, in communications, and in media;
- Works closely with the IOAI Chair of the Board and the Board to ensure scientific alignment across all areas of the competition.

The Chair is expected to demonstrate strong academic leadership, organizational competence, and a deep commitment to the values of education, fairness, and innovation that define IOAI.

**Succession:**

If the Chair resigns or is unable to serve, the ISC must nominate a replacement for Board approval. If no nomination is made within two weeks, the Board appoints a new Chair.

### 7.6.5. Other functions and committees of the ISC

The ISC may invite additional individuals to serve as affiliated or honorary members, following a vote within the ISC and approval by the Board.

The ISC may establish permanent or ad hoc working groups with designated leads, focusing on specific task types, rounds, or topics (e.g., Scientific Round, Practical Round, Syllabus).

### 7.6.6. ISC Meetings

- The ISC meets regularly online and once physically during IOAI.
- A majority of members must be present for official decisions.
- All meetings are chaired by the ISC Chair.
- Minutes must be kept for all meetings.
- All material ISC decisions such as creation and modifications of syllabus, rules and procedures have to be approved by the Board.

### 7.6.7. ISC Voting

Voting procedures follow those of the IOAI Board, as defined in official guidelines.

## **8. Participation in the IOAI**

For Both IOAI and IOAI GAITE the following process is followed.

### 8.1. Accreditation

This section does not apply for the GAITE countries - they skip to the next step - Registration.

#### **8.1.1. Definition of Countries and Territories**

Country and Territory are defined in Section 2 “Abbreviations and Definitions” in this document.

Each country or territory should have independent accreditation.

### **8.1.2. General rules**

Countries or territories interested in participating for the first time must secure accreditation from the Board. The Board provides specific details upon request, but key guidelines include the following:

- The competitions used to select teams must be nationally or territorially inclusive, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to participate.
- No institution or individual should charge payments or fees with the intent to profit during any stage of the selection process. Collection of nominal fees is permissible only if they are strictly to offset expenses related to accommodation, travel, and the actual costs of the competitions without any profit being made.

### **8.1.3. Accreditation process**

Organizations or entities seeking accreditation must reach out to the Board exclusively through the contact form available on the IOAI website. This form must clearly identify the organization or body (National Organizer) accountable for the accreditation process and provide the details of at least two contact persons, including their email addresses and phone numbers equipped with WhatsApp (or another communication channel).

The Board approves the request within one month or will send back a questionnaire. National Organizers are required to submit the completed questionnaire within a one-month timeframe. Throughout this period, a representative from the Board will be designated to address any inquiries the National Organizers might have.

If two or more applications for accreditation are received independently from the same country, the Board will facilitate dialogue between the applicants and encourage them to reach a mutual agreement. If no resolution is achieved, the Board shall determine which applicant to accredit, based on what best serves the interests of IOAI.

National Organizers can expect to receive a response from the Board within one month. The Board's response will be one of the following:

- Accreditation approved,
- Accreditation granted with the requirement of minor modifications,
- Accreditation approved for a limited time,
- Accreditation denied.

The Board reserves the right to review the accreditation status of a country or territory at any given time.

**The Board reserves the right to revoke accreditation if any of the following occur:**

- The accredited institution fails to respond to official communications consistently—i.e., no response to more than three separate communications over a period exceeding three months.
- Significant inconsistencies are identified in the team selection process.
- There is a material departure from the information originally submitted during the accreditation process.
- Another organization formally expresses interest in receiving accreditation for the same country. The Board will encourage both parties to collaborate or reach a shared solution, if possible. If they are unable to do so within the timeline defined by the Board, it may decide to grant accreditation to the new organization, in the best interest of IOAI.
- 
- The country fails to participate in the IOAI for two consecutive editions.
- The accredited organization engages in conduct—verbal or otherwise—that discredits or causes harm to the IOAI.

Decisions made by the Board are final and non-disputable.

A country or territory that has had its accreditation revoked has the opportunity to reapply and initiate the accreditation procedure anew.

When the Board receives multiple accreditation requests from the same country or territory, or if a new request comes in from an area that is already accredited, the Board reserves the right to decide which applicant should receive the accreditation.

#### **8.1.4. Board's visits**

In certain situations, the Board may decide that a visit to the applicant organization is necessary. This step is considered in order to address conflicts, offer guidance, and assist the country or territory in achieving accreditation. Such instances include, but are not limited to:

- Persisting discrepancies with the provided guidelines.

- Inadequate clarity or absence of required information.
- Numerous indications that the selection process is not operating as outlined in the application questionnaire.
- Multiple signs that students are being charged substantial fees to participate in the selection process or to attend the IOAI.

### **8.1.5. Accreditation fees**

The initial accreditation process is provided at no cost. However, the LERAI Foundation reserves the right to impose fees in the following scenarios:

- When a new application is submitted after the Board has previously revoked the accreditation of a country or territory.
- If a visit from Board members is deemed necessary, as detailed in the relevant section.

## **8.2. Registration**

All participants cover their travel costs to and from the IOAI. They are also responsible for their visa, travel and health insurance and all the costs related to them.

Each Country wishing to participate in the IOAI must confirm their participation online ([www.https://ioai-official.org/](https://ioai-official.org/)) by completing the registration form. Host Organisation, within two weeks send the response if the participation is approved. By submitting the online registration, the Team leader confirms that he/she agrees to abide by the Regulations for IOAI.

When registering to participate in IOAI, the Accredited organization should indicate the number of teams it will participate with (if more than one is allowed for the specific year) and register either as IOAI participant or as IOAI GAITE participant. It is not possible to participate in both IOAI and IOAI GAITE. The option of participation in GAITE is only for new countries who have not upgraded their status to an Accredited Country or Territory and have not participated in IOAI.

### **8.2.1. Teams**

Each Accredited Country or Territory is entitled to send one team to represent them at IOAI. Each team consists of up to four contestants and a team leader.

Each year the Board decides if a second team will be allowed. In such cases, a request to send a second team must be made by a deadline stipulated by the Host Organising Committee, and accompanied by a deposit, which is refundable only if there is not enough room (but not if the country withdraws the request).

### 8.2.2. Registration fee

The registration (participation) fee covers accommodation, full board for the duration of the IOAI, local transportation to and from the designated entry point of the host country, and participation in the official academic, social and cultural program.

The fee **does not include** international travel to the host country, visa expenses, or medical and travel insurance.

Additional participation fees apply for categories such as second teams, observers, or guests. These fees are typically higher.

The costs of hosting **official international VIP guests** are covered locally by the HOC, and no participation fee is required from them.

## 8.3. Types of Attendees

### 8.3.1. Contestants

Contestants must be 20 years old or younger on 1 July of the year of the IOAI edition in which they are participating. Contestants must have been normally enrolled in full-time primary or secondary education on or after 1 December in the year prior to the IOAI, or, in the case of home-schooled students, must not have received a high-school diploma (or equivalent), and must be working toward such a credential on 1 December of the year prior to IOAI.

Contestants should be selected based on their performance in country-wide competitions in artificial intelligence, informatics, mathematics, linguistics, or a related field. These competitions must be organized by a recognized national body and open to all residents of the country who are receiving their education there.

Selection via multinational competitions is also permitted; however, each contestant must have clearly indicated in advance the country they will represent at the IOAI.

### 8.3.2. Team Leaders

Each team must be accompanied by a team leader - a legal adult (in both the team's country and the host country) on the first day of the start of the IOAI.

The team leader should have a certificate in English corresponding to B2 or should be able to freely communicate in English at least to the same level.

The duties of Team Leaders include, but are not limited to:

- Representing their country at the General Assembly meeting held during the Olympiad;
- Assisting the International Scientific Committee (ISC), if requested;
- Supporting the Jury, if the need arises;
- Ensuring the well-being and proper conduct of their students throughout the entire duration of the event, and serving as intermediaries between their team, the organisers, and other participating teams;
- Team Leaders must not have participated in the work of the Scientific Committee for the current IOAI edition, either as members or experts, nor may they serve on the Jury;
- May not accept any assignments if they might pose any conflict of interest.

### 8.3.3. International Jury

The members of the International Jury are elected by the ISC and approved by the Board and are usually 5 persons.

### 8.3.4. Local Guests

HOC may invite local guests (officials, journalists, etc) at their decision. These guests are not considered as participants and may attend some or all parts of the Olympiad.

### 8.3.5. International VIP guests

The HOC and the Board may invite together or separately VIP international guests. They have to be high profile and within reasonable numbers. International VIP guests must hold prominent positions - such as senior government officials, opinion makers, internationally recognized leaders in AI or education, significant contributors to IOAI, or

representatives of organizations with demonstrated impact at the national or global level.

#### 8.3.6. Additional Attendees

Additional (non-competing) participants, as well as deputy leaders, coaches, observers, and accompanying persons, may be received, if the local arrangements allow it, at the discretion of the Host Organising Committee.

## 9. Hosting the IOAI

Hosting requirements are defined in a separate document - Hosting IOAI.

## 10. Contest Rules

The IOAI Contest Rules are defined in a separate document which is available on the official IOAI website.

## 11. Medals, Awards, Trophies and Certificates

The IOAI Medals, Awards, Trophies and Certificates are defined in a chapter of the Contest Rules, which is available on IOAI official website.

## 12. Financial Management and Principles

The financial affairs of the IOAI are managed by the LERAI Foundation, in accordance with guidelines set by the IOAI Board. All participation fees, sponsorships, advertising revenues, and other sources of income are collected either by the LERAI Foundation or by legal entities under its control.

### 12.1. Core Financial Principles

The following principles guide the financial strategy of IOAI:

- **Financial Stability** – Ensure the long-term sustainability and uninterrupted functioning of IOAI.
- **Growth** – Expand the number of participating countries and territories; increase support for the IOAI community; and broaden the competition's global impact.

- **Non-Discrimination, Inclusivity, and Accessibility** – Maintain affordability and accessibility for all participating teams, regardless of financial background.

## 12.2. Implementation Guidelines

- Participation **fees should remain accessible**, with financial aid provided to teams in need whenever possible.
- **Spending is optimized** to ensure efficiency and maximize value.
- The **IOAI Board and Host Organizing Committee (HOC)** actively seek both global and local sponsors to reduce the financial burden on participants and to strengthen IOAI's financial base.
- **As a standard rule**, 20% of collected participation fees are allocated to a **reserve fund**. If the host agrees, up to 100% of the fees may be directed to this fund.
- The long-term financial objective is the establishment of a **sustainable endowment fund** to support the ongoing activities, development, and stability of IOAI.

## 13. Amendments of the Regulations

### 13.1. Proposal of Amendments

Amendments to the IOAI Regulations may be proposed by any member of the IOAI Board, the ISC, or the General Assembly. Proposals must be submitted in writing to the IOAI Board at least one month before the next scheduled General Assembly meeting, which typically takes place in person during the IOAI.

Each proposal must:

- Clearly specify the section to be amended;
- Present the exact proposed changes;
- Include a concise rationale for the amendment.

For a proposal to proceed to a General Assembly vote, it must first be approved by a simple majority (more than 50%) of the IOAI Board members.

## 13.2. Notification and Discussion

If preliminarily approved by the Board, the proposed amendment will be distributed to all General Assembly members at least two weeks prior to the GA meeting.

During the General Assembly, a designated time will be allocated for discussion. Supporters and opponents of the proposal will have the opportunity to present their arguments in an open forum.

## 13.3. Voting and Approval

Amendments will be put to a vote during the General Assembly meeting. A proposal is approved by the General Assembly and formally incorporated into the IOAI Regulations upon receiving a qualified majority of two thirds (2/3) of the votes.

## 13.4. Implementation

Ratified amendments take effect either immediately or from a date specified in the proposal.

The IOAI Board is responsible for updating the official IOAI Regulations document and publishing the updated version on the official IOAI website.

### Document Version History

Version	Date	Description	Approval	Remarks
1.0	July 1, 2025	Official release of the document to the accredited countries and territories after approval by the IOAI Board and legal review	IOAI Board, legal	
1.1.	July 22, 2025	Synchronised with the accredited countries and territories, feedback reflected	IOAI Board	