

General Regulations

for the International Mathematical Science & Creativity Competition

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CHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 (Purpose and Status of the Regulations)

1. These General Regulations establish the fundamental principles for the continuous, fair, and safe operation of the International Mathematical Science & Creativity Competition (hereinafter referred to as the “IMSCC”).
2. The IMSCC shall be operated in accordance with these General Regulations, the Annual Regulations for the relevant year, and any Division Rules and official notices duly promulgated by the Organizing Committee.
3. The Annual Regulations may prescribe specific matters or exceptions within the scope delegated by these General Regulations to be determined for the relevant year. However, matters established herein as permanent fundamental principles or elements of the basic framework of the IMSCC shall not be altered solely through the Annual Regulations.
4. Division Rules and official notices shall not conflict with these General Regulations or the Annual Regulations.
5. Mandatory provisions of applicable law shall prevail over these General Regulations.

Article 2 (Name)

1. The Korean name of the Competition shall be “국제수리과학창의대회.”
2. The English name shall be “International Mathematical Science & Creativity Competition.” The name of the Competition and the abbreviation “IMSCC” shall be used in the form approved by the Organizing Committee.
3. The official slogan shall be “Enlightening Imagination (EI).”

Article 3 (Objectives of the Competition)

The IMSCC aims to foster STEAM-based creative problem-solving, collaboration, communication, interdisciplinary thinking, and future competencies, while promoting international exchange and mutual respect for sustainable development.

Article 4 (Fundamental Principles)

The IMSCC shall be guided by the fundamental principles of fairness, transparency, creativity, academic integrity, safety, respect for the dignity of Participants, and respect for diversity.

Article 5 (Definitions)

1. "Official Program" means the standard official programs of the IMSCC under Article 6-2, together with opening and closing ceremonies, award ceremonies, international exchange events, and any other events officially designated and announced in the Annual Regulations or by the Organizing Committee.
2. "Host Organization" means the organization designated by the Organizing Committee to be responsible for the preparation and on-site operation of the IMSCC for the relevant year.
3. "Program Organizer" means an organization designated in the Annual Regulations for the relevant year to be responsible for an individual Official Program of the IMSCC, such as the Competition, Academic Conference, Teacher Awards, Student Forum, or International STEAM-EDU Festa.
4. For the purposes of these General Regulations, "Participant" means a person participating in the Competition or an Official Program; "Competition Personnel" means members of the Organizing Committee, judges, award presenters, masters of ceremonies, staff members, volunteers, and any other persons involved in the operation of the IMSCC; and "Minor Participant" means a Participant who has not reached the age of majority under the laws applicable at the place where the IMSCC is held.

Article 6 (Annual Regulations)

The Organizing Committee shall publish Annual Regulations specifying the date and venue of the IMSCC, the Host Organization, Categories and Divisions, themes, eligibility requirements, registration period, judging methods, awards, and any other matters necessary for the relevant year.

Article 6-2 (IMSCC Official Program Framework)

1. To promote STEAM-based creative problem-solving, academic research, educator development, student participation, and international exchange, the IMSCC shall be developed and operated as an international conference-style festival in which a range of educational, academic, and exchange programs are conducted around the Competition.
2. The Standard Official Program Framework of the IMSCC may include the following:
 - 1. International Mathematical Science & Creativity Competition (Competition)**
 - 2. Academic Conference & Research Program**
 - 3. International STEAM Teacher Awards & Educator Program**

- 4. Student Forum**
 - 5. International STEAM-EDU Festa, Experience & Exhibition Program**
 - 6. Any other Official Program recognized by the Organizing Committee as consistent with the objectives and development of the IMSCC.**
3. The programs actually operated in a particular year, their official names, methods of operation, and the Program Organizer responsible for each program shall be prescribed in the Annual Regulations.
 4. Taking into account the educational and cultural characteristics of the host country, the composition of Participants, facilities, and operational circumstances, the Organizing Committee and the Host Organization for the relevant year may add or modify the programs under paragraph 2 or elect not to operate certain programs. Such measures shall not undermine the international and educational identity or the fundamental objectives of the IMSCC.
 5. Each Program Organizer shall be responsible for the planning and operation of its respective program and shall cooperate with the Organizing Committee, the IMSCC Secretariat, and the Host Organization regarding the overall IMSCC schedule, participant safety, external communications and publicity, and common operational standards.

Article 7 (Official Languages and Common Working Language)

1. English shall be one of the official languages of every IMSCC and shall serve as its Common Working Language.
2. The Annual Regulations may designate additional official languages, taking into account the language of the host country, languages widely used in the host region, languages of neighboring countries or regions, or other languages necessary to ensure accessibility for Participants.
3. Major regulations, judging procedures, and information concerning safety, human rights, and ethics shall, in principle, be provided in English. Translation or interpretation into other official languages may be provided where necessary.
4. Where a discrepancy in meaning or interpretation arises between documents issued in multiple official languages, the prevailing language or official interpretation procedure shall be prescribed in the Annual Regulations. Where no such provision has been made, the Organizing Committee shall determine the official interpretation.

CHAPTER 2

ORGANISATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Article 8 (Organizing Committee)

1. The IMSCC Organizing Committee shall be a standing body responsible for the fundamental policies, long-term development, and international operation of the Competition.

2. The Organizing Committee shall be responsible for the following:
 1. **enactment and amendment of the General Regulations and Annual Regulations;**
 2. **establishment of medium- and long-term development plans and internationalization strategies;**
 3. **selection of the next Host Organization and the host country and host region;**
 4. **approval of major themes and the Official Program framework for the current and subsequent Competition;**
 5. **appointment of the Chair of Judges and major matters concerning the judging system;**
 6. **establishment and appointment of the Ethics & Safeguarding Committee;**
 7. **policies concerning Official Licensed Materials (OLM) and the principal Competition framework;**
 8. **policies concerning international cooperation, sponsorship, and major partnerships; and**
 9. **any other major matters necessary for the continuous and fair operation of the IMSCC.**
3. The Chair of the Board of the Foundation for the Advancement of STEAM (FAS) shall serve ex officio as the Chair of the Organizing Committee.
4. Where necessary for co-hosting, support for the host venue, international cooperation, or the effective operation and development of the Competition, the Organizing Committee may appoint the head of a co-hosting organization, the Host Organization, or a major partner institution as a Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee. The role and term of appointment of a Co-Chair shall be determined by the Organizing Committee in consideration of the hosting arrangements and responsibilities for the relevant year.
5. In view of the international development of the IMSCC and the expansion of participating countries and regions, the Organizing Committee shall endeavor to ensure balanced participation by experts from diverse countries and regions in STEAM education, mathematics, science, technology, engineering, academic research, education policy, and related fields.
6. Members of the Organizing Committee, including international members, shall perform their duties independently in the interests of the objectives, fairness, international character, and sustainable development of the IMSCC as a whole, rather than representing the individual interests of any particular country, institution, or delegation.
7. The terms of office, appointment, reappointment, removal, meeting procedures, voting procedures, and other detailed matters concerning members of the Organizing Committee shall be determined separately by the Organizing Committee.

Article 8-2 (IMSCC Secretariat)

1. The Organizing Committee shall maintain a permanent IMSCC Secretariat to support the continuous international operation of the IMSCC and the work of the Organizing Committee.
2. Under the decisions and supervision of the Organizing Committee, the Secretariat shall perform the following functions:

1. preparation of the Competition for the relevant year and implementation of decisions of the Organizing Committee;
 2. preparation of hosting plans for the next Competition and the following Competition and preliminary consultation with prospective Host Organizations;
 3. practical support for the selection of Host Organizations and the Host Handover process;
 4. preparation of the Annual Regulations, official notices, and common operational documents;
 5. coordination of schedules and responsibilities among Official Programs and Program Organizers;
 6. communication and cooperation with international participating countries, participating institutions, and international members of the Organizing Committee;
 7. practical coordination with sponsors, donors, and partner institutions;
 8. management of Competition records, official documents, results, and records of the Organizing Committee;
 9. support for international publicity and external cooperation; and
 10. any other functions delegated by the Organizing Committee.
3. The Secretariat shall maintain a multi-year Rolling Host Plan that continuously covers the current Competition, the next Competition, and prospective hosting arrangements for the following Competition.
 4. The institution in which the Secretariat is established, its responsible officer, organizational structure, budget, and detailed operating procedures shall be determined separately by the Organizing Committee.

Article 9 (Host Organization and Future Hosting Plan)

1. The Host Organization for each year shall be selected by the Organizing Committee and designated in the Annual Regulations.
2. In cooperation with the Organizing Committee and the Secretariat, the Host Organization shall be responsible for preparation of the IMSCC for the relevant year, venue operations, participant safety, on-site personnel, facilities, emergency response, and integrated operation of the Official Programs.
3. To secure sufficient preparation time each year, the Organizing Committee shall, in principle, select the Host Organization for the following year before the conclusion of the current year's Competition. Where this is not possible due to governmental or institutional approval procedures, international consultation, or other unavoidable circumstances, the Host Organization shall be selected within two months after the conclusion of the current year's Competition.
4. In parallel with preparations for the following year's Competition, the Organizing Committee and the Secretariat shall, in principle, conduct preliminary consultations with prospective host countries, host regions, and Host Organizations for the year thereafter.

5. Where practicable, the Organizing Committee shall officially announce the host country or host region, Host Organization, and Annual Theme for the following year at the closing ceremony of the current year's Competition.
6. The Annual Theme for the following year shall be determined by the Organizing Committee, taking into consideration proposals from the Chair of Judges, judging committees, relevant experts, Program Organizers, and other appropriate bodies or persons.
7. Where the exact venue or detailed schedule cannot be confirmed by the time of the closing ceremony, the host country or host region and Host Organization may first be announced, with the exact venue, schedule, and other details to be finalized in the Annual Regulations for the following year.
8. Respecting the historical origins and identity of the IMSCC in the Republic of Korea, the Competition may be hosted on a rotational basis in other countries or regions as part of its international development. Where the IMSCC is held outside the Republic of Korea, the fundamental objectives, Competition framework, principles of fairness, participant safeguarding, and fundamental spirit of the Official Programs established by these General Regulations shall be maintained.

Article 10 (Judging Committees)

1. The Organizing Committee shall appoint the Chair of Judges and establish a judging committee for each Division.
2. Each judging committee shall, in principle, consist of an odd number of at least three judges. The Organizing Committee may determine otherwise where justified by the nature of a Division or by unavoidable circumstances.
3. Judges shall maintain independence and impartiality and shall preserve the confidentiality of non-public information and judging materials obtained in the course of judging.
4. Where a judge or any Competition Personnel involved in a judging-related decision has a direct interest in a particular Participant or team, or where circumstances exist that may give rise to reasonable doubt as to impartiality, that person shall immediately disclose the matter and recuse themselves from the relevant judging or decision-making process.

Article 11 (Ethics and Safeguarding Framework)

1. The Organizing Committee shall establish an Ethics & Safeguarding Committee to ensure the ethical integrity of the Competition and to protect the human rights, safety, and well-being of Participants.
2. The Ethics & Safeguarding Committee shall investigate and review reports concerning Participants' human rights, safety, or ethical matters; violations of the Code of Conduct by Competition Personnel; bullying; discrimination; sexual harassment; unwanted physical

contact; retaliation against a reporting person or a person cooperating with an investigation; and any other ethical violations provided for under these General Regulations. The Committee may determine necessary measures or make recommendations to the Organizing Committee.

3. A Committee member who has an interest in a party to or person involved in a matter, or where any other circumstance exists that may reasonably call into question that member's impartiality, shall be excluded from, or shall recuse themselves from, the investigation and deliberation of that matter.
4. The Organizing Committee shall designate a Safeguarding & Wellbeing Officer or Unit in the Annual Regulations and shall publish the relevant contact information and reporting procedures to Participants in advance.
5. The Safeguarding & Wellbeing Officer or Unit shall be responsible for receiving reports and implementing initial protective measures. Detailed response procedures shall be governed by Chapter 5.
6. The composition and operation of the Ethics & Safeguarding Committee, procedures for investigation and deliberation, interim measures, sanctions, appeals, and other necessary matters shall be governed by these General Regulations, the Annual Regulations for the relevant year, or detailed procedures established by the Organizing Committee.

CHAPTER 3

PARTICIPATION

Article 12 (Eligibility)

Eligibility requirements, age and grade requirements, and Division-specific restrictions shall be prescribed in the Annual Regulations.

Article 13 (Team Composition)

The minimum and maximum number of team members and the qualifications of supervising teachers or team leaders shall be prescribed in the Annual Regulations and applicable Division Rules or official notices.

Article 14 (Protection of Minor Participants)

1. Where required by applicable law, a Minor Participant shall obtain the consent of a parent or legal guardian and shall have an appropriate emergency contact and protection and supervision arrangement in place during the Competition period.
2. An international delegation including Minor Participants shall designate a responsible adult

who shall supervise the safety, welfare, and conduct of such Participants during their stay and participation in Official Programs and shall act as a liaison with the Organizing Committee.

3. The Annual Regulations may require parental or guardian consent forms, designation-of-responsibility forms, or equivalent documentation, taking into account the laws of the host country and the operational circumstances of the Competition.
4. The responsible adult of an international delegation shall inform the Participants under their supervision of these General Regulations and applicable safety and conduct requirements and shall supervise their safety and welfare throughout the Official Programs.

Article 15 (Registration)

Participants shall submit accurate and truthful information in accordance with the announced procedures and deadlines. Submission of materially false information may constitute grounds for revocation of eligibility to participate in or receive an award from the IMSCC.

Article 16 (Code of Conduct and Oath)

1. All Participants and Competition Personnel shall comply with these General Regulations, the Annual Regulations for the relevant year, and the IMSCC Code of Conduct.
2. The Organizing Committee may administer the IMSCC Oath at an official event to affirm the fundamental values of the IMSCC among Participants and Competition Personnel.
3. The Organizing Committee may require judges, award presenters, masters of ceremonies, staff members, volunteers, and other Competition Personnel who interact directly with Participants to acknowledge the Code of Conduct and complete any necessary pre-event training.

Article 17 (Insurance, Costs and Support for Official Invitees)

1. The Organizing Committee and the Host Organization for the relevant year shall, in principle, obtain event organizer's liability insurance or equivalent insurance available in the host country to cover risks relating to venue facilities and equipment, participant accidents, and the safe operation of official event days and Official Programs. The type of insurance, scope of coverage, and limits of indemnity shall be governed by the insurance policy for the relevant year and applicable law.
2. Insurance under paragraph 1 is intended to address risks arising from the operation of official IMSCC events and programs and shall not substitute for individual travel insurance, international travel insurance, personal medical insurance, or other insurance covering individual travel risks. Participants shall, where necessary, obtain insurance appropriate to their own travel and stay.

3. Domestic and international Participants and national delegations shall, in principle, bear their own airfare, visa and immigration-related expenses, personal travel insurance premiums, accommodation expenses, transportation costs outside the scope of official support, and other personal travel and subsistence expenses required for participation in the IMSCC, unless otherwise provided in the Annual Regulations, an official invitation, or a separate written agreement with the Organizing Committee.
4. The Organizing Committee may, taking into account the purpose of the Competition, the role of the invitee, available budget, and the terms of invitation, provide all or part of an honorarium, judging fee, accommodation, meals, local transportation, or other expenses deemed necessary by the Organizing Committee to officially invited keynote speakers, judges, official VIP guests, and other official invitees.
5. To expand fair opportunities for international participation regardless of Participants' economic or geographic backgrounds, the IMSCC shall endeavor to minimize the financial burden on Participants through sponsorships, donations, grants, partnership programs, and other sources of support.
6. The IMSCC aspires, in principle, to operate as an open international educational competition without charging a Competition entry fee. Where necessary due to international hosting, special programs, or other unavoidable operational circumstances, reasonable cost-sharing requirements may be prescribed in the Annual Regulations with the approval of the Organizing Committee.
7. The Organizing Committee and Host Organization may receive sponsorships, donations, grants, or in-kind support from companies, foundations, schools, universities, public institutions, and other domestic or international organizations.
8. A sponsor or donor shall not participate in decisions concerning judging results, Participant eligibility, determinations in ethics or safeguarding cases, or any other decision that may compromise the independence or fairness of the Competition.

Article 18 (Reasonable Accommodation)

In accordance with applicable law, the Organizing Committee and Host Organization shall provide reasonable accommodation necessary to enable Participants with disabilities or special educational needs to participate fairly, provided that such accommodation does not unduly alter the essential nature or fairness of the Competition. Detailed procedures for requesting and providing reasonable accommodation may be prescribed in the Annual Regulations.

CHAPTER 4

COMPETITION OPERATIONS

Article 19 (Competition Categories and Standard Division Framework)

1. The Official Competition Categories of the IMSCC shall be:

- 1. Play**
- 2. Creativity**
- 3. Mechatronics**
- 4. STEAM**

2. In order to preserve the historical continuity of the IMSCC and maintain a reasonably consistent scale of operation as an international competition, the following Standard Division Framework shall serve as the basic operational model:

1. Play Category

- a. Play Division I – Block Play: Participants under three years of age, or equivalent Participants or groups
- b. Play Division II – Linear Modeling Play: Participants under three years of age, or equivalent Participants or groups

2. Creativity Category

- a. Creativity Division I: Participants aged three to five years, or equivalent Participants, including Participants eligible for special education within the relevant age group
- b. Creativity Division II: Participants in Grades 1–3 of elementary/primary school, or equivalent Participants, including Participants eligible for special education within the relevant age group
- c. Creativity Division III: Participants in Grades 4–6 of elementary/primary school, or equivalent Participants
- d. Creativity Division IV: Participants aged 60 years or older, or equivalent Participants

3. Mechatronics Category

- a. Mechatronics Division I: Elementary/primary school students or equivalent Participants
- b. Mechatronics Division II: Middle school students or equivalent Participants
- c. Mechatronics Division III: High school students or equivalent Participants

4. STEAM Category

- a. Analog Product Maker Division: Elementary/primary through middle school students, or equivalent Participants
- b. Digital Product Maker Division: Middle through high school students, or equivalent Participants
- c. Invention Maker Division: An open Division including high school students, university students, and general participants
- d. Capstone Design Division: An open Division including high school students, university students, and general participants

3. The Standard Division Framework under paragraph 2 shall serve as a recommended benchmark for maintaining the continuity of the IMSCC, its intergenerational participation structure, and a reasonably consistent scale of finals operations. Unless there are special circumstances, the Organizing Committee and Host Organization for the relevant year shall endeavor to respect the fundamental age structure and Competition configuration when preparing the Annual Regulations.
4. The Divisions actually operated in a given year, age or grade eligibility, team composition, Competition themes, judging methods, scoring allocations, and other details shall be finalized in the Annual Regulations. Where national education systems or age structures differ, the Annual Regulations may prescribe equivalent eligibility criteria.
5. Taking into account developments in science, technology, and education; the composition of Participants; the education system of the host country; facilities, budget, and safety conditions; and the future development of the Competition, the Organizing Committee may, through the Annual Regulations, add, merge, divide, rename, or elect not to operate a Division under paragraph 2 for the relevant year. Such changes shall not undermine the fundamental Competition Categories or the objectives of the IMSCC.
6. The Organizing Committee may establish a Demonstration Category or Demonstration Event to evaluate the feasibility of new scientific or technological developments, interdisciplinary educational approaches, or Competition models. Eligibility requirements, judging methods, award arrangements, and the period of operation shall be prescribed in the Annual Regulations.
7. A Demonstration Category or newly established Division may be incorporated into the Standard Division Framework after consideration of its operational performance, participation level, educational value, stability of judging, sustainability, and other relevant factors. Establishment of a new Official Competition Category or permanent abolition of an existing Official Competition Category shall require an amendment to these General Regulations.
8. The establishment, consolidation, modification, or non-operation of a Division for a particular year, and the establishment of a Demonstration Category, shall, in principle, be announced through the Annual Regulations before registration opens, as such matters may materially affect Participants' preparation and decisions to participate.

Article 20 (Official Licensed Materials and Other Materials and Equipment)

1. The IMSCC shall designate as Official Licensed Materials ("OLM") educational materials and tools that have served as fundamental tools for creative structural design, mathematical and scientific modeling, and interdisciplinary problem-solving throughout the establishment and development of the Competition.
2. The basic OLM of the IMSCC shall be 4Dframe, Super 4Dframe, 4D Mechatronics, and

4DBlocks of 4D Land, Inc.

3. Conditions governing the use of OLM in each Competition Category or Division shall be prescribed in the Annual Regulations or applicable Division Rules. Where necessary, the Annual Regulations may restrict a particular OLM to specified Divisions.
4. Participants shall, in principle, prepare the OLM and permitted materials and equipment required for their participation. The Organizing Committee or Host Organization shall not be obliged to provide such materials or equipment unless the Annual Regulations, applicable Division Rules, or a separate official notice expressly provide that all or part of such materials or equipment will be supplied.
5. Materials, components, electronic devices, software, or other tools other than OLM may be used only to the extent permitted by the Annual Regulations or applicable Division Rules.
6. A developer, manufacturer, Host Organization, or other relevant entity wishing to use a new scientific, technological, educational, or creative tool in an official or demonstration IMSCC event may apply to the IMSCC Organizing Committee for OLM designation. In determining whether to grant OLM status and the scope of such designation, the Organizing Committee shall consider:
 1. **consistency with the objectives of the IMSCC and suitability for STEAM education;**
 2. **applicability to creative problem-solving and Competition activities;**
 3. **safety and suitability of the product or tool;**
 4. **consistency of quality and specifications and fairness of Competition conditions;**
 5. **reasonable accessibility and usability for Participants;**
 6. **intellectual property rights and the existence of lawful rights of use; and**
 7. **any other matter deemed necessary by the Organizing Committee for the fair and stable operation of an international competition.**

Article 21 (Submission Materials and Project Report)

1. Each participating team shall submit a Project Report documenting the Competition process and the purpose, design, development, underlying principles, and results of its work or project, together with photographs, videos, and any other materials required by the Organizing Committee.
2. For purposes of the educational and academic record of the IMSCC and the systematic assessment of entries, the Project Report shall, in principle, include:
 1. **Background and Objectives**
 2. **Planning, Design and Development Process**
 3. **the implementation process of the work or project, including quantities of materials used, tools, design or structural drawings, and photographs documenting the stages of development;**
 4. **mathematical, scientific, and engineering principles applied to the work or project,**

- together with other relevant STEAM concepts;
5. the functions, characteristics, problem-solving process, and results of the work;
 6. Evaluation, Reflection and Conclusion
 7. references, sources, and the scope of use where cited or reference materials, external materials, open-source resources, generative AI, or similar resources have been used; and
 8. any other information deemed necessary by the Organizing Committee for understanding and evaluating the project.
3. The basic structure, required sections, and format of the Project Report shall follow the "IMSCC Standard Project Report Form" prescribed in the Annual Regulations. The Standard Project Report Form shall maintain a consistent basic structure so that IMSCC entries may be continuously documented and used for educational purposes and, where appropriate, developed and organised for academic publication.
 4. File formats, length, file-size limits, video duration, resolution, file-naming conventions, submission method, submission period, and deadlines for reports, photographs, videos, program code, design files, and other submission materials shall be prescribed in the Annual Regulations for the relevant year.
 5. Where the nature of a Competition Category or Division requires program code, data, design files, demonstration videos, experimental data, or other additional materials, the Organizing Committee may designate such materials as mandatory or optional submissions in the Annual Regulations or applicable Division Rules.
 6. Copyright, personal data, use of photographs and videos, use and retention of materials for research or academic purposes, and related matters shall be governed by the relevant provisions of these General Regulations and the terms separately notified at the time of registration.
 7. Participants may continue to improve the completeness of their work, enhance safety, make minor structural or design improvements, or adjust functionality after submission of materials. However, where there is a substantial change to the core purpose, principal design, operating method, or function of the work, the team shall submit the Modification Report prescribed in the Annual Regulations to the designated reception point or on-site official before the on-site judging of that team begins.

Article 22 (Originality, Research Ethics and Intellectual Property Rights)

1. Participants shall prepare their works, reports, videos, program code, and other submission materials in an original and honest manner and shall not infringe the copyright, patent rights, trademark rights, design rights, or other intellectual property rights of any third party.
2. Where academic materials, publicly available materials, open-source resources, generative

artificial intelligence (Generative AI), or other external materials or tools have been substantially used, Participants shall clearly disclose the relevant references, sources, scope of use, and fact of use in the manner prescribed by the Organizing Committee.

3. Plagiarism, fabrication or falsification, submission of false materials, improper use of another person's work, or any other breach of research ethics may result in exclusion from judging, deduction of points, disqualification, revocation of an award, or other sanctions under these General Regulations.
4. The Organizing Committee may recommend award-winning works and Project Reports recognised through judging as being of outstanding quality as candidate research works for publication in the academic journal of the Association for 4Dframe (A4D).
5. Publication of a recommended work shall be subject to the editorial, peer-review, and research-ethics standards of the relevant journal. Authorship shall be determined on the basis of substantive contribution and the authorship criteria of the journal. A final published work may be assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) in accordance with the journal's applicable policy.
6. Copyright, licences or permissions, personal data, consent relating to Minor Participants, and other matters arising in the course of academic publication shall be governed by applicable law, the rules of the relevant journal, and any separate consent procedures.

Article 23 (Judging and Correction of Results)

1. Judging shall be conducted in accordance with criteria announced in advance and in accordance with the principles of fairness, independence, and consistency.
2. Specific judging methods and scoring allocations, including submission review, on-site judging, online judging, presentations, demonstrations, question-and-answer sessions, and mission performance, shall be prescribed in the Annual Regulations or applicable Division Rules.
3. Tie-breaking criteria shall be prescribed in advance in the Annual Regulations or applicable Division Rules.
4. Individual scores and opinions of judges, deliberations among judges, and internal judging materials shall, in principle, remain confidential. The Organizing Committee may, however, disclose evaluation criteria, scoring allocations by criterion, total scores, or other information where necessary to ensure transparency and fairness.
5. Reconsideration based solely on a judge's professional judgment shall, in principle, not be permitted. However, an objection concerning an error in the calculation, entry, or aggregation of scores; mistaken identification of a participating team; eligibility; a material breach of judging procedure; a conflict of interest; or a violation of applicable regulations may be submitted in accordance with procedures prescribed in the Annual Regulations.
6. Where a manifest error is identified in the calculation, entry, or aggregation of scores,

identification of a participating team, or an award result, the Organizing Committee may correct the error. Where a correction is made after results have been announced, the Organizing Committee shall notify the affected team and, where necessary, publicly announce the correction.

7. Where a Participant or participating team violates these General Regulations, the Annual Regulations, or applicable Division Rules, the Organizing Committee or the relevant judging committee may, taking into account the nature and seriousness of the violation and its effect on judging, issue a warning, require corrective action, deduct points, disqualify the Participant or team, revoke an award, or impose other appropriate measures. Detailed standards for the application of such measures may be prescribed in the Annual Regulations or applicable Division Rules.

CHAPTER 5

PARTICIPANT SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Article 24 (Dignity and Mutual Respect)

The IMSCC shall not tolerate bullying, discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, violence, threats, stalking, or any other conduct that infringes the dignity of a Participant.

Article 25 (Prohibition of Unnecessary Physical Contact)

1. Competition Personnel and Participants, and Participants in their interactions with one another, shall not engage in unnecessary or unwanted physical contact.
2. Physical contact necessary for safety, an emergency, or an official procedure shall be limited to the minimum extent necessary to achieve the relevant purpose.

Article 26 (Reporting and Immediate Protection)

1. Any person may report a safety, human rights, or ethical concern through an official reporting channel.
2. Upon receipt of a report, the Safeguarding & Wellbeing Officer or Unit shall, where necessary and in cooperation with the Organizing Committee and Host Organization, immediately implement initial protective measures, including securing the safety of the person requiring protection, separating the parties, arranging medical, psychological, or guardian support, and preserving evidence.

Article 27 (Interim Measures)

Where necessary to protect a Participant or preserve the fairness of an investigation, the Organizing Committee may, before a final determination is made, impose interim measures including restrictions on access, temporary removal from duties, or restrictions on participation in the event. An interim measure shall not constitute a final determination of responsibility.

Article 28 (Investigation Procedure)

1. An update on the initial response shall, in principle, be provided within 72 hours of receipt of a report.
2. An interim progress update shall, in principle, be provided within 14 days of receipt of a report, and the outcome of the investigation shall be notified within 30 days.
3. Where an extension is necessary due to the complexity of the matter, an investigation by relevant authorities, the circumstances of a party, or any other unavoidable reason, the reason for the extension and the expected timetable shall be communicated to the relevant persons.
4. Before a final adverse decision or sanction is imposed, the person concerned shall, in principle, be informed of the material facts and issues under consideration and be given a reasonable opportunity to submit their views.

Article 29 (Confidentiality and Prohibition of Retaliation)

1. Information relating to a case shall be processed only to the extent necessary to protect Participants and ensure a fair investigation.
2. No Participant or other person shall be subjected to disadvantage or retaliation because they made a report, provided a statement, or cooperated with an investigation.
3. Information may be provided to the extent necessary where there is a statutory duty to report or submit information, where disclosure is necessary to ensure safety, or where a lawful request is made by a competent authority.

Article 30 (Coordination with Relevant Authorities and Services)

1. Where a statutory duty to report or notify applies, the Organizing Committee shall comply with applicable law.
2. In other cases, taking into account the safety and wishes of the person requiring protection, the Organizing Committee may facilitate access to or coordination with medical institutions, professional counseling services, legal support services, law-enforcement authorities, or other relevant bodies.

Article 31 (Sanctions and Appeals in Ethics Cases)

1. Following investigation and deliberation by the Ethics & Safeguarding Committee, the Organizing Committee may, taking into account the nature and seriousness of the violation, impose sanctions including a warning, removal from the event venue, removal from duties, revocation of an award or eligibility to participate, or restrictions on future participation in or involvement with the IMSCC. Interim measures necessary to secure immediate safety at the venue shall be governed by Article 27.
2. A person subject to a final sanction may lodge an appeal, within the period prescribed in the Annual Regulations or other applicable procedures, with a review body whose membership is independent of the Ethics & Safeguarding Committee. The decision of the review body shall constitute the final decision under the internal procedures of the IMSCC.

CHAPTER 6

PERSONAL DATA, MEDIA AND PARTICIPANTS' RIGHTS

Article 32 (Personal Data, Photography, Video and Media Use)

1. Participants' personal data shall be processed in accordance with applicable law and the applicable Privacy Policy for purposes including Competition registration, identity verification, Competition operations, judging, awards, participant safety management, official records, and other legitimate purposes related to the operation of the IMSCC. Participants shall be appropriately informed of the categories of personal data collected, purposes of processing, retention periods, disclosure to third parties, destruction of data, and other relevant matters.
2. Where consent of a legal guardian is required for the processing of a Minor Participant's personal data, the applicable consent and verification procedures shall be followed in accordance with applicable law.
3. Photography and video recording necessary for Competition operations, records, and safety management, and the use of photographs or videos for external publication through websites, social media, the press, academic journals, promotional materials, or similar channels, shall be separately notified according to their respective purposes and scope, and separate consent shall be obtained where required by applicable law.
4. Where photographs, videos, or personal data of a Minor Participant are publicly disclosed or used for promotional or academic purposes, due regard shall be

given to the Participant's rights and safety, and the procedures prescribed by applicable law and the Privacy and Media Policy for the relevant year shall be followed.

Article 33 (Rights in Entries and Licenses)

1. Intellectual property rights in Competition entries, Project Reports, program code, design materials, and other materials created by Participants shall, in principle, remain vested in the Participant or other lawful rights holder.
2. The scope and manner in which the Organizing Committee may use Competition entries for judging, record-keeping, education, publicity, exhibition, academic presentations, academic journal publication, or similar purposes shall be governed by the license terms notified at the time of registration or by a separate consent or licensing procedure.
3. Where additional rights clearance is necessary for academic journal publication, other publication, or any other use of a Competition entry, such use shall be subject to applicable law, the rules of the relevant journal, and any separate licensing procedure.
4. Where a Participant uses third-party copyrighted works, publicly available materials, generative AI outputs, or other external materials in a Competition entry, the Participant shall comply with the attribution and rights-clearance obligations under Article 22.

CHAPTER 7

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 34 (Records and Preservation of Evidence)

Judging materials and case-related materials shall be securely retained for the period necessary for their respective purposes. Original materials relating to a case shall not be arbitrarily edited, altered, or destroyed before the investigation has been concluded.

Article 35 (Force Majeure)

Where the holding of the IMSCC becomes impracticable due to a natural disaster,

infectious disease, war, government order, unavailability of facilities, or any other circumstance beyond reasonable control, the Organizing Committee may change, postpone, reduce the scope of, or cancel the Competition.

Article 36 (Material Changes)

1. Where the Host Organization or a Program Organizer proposes a material change to the Annual Regulations or an Official Program that would substantially affect a Participant's eligibility, preparation, evaluation, safety, or rights, prior approval of the Organizing Committee shall be obtained.
2. The Host Organization or a Program Organizer shall not unilaterally alter the fundamental Competition Categories, Official Licensed Materials (OLM), the core objectives of the Competition, or any permanent element of the basic framework established by these General Regulations.
3. Where a change under paragraph 1 is approved, the Organizing Committee and Host Organization shall announce the change to Participants as promptly as practicable and shall take appropriate transitional measures to avoid unreasonable disadvantage to Participants who have already begun preparations or registered for the Competition.

Article 37 (Interpretation)

Any matter concerning the interpretation of these General Regulations shall be determined by the Organizing Committee in a manner consistent with fair competition and the protection of Participants' safety and rights.

Article 38 (Amendment and Entry into Force)

These General Regulations shall be enacted or amended by resolution of the Organizing Committee, shall be promulgated accordingly, and shall take effect on the effective date specified upon promulgation.