

Canadian Order of AHEPA District 23 HELLENIC HISTORY TOURNAMENT

Competition Rules for Students

1. Introduction

The Hellenic History Tournament (HHT) is sponsored by the Canadian Order of AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association) District #23, which encompasses Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island. Its objective is to help achieve the first two of the five missions of AHEPA, namely, to promote Hellenism and Education. It achieves this objective by identifying and rewarding those high school students who know the most about the 3500 year old history of the Hellenes.

The Tournament takes the form of a simplified quiz show like Jeopardy. Students compete in three-member teams, two teams at a time, in a round robin format. All teams have the opportunity to participate in the first two rounds. After the second round, the four teams that accumulate the most points (by answering the most questions correctly) remain in the competition, while the rest of the teams are eliminated.

The competition now takes the form of a single elimination bracket, sudden death. In the third round, called the semifinals, the remaining four teams compete in two matches. The final two winning teams then proceed to the fourth and final round in a single match that determines the overall winners.

(See details under “5. Competition Format” below)

The tournament will take place if at least ten teams participate. Failure to attract at least 10 participating teams will result in the cancellation of the tournament.

2. Prizes

The first prize is a \$1,000 award to be given to each student participant of a 3 person team that wins the final match. Their names will be engraved on the permanent AHEPA District 23 Hellenic History Tournament Trophy. In addition, the AHEPA chapter that sponsors the winning team receives the District 23 Hellenic History Tournament Cup, which it keeps for a year, when it turns the cup over to the chapter that sponsors the following year’s winning team.

Each member of the first, second and third place team receives an award. Second place prize is \$500 per team member. Third place is \$200 per team member. Fourth place \$150 per team member.

Each participant gets a certificate of participation. There are no other prizes.

3. Student Eligibility

Any student attending school grades 8-12 or First Year CEGEP minimum age 14 to a maximum of 18 at the time of competition is eligible. Students must be sponsored by a local AHEPA Family chapter.

Exceptions may be made for teams sponsored by Hellenic communities, associations or that lack a nearby AHEPA chapter. AHEPA family membership, Hellenic heritage or Greek Orthodox religious affiliation is NOT required. However, the written approval of a parent or guardian on the registration form is required for eligibility. All teams require an adult chaperone. Completed registration forms to be emailed to the sponsoring city's tournament chair. Please include a return phone number in the email to verify the sender of the email as well. Team sponsorships are \$500 per team. Please ask your AHEPA Chapter for sponsorships. Please scan signed copies and email to your closest AHEPA Chapter City.

4. Student Registration

Prospective participants who meet the eligibility requirements must register with the HHT Committee by mailing a completed registration form or registering online along with a cheque or e-transfer for \$40 payable to "AHEPA District #23", Co-Chair, District 23 Hellenic History Tournament.

This registration fee will contribute towards the cost of a copy of "Hellenika", a book by Peter Limber about the history of the Hellenes, which will be given to each participant from which the questions and answers will be drawn.

* If the student does NOT need a copy of the Hellenika book, the registration fee is \$25.

Before sending in the registration form, a student must:

1. Form and/or join a local three-member team and designate it on the registration form. Students who are not members of a three-member team cannot register.
2. The team members should choose one of their number to be the team captain who will be the spokesperson for the team. The captain name must be indicated on the form.
3. Secure the sponsorship of the nearest AHEPA chapter. Sponsorship is a chapter monetary contribution that must accompany every participating team and is the primary source of prize funds.

The registration form contains a list of participating AHEPA chapters and provides the coordinates of the chapter HHT contacts. The sponsoring chapter and chapter contact must be indicated on the form. If there is no AHEPA Chapter, then a Hellenic Organization is acceptable.

Each student must register individually with a separate registration form.

If a registered student becomes unable to attend the competition, the remaining team member(s) can choose to either (1) replace him/her with another student in the appropriate age group, or (2) compete with fewer than two team members. In the latter case, should the team win first or second place, only the competitors present at the tournament will receive the individual winning prize (\$1,000 or \$500 or \$200 or \$150 each).

5. Competition Format

A match will consist of 24 questions. The two teams will alternate going through a question cycle. Each question cycle will consist of the following stages (assume it is the turn of Team A):

1. Team A chooses a question category of those remaining (see Questions & Answers below).
2. The moderator asks a question from that category.
3. Team A answers the question. If Team A answers the question correctly, it gets a point, and the question cycle ends, with the initiative now going to Team B. If Team A answers the question incorrectly, it does not get a point, and Team B gets an opportunity to answer it and get a point. Whether Team B answers Team A's question correctly or not, the question cycle ends, with the initiative now going to Team B.

This question cycle is repeated until a total of 24 questions have been asked. For a given match, the team that accumulates the most points (by answering the most questions correctly) is declared the winner. If, at the end of the 24 questions, the two teams are tied with the same number of points, additional questions will be asked until a clear winner emerges (for elimination rounds only).

The competition structure will be a hybrid single-elimination tournament, with the first two rounds used to identify the four semifinalists who will compete in the last two single elimination rounds. The first two rounds will pit half the teams against the other half, with the specific matchups (Team A vs. Team B) determined by lot. If the number of teams is odd, the two teams that participate in only one of the first two rounds will compete with each other in a one-match mini-round designated 2a.

At the end of the second round (2 or 2a), four teams will be selected for the third round (the semifinals)

using their cumulative score as the primary criterion and the number of wins they achieved as a tiebreaker. If there is still a tie, the two tied teams will compete in another one-match, mini-round (designated 2b) to determine which one will go on to the semifinals. This will bring the tournament to a traditional single-elimination bracket for the third and then the fourth and final round.

6. Appeals

All decisions regarding the validity of tournament answers have already been made and are final. There are no provisions for challenging these decisions and no resources for evaluating the challenges. If there are other issues during a match, the following appeals process will be followed:

1. The Captain of each team will be the spokesperson for the team on the appeal. No adults.
2. The appeal should be raised right away after it occurs and should be resolved immediately by the moderator.
3. If the moderator cannot resolve the issue, the moderator should bring in the Dispute Resolution Advisor or the HHT Chairman who will be the final arbiter.

7. Competition Questions & Answers

The questions and answers will be provided or certified by qualified specialists and will cover the full span of the history of the Hellenes, i.e. Greek speakers, beginning with the Mycenaeans and ending with the contemporary Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Cyprus, and the Greek Diaspora. Greek mythology will NOT be covered, except as it might pertain to historical facts. All questions will be in the form of multiple-choice (4 choices).

A person providing questions and answers for this competition will be asked to certify that he/she does not have any family ties and has not divulged any questions and answers to any of the competitors. Since the questions and answers will be provided by different people, it is very difficult to limit them to the contents of a single book, such as the "Hellenika" volume sent to each participating student. That book is meant to serve as a brief starting point for a life-long study of Hellenic history; students are urged to use its extensive bibliography for further reading.

To ensure that each match covers the complete 3500 year span of the history of the Hellenes, the questions will be separated into three groups of 8 questions according to their period:

1. Ancient: Mycenaean through Hellenistic (1500 BC to 30 BC)

2. Middle: Roman and Byzantine (29 BC to 1453 AD)

3. Modern: Ottoman and Modern (1454 AD to the present)

For questions and answers in groups 1 and 2 (through 1453 AD), the names of persons and places should be those that are standard in an English-speaking history course. Non-standard transliterations from the Greek should not be used. Examples: Athens is OK, Athinai is not; Socrates is OK, Sokratis is not; Pericles is OK, Periklis is not, Constantine is OK, Konstantinos is not; Theodosius is OK, Theodosios is not, etc. For questions in group 3 (1454 AD to the present), Modern Greek transliterations into English are preferred. Examples: Theodoros Kolokotronis is preferred to Theodore Colocotronis; Konstantinos Karamanlis is preferred to Constantine Caramanlis, etc.

To increase the educational value of the questions and to help the contestants navigate through time, each question will be associated with a specific year (either exact or approximate) which will be displayed as part of the question text. This implies that the answers cannot be specific years.

8. Registration

Team fees made payable to AHEPA District 23. Each team must have confirmed sponsorship confirmed by an AHEPA Chapter or other approved entity. All teams must register BEFORE the deadline.

(See registration Form)