**Q&A of International Challenge for Data Analysis and Decision Making in Economics**

**Ⅰ. Q&A: before registration**

1. **Q**: How can I find the organizer of this competition online?

**A:** *Please visit the official website: global.jiecl.com*

1. **Q:** My University did not buy the software, can I register? If I don't have this software, what should I do?

**A:** *This software is open and free for competition, and you can visit global.jiecl.com to register, then you will get the URL, the license, password of this software, and the learning videos.*

1. **Q:** Is the lead teacher necessary when I register? What is the maximum number of lead teacher for ONE team? Can one teacher instruct more than one team?

**A:***Lead teacher is optional for registration. It is recommended that the team find an lead teacher of relevant courses or academic secretary. Teachers have chance to get "Outstanding Lead teacher Award" by the organizer. There is no fee for lead teachers. The lead teachers should instruct students to understand the economic theories during practice rounds and supervise on site during preliminary and final rounds. The maximum number of lead teacher for ONE team is no more than 3. One teacher can instruct no more than one team*

1. **Q:** Is it necessary to register on the competition website if I have signed up in email?

**A:** *Yes, you need to register on global.jiecl.com to get the practice website and the license.*

1. **Q:** I cannot find team members. Can I register as a team of one?

**A:** *No. Only teams with 2 to 3 students are allowed.*

1. **Q:** Can a team without 240 points register?

**A:** *There is no restriction on the points for registration. But you need to score 240 points before the preliminary contest.*

1. **Q:** Is it possible to team up with students in other universities?

**A:** *No. Members in a team must be from the same university. Prizes will be awarded according to the university they registered at the beginning.*

1. **Q:** Is it possible that the list of students be changed later if it is not confirmed now?

**A:** *Yes, but no more than half of the list can be changed before the final round.*

1. **Q:** We do not have a department in charge of the event in our university, and we are not familiar with the operation of the software, how can we organize our team?

**A:***First, it is recommended that one student club be in charge of the event, and actively organize intra-university and inter-university friendly tournaments and experiences exchange, to form a regular tournament organization system. Second, students can join the WhatsAPP   for daily practices. If you need technical support, please contact with us by email ((CDADME@foxmail.com) or phone (0086-28-81711073).*

1. **Q:** Do I need to go somewhere for the preliminaries and final contest?

**A:** *In 2021, both the preliminaries and finals of the competition will be held online.*

1. **Q:** What is the fee of the competition?

**A:** *There is no fee for the preliminaries and finals. But if you need physical certificates and medals, you would pay for international logistics cost (sent by SF International Logistics) at 400CNY / 2kg (medal weight not exceeding 4Kg). The award ceremony will be held on-site in Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (located in Suzhou, Jiangsu Province, China) in October 2021 and teams are welcome to attend (at their own expense). Teams that cannot attend on-site due to the epidemic are welcome to attend online.*

1. **Q:** Are the undergraduates and the graduates competing in the same group? Is it unfair?

**A:** *We do not differentiate a team with postgraduates or with undergraduates. Meanwhile, a maximum of one postgraduate per team is allowed.*

1. **Q:** Will I win a prize as long as I register?

**A:** *No. You will win a prize if you enter the final round. The percentage of prizes in the preliminaries is about 80%.*

1. **Q:** What are the prizes for each class?

**A:** *The first place with the highest total score in the final have a chance to win a prize of $10,000 or equivalent in RMB, medal and certificate; first prize: medal and certificate; second prize: medal and certificate,; third prize: medal and certificate.**Please see the final awards in the competition announcement.*

1. **Q:** We don't know how to use the software. What should we do?

**A:** *You can get the learning video and other recourse in the "Training Schedule" channel on the official website. In addition, it will be online training for students, April-May, via zoom.*

1. **Q:** Can students download the software and operate it by themselves?

**A:** There is *no need to download it; you can practice it online.*

1. **Q:** Are you the organizer?

**A:** *No, we are the technical service provider of this competition. Participants will be using the Integrated Simulation Training Platform for Economics developed by the teacher of Sichuan Normal University in China.*

1. **Q:** Will it affect the game if students on the same team do not operate the system together?

**A:** *No. Only the team leader has the authority to submit decisions in the software. The team members are scattered all over the world and can discuss through online meetings, and finally the team leader submits each step of the decision.*

1. **Q:** The registration deadline is the end of May and the training period is from April to May. Can teams that register late still participate in the training and practice rounds?

**A:** *Yes, you can. The training time is earlier than the registration time, so teams can train and understand first before deciding whether to participate in the registration. After registration, there will be online training once a month, and you can watch the training replay video and also have your questions answered in the group.*

1. **Q:** How to prevent cheating in the preliminary and final rounds?

**A:** *During the preliminary and final rounds, team members need to turn on the camera and stay online. Any cheating found will be disqualified from the competition.*

**Ⅱ. Questions and answers that may arise after registration**

1. **Q:** Can I get a license first?

**A:** *Yes, you can get a license by registering a free account.*

1. **Q:** Where can I see the website, the account and password after registration?

A: *You can see them by entering the official website of the tournament - Team Registration.*

1. **Q:** What should I do if I am prompted with an account and password error?

**A:** *Check if the login URL is the same as the one you got after successful registration or not, and check if the license and password are entered correctly.*

1. **Q:** What should I do if I forget my password?

A: *Please enter the official website - Team Registration where the password will be displayed.*

1. **Q:** How many teams are there in one class in the competition?

**A:** *The number of teams in the virtual class is in multiples of 4 and the maximum number of teams in each class is 20. If the number of teams in the virtual class does not meet the multiple of 4, the robots will fill in until the multiple of 4 is met. (For example, if 137 teams take part in the finals, they, adding 3 robots, will be divided into 7 classes of 20 teams. If 48 teams take part in the finals, they will be divided into 3 classes of 16 teams without any robot) .The priority of the roles of a robot in each class is: home appliance → steel → car. Decision-making rules for robots: please see the software interface - robot rules module. If a group gives up the game during the competition, the robot will also replace its decision.*

1. **Q:** What are the rules of drawing roles?

**A:** *The ratio of each role is fixed: car/appliance/steel = 1/2/1. Teams from the same university would not be in the same class if possible. When the number of teams in that university exceeds the number of classes, they should be distributed to each class as evenly as possible, into different roles.*

1. **Q:** How are the points calculated?

**A:** *Points=∑〖(the score in the last year×√(n/4)×Robot coefficient)〗 ,n = the end year of this experiment. Please notice: n>=4 (otherwise recorded as 0) Robot coefficient = (the total number of decisions in the experiment - the number of decisions made by robot) / the total number of decisions in the experiment。*

1. **Q:** The deadline for points to be greater than 240:

**A:** *before the drawing lots.*

1. **Q:** What is the drawing time?

**A:** *Notification will be made after the end of registration*

1. **Q:** Will points be deducted for failed experiment?

**A:** *Points are calculated in real time based on annual scores, and if you find that your points are decreasing, it is because your score is decreasing this year. At the same time, the number of decisions made by the robot during the experiment will also reduce the number of points.*

1. **Q:** I practiced, but why are my points not displayed? Where can I check my points?

**A:** *The points will be displayed on the next day on the official website - Team Registration - tournament draw screen. Please enter your license to check.*

1. **Q:** Will the points affect the competition results? What are the benefits of points?

**A:** *The points are compared to the threshold for entry of the competition but do not affect the competition results. You should pay attention to the quality of the practice race, and do not focus on speed and number of practices.*

1. **Q:** Is it that only the group leader will receive points?

**A:** *No. Group members who participate in practice as a leader of one firm will also get points.*

1. **Q:** Do team members operating a firm in the name of the group leader count for team points?

**A:** *Yes, all 3 participants in one team can practice as a leader of one firm and will be credited with team points.*

1. **Q:** If the leader of one firm is deleted or cease in the fifth year of economics, will the team's points still be available?

**A:** *No. After deletion or cease there is no information about the points of the leader. But the system does not allow students to be deleted after the end of the experiment.*

1. **Q:** How can the lead teacher see the students' practice? How to supervise and guide?

**A:** The lead t*eachers can search for their university on the official website - Team Registration – Tournament Points to see the points of their team.*

1. **Q:** Can only the leader of one firm operate during the competition? Is there a difference between the leader and the firm participants?

**A:** *Yes, the firm participants can only view data and make bidding, while the leader of one firm can also submit decision data.*

1. **Q:** The competition involves both macro and micro sections. Is it separate in one competition?

**A:** *No. The macro and micro parts of the economics competition are integrated in the same competition.*

1. **Q:** What is the robot's decision process?

**A:** *The robot decision in the competition include: order bidding, steel procurement, iron ore bidding, labor bidding, production, order delivery.*

1. **Q:** How to check the connection of each practice game site before practice? Is it good?

**A:** *To avoid lags, please check the connection of each site before building a class for practice. You can see the "Practice Tournament Entrance" on the website of the tournament - team registration.*

1. **Q:** What is the length of each module of the official tournament?

**A:** *The decision length is automatically set by the system and is consistent with the official game time.*

1. **Q:** Will the robot sell steels at the lowest price after it takes over the steel firm?

**A:** *No. The robot automatically calculates it within a certain range. Decision-making rules for robots: please see the software interface - robot rules module*

1. .**Q:** What should I do if a module countdown disappears in the competition?

**A:** *If the countdown disappears, a service causes a system site to go down, simply wait for the site to resume and the countdown will continue.. If the problem is not solved, please take a screenshot and then contact* CDADME@foxmail.com

1. **Q:** Can I use smartphone and IPAD to log in the software?

**A:** *The software does not support cell phone and IPAD at the moment; please use your computer to open Google Chrome/IE to login.*

1. **Q:** What should I do if I encounter software problems during the practice?

**A:** *For any problem, it is recommended to refresh with ctrl+F5 first. If the problem is not solved, please take a screenshot and then contact* CDADME@foxmail.com

1. **Q:** How many years of operation?

**A:** *The tournament operates for a total of 6 years, after entering the software, the initial year is the 2nd year, and the operation starts from the 2nd year and operates until the end of the 7th year.*