

# Welmtech 2.0

## Official Rules and Regulations

### 1. Introduction

These are the Official Rules and Regulations (“Rules”) for participation in the Welmtech 2.0. Welm is the administrator of the competition. The competition registration open at 10:00AM Tuesday April 15,2025 and the close at 12:00 PM Saturday May 31,2025. These rules should be read in conjunction with the information provided by the administrator on the website <https://www.welmfoundation.in>.

### 2. Competition Description

The objective of the competition is for teams of eligible students, supervised by designated teachers or mentors, to create an entry that identifies a real-world environmental problem, as specified in Welmtech 2.0, and presents a solution using innovative and cutting-edge technology. Relevant projects should offer a sustainable solution to an environmental issue or contribute to a sustainable future that positively impacts human life.

The Competition will consist of two Rounds:

**Round 1** of the competition requires each team to share a drive link or submit a video showcasing their final project. The project should clearly outline the cause and scope of the identified problem and propose a clean technology solution. Teams may incorporate additional electronic components or gadgets to enhance their innovation while staying within the framework of their idea. Only the top 10 teams in the senior high category will be designated as finalists and invited to **Round 2** of the competition.

**Round 2** of the competition will require the finalist teams to demonstrate the prototype of their solution in an in-person live judging round. More information on the judging process and criteria can be found in section 12: Judging.

### 3. Teams and Student Eligibility

- Each team may consist of two or three student members.
- A student may participate in only **one** team. After registration, changing teams is not allowed.
- Schools must submit the details of the participants and mentor on the official school letterhead, duly signed and stamped by the school principal or a competent authority.
- The official language of the competition is **English**. All competition-related information, including registration, correspondence, and project submission, must be completed in English. At least **one** student team member must be fluent in either **English or Hindi** and must be present at the **Finalist Event** to conduct their team’s presentation if selected as a finalist.

#### 4. Mentor

- Each Team shall be supervised by one mentor, preferably a teacher from the same school, but, can be a part time person as well.
- While student Team Members are required to do the work involved in undertaking their projects, the role of the mentor is to help students manage their project. An individual may serve as Mentor for more than one Team. Mentors are to act as guides through the process, not as participating members in the research project or prototype development. If selected in round 2, mentors are not eligible to answer the queries of the judges.
- The mentor is responsible for registering the team, keeping communication obtaining any additional information about Team Members as required by the Administrator, including obtaining all necessary consents from parents or guardians of Team Members , providing overall guidance to the Team, submitting the Team’s entry by uploading the properly formatted document to their Team’s account, and facilitating distribution of prizes. If their Team is selected as a Finalist, the mentor will assist in Team travel arrangements and oversee presentation of the Team’s entry at the Finalist Event. If the registered mentor is unable to attend the Finals in person, a replacement mentor who meets the Administrator’s Mentor’s requirements must be put in place and their information shared at least seven days before the event to the Administrator.
- Finalist teams must arrange their own **accommodation and travel** . However, the administration will assist in locating accommodation near the competition venue.

#### 5. Registration

- The registration form link is found on the “Register” page of the competition website. Each Mentor must create an account and fill out registration information for each team they are supervising.
- The registration fee to register a team for the competition is **₹1500**.
- However, **Government schools** can register **one team** free of charge. If a government school registers additional teams, a **registration fee of ₹750** (50% discount) will apply per additional team.
- A unique email address must be used to create each account. There is one account per Team which the mentor and Team Members should all share access to.
- The Registration Deadline is 12:00 PM on Saturday, May 31, 2025. No exceptions will be made. All Teams must be registered by this dead line in order to participate. After this point, new accounts cannot be created, but registration information may still be modified for existing accounts.
- The Round 1 video Submission Deadline is 12:00 PM IST (Mid Night) on Thursday, July 15,2025 at which point all Round 1 video Submissions must have been uploaded and accounts may no longer be modified. **No exceptions will be made.**

#### 6. Personal Data and Parental Consent

- Each student Team Member of a Finalist Team must provide a completed parental consent form, signed by the student’s parent or legal guardian, to be eligible to participate

in the Finalist Event.

- Finalist Teams will have 7 days from the date of announcement to complete and submit all required consent forms. If a Team fails to submit all consent forms by the assigned date, they may be disqualified at the sole discretion of the Administrator, and another Semi-Finalist Team may be invited to take their place.
- If a Team qualifying for the Finalist Round informs the Administrator that they must withdraw prior to submitting their consent forms, they will retain their Semi-Finalist Team designation, and receive a Semi-Finalist certificate. However, if a Team chooses to withdraw from the Finalist Round after submitting required forms and/or confirming participation, the Team risks disqualification and forfeiture of any awards, at the sole discretion of the Administrator.

**NOTE:**

- By participating in the Competition, Team Members, Mentors, Judges, and Speakers agree to the collection and use of their photographs, projects videos and personal information by the Competition. This includes (but is not limited to): all forms of media, advertising, and the Competition's website. Teams who are named as either Semi-Finalists or Finalists are required to participate in any media appearances or interviews as stipulated by the Competition. Refusal may result in loss of recognition as a Semi-Finalist and/or Finalist and any prize money that may come with that designation.
- The Administrator may require additional personal information from Teams as a condition of distributing prizes to the Team. Failure to submit completed consent forms and/or to provide required information may result in disqualification from the competition and for feature of any prizes or awards for which they were previously eligible.

## **7. Originality of Work**

- The Team's entry must be an original work created by the Team Members and the Team must have all necessary rights to submit the entry. The entry may be an improvement on another party's existing design; however, it must contain substantial new original elements and only these original elements will be considered when being judged. Any existing ideas must be clearly denoted. All Team Members are responsible for contributing work to wards the creation of the entry.
- Participation in the competition may require disclosure of products, processes, improvements or other works that are the intellectual property of the Teams, which also may be made available to the public. If Teams have any concern about protection of their intellectual property, they are urged to consult with an appropriate advisor or attorney.

## **8. Submitting Entry**

All video Submission entries for Round 1 must be submitted by the Mentor by uploading a Portable Document file on the pitch deck and a video presentation demonstrating the prototype in use through the Team's account on the competition website or drive share. Other file formats or submission methods will not be accepted. Entries must be completed in English. Limit one entry per Team. The Administrator is under no obligation to correspond about entries.

Entries become the property of the Administrator and may not be acknowledged or returned.

## **9. Video Submission Deadline**

Video Submission entries for Round 1 must be received by the Administrator's server by July 15, 2025 at 12:00 PM (Mid Night). NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE. The Administrator reserves the right in its sole discretion to modify the entry deadline and if this occurs, all Teams will be notified of such deadline and modification will be posted on the competition website or through provided email addresses. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

## **10. Warranty, Hold Harmless and Intellectual Property Rights and Considerations**

By submitting a Team's entry, the school/mentor affirms that the entry is the original work of the Team and the entry does not violate any law or regulation or intellectual property right, including but not limited to any patent, trademark, copyright or trade secret, or any other right of any third party. Teams and Team leaders shall defend and hold harmless the Administrator and its directors, officers, staff, sponsors, contractors and agents and all competition participants, sponsors, reviewers, judges, speakers and mentors against any and all liability, losses, damages, expenses, claims or costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, relating to breach of this Section 10. Teams agree that the Administrator has the right to verify the ownership and originality of all entries. If verification cannot be done to the satisfaction of the Administrator or if a Team's entry is in any other way ineligible, the Administrator may disqualify the Team as an entrant and/or select an alternate semi-finalist, finalist or winner, as applicable.

## **11. Ethics and Unacceptable Entries**

- Entries may not involve use of or experimentation on animal or human subjects, except in cases of survey or undisturbed observation being performed.
- Entries may not defame or invade the rights of publicity or the privacy of any person, living or deceased, or otherwise infringe upon or violate a person's personal or proprietary rights.
- The Administrator reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any submission they believe may not be in keeping with the Administrator's image or defames, invades, infringes or violates a third party's rights
- The Administrator also reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any entry at any time which, in the Administrator's opinion, may endanger the safety or wellbeing of any person and/or animal or in the event it is determined that the participant has not complied with these rules.

## **12. Judging**

- The chance of winning any prize will depend upon the total number of eligible entries received and the scores of the Judges, based on entry prototype and viability, innovation in solving the problem.
- The decisions of the Judges, with the approval of the Administrator, will be final. Judging scores will not be released to Teams. However, Judge's comments will be released to Finalists as they prepare for the Finalist Event.

- Teams that do not qualify for the Finals will have their comments released upon request to the Administrator.

NOTE:-Teams are responsible for all travel expenses and other costs they incur in connection with the competition, including attendance at the Finals.

CRITERIA: For judging criteria is shared on the website <https://www.welmfoundation.in>

ROUND 1: Entries for Part 1 of Round 1 will consist of a video and pdf Submission, in which Teams present their findings and ideas in a written report for review by a panel of educators, scientists, engineers, and/or technology experts selected by the Administrator. Judging of this portion shall occur following the video/pdf Submission Deadline.

From the Round 1 video Submissions, the Judges will determine 10 Finalist Teams. The Finalist Teams will demonstrate the Prototype of their solution and participate in a live Round 2 Finalist Event. In the event the Finals are held in-person, Finalist Teams are responsible for their own transportation and lodging. If a Finalist Team is unable to meet requirements or attend the Finals, one of the shortlisted teams may be selected to take their place, at the sole discretion of the Administrator.

ROUND 2: Each Finalist Team's entry will be evaluated by a panel of Judges selected by the Administrator, at a live Finalist Event. The Competition may choose to live-stream this event for the general public on the internet. At least one Team Member, accompanied by the Team Leader (or other chaperone designated to, and agreed to by, the Administrator), is required to present at the Finalist Event, however all Team Members are encouraged to attend and participate. All presentations must be conducted in English/Hindi. The Judges will score each entry and determine each Team's ranking. The Finalist Teams will be notified of the Judges' decision at the conclusion of the Finalist Event. The decisions made by the Judges at this time are final and cannot be appealed.

Entries for Round 2 will consist of a Prototype of the Team's solution, no more than one slideshow presentation, and no more than two posters or display boards. A projector will be provided. All materials must be able to fit on a standard 6'x 2.5' table. No easels or stands will be provided, but Teams may arrange their own. Finalist presentations will be 15 minutes in total, with 10 minutes for presenting and 5 minutes for Q&A with judges. Further regulations may be put in place, and Finalist teams will be notified.

Teams are responsible for maintaining itemized receipts of purchases which they must bring to the Finalist Event, or show upon request by the Administrator. The Administrator reserves the right to audit these receipts at any time. Teams that do not adhere to this rule or fail to produce receipts risk disqualification from the competition and forfeiture of any awards or prizes that may have been received. Team Prizes

In the **Junior Category**, no single winner will be declared, as all participants will be recognized as winners in this category.

## **Prizes:**

**Winners of Senior High the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd positions will have the opportunity to collaborate with a Ph.D. professor for further research on their winning project and contribute to the publication of a research paper.**

**Wining schools will be getting trophies.**

**Winner of Senior and Junior High the 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> position team members will get Stemcity DIY kits.**

**Winner of Junior the 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> position team members will get medals.**

**Runners-up team will be rewarded in all categories will get medals.**

**All participants will get E-certificate**

**All the Mentors of all teams will get E-Certificate and appreciation letter.**

All prizes will be issued after the Finals Event will be announced in the month of September 2025.

The Administrator reserves the right to verify the eligibility information of competition participants as a condition of receiving a prize. If one or more Members of a winning Team are determined to be ineligible or fail to submit the required consent forms, the Administrator may, at its discretion, disqualify the entire Team and select an alternate prize winner or disqualify the ineligible or non-compliant Member(s) of the Team. Only one (1) prize check will be awarded to each winning Team, and is to be divided equally among all eligible student Team Members of the Team or school and mentors. The Administrator will not be involved in any disputes between or among Teams or Team Members.

## **13. Taxes and Fees**

All applicable taxes and/or fees on prizes, and all expenses related to acceptance and use of prizes, foreign or national, are the sole responsibility of prize recipients. The Administrator reserves the right to withhold payments as required by law.

## **14. Prize Restrictions**

No prize can be transferred or substituted except with the approval of the Administrator, at its sole discretion. Limit one prize per Team.

## **15. Disclaimer, Release, Hold Harmless and Limitation of Liability**

By participating in the competition, Team Leaders, Mentors, TeamMembers, Judges and Speakers: (1) agree to comply with the official rules, including these Rules, and decisions of the Administrator, and (2) defend and hold harmless the Administrator, its directors, officers, staff, sponsors, contractors and agents and all other competition participants, sponsors, reviewers, judges, speakers and mentors against any and all injuries, liability, losses, damages, costs or expense of any kind relating to their participation in the competition, including reasonable attorney's fees. The Administrator is not responsible for any injury or damage to persons or property which may be related to participation in the competition or receipt or use or misuse of any prize.

## **16. Right to Cancel & Disqualify**

The Administrator reserves the right in its sole discretion to (1) cancel, modify or suspend the competition or any portion at any time, and (2) limit entries to those submitted prior to the action taken, or to proceed in such a manner as may be deemed fair by the Administrator in its sole discretion. Persons who tamper with or abuse any aspect of the competition or website or who are in violation of these Rules, as solely determined by the Administrator, will be disqualified and all associated entries will be void.

## **17. Rights in Entry Materials; Publicity Release**

By participating in the competition, Team Members, Mentors, Judges and Speakers hereby grant the Administrator a no-cost, royalty-free license to publish, reproduce, alter, display and otherwise use the entry and related information in any format. The license granted here includes the right to use the entry, Team Leaders', Mentors' and Team Members' names, photographs, likeness, school, city and state, and any video footage for programming, advertising, publicity and promotional purposes without compensation (unless prohibited by law) and without prior approval or inspection. Team Leaders, Mentors and Team Members via Parent or Guardian's permission agree to execute additional specific consents to such use if asked to do so.

### Administrator's Contact Information

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