

# SCO INTERNATIONAL CODING OLYMPIAD

## RULES & REGULATIONS

Official student, parent, school, and proctoring rules  
for global online participation

**A clear, globally usable rulebook for fair participation, online exam  
discipline, marking policy, proctoring compliance, and result validity.**

- student-friendly rules for before, during, and after the official exam
- clear marking policy, device rules, academic integrity standards, and result review process
- suitable for public website download, school onboarding, and parent communication

Eligibility	Login	Proctor	Marking	Integrity
Device	Result	Certs	Support	Appeals

## Contents

<b>Eligibility</b>	Who can participate and how registration is governed
<b>Exam Conduct</b>	Rules before and during the online Olympiad
<b>Marking Policy</b>	Score calculation and question-attempt rules
<b>Proctoring</b>	Integrity checks, prohibited behaviour, and review outcomes
<b>Results</b>	Publication, certificates, and support/appeal boundaries

## 1. Eligibility and Registration Rules

- Students must register under the correct grade/class, school, country, and selected Olympiad cycle.
- A student should use only the official login credentials or verified access route provided by SCO.
- The registered grade should match the student's academic grade for the relevant school year or cycle.
- Schools must ensure that student names, grade, email, and school details are entered correctly before the exam.
- SCO may verify, correct, hold, or cancel registrations that contain false, duplicate, or misleading information.

## 2. Before the Exam

Requirement	Student/School Responsibility
Device readiness	Use a working laptop/desktop/tablet as allowed by SCO, with a stable internet connection and sufficient battery/power.
Browser readiness	Use the recommended browser and avoid opening unrelated tabs, extensions, or applications.
Environment	Sit in a quiet, well-lit place without books, notes, mobile phones, or help from another person.
Login	Login before the exam start time and check that the correct Olympiad, grade, and paper are visible.
Proctor permissions	Allow required camera, microphone, screen, or full-screen permissions where enabled by the exam system.

## 3. During the Exam

- Read every question carefully and answer independently.
- Do not communicate with parents, teachers, classmates, online tools, or any other person during the official attempt.
- Do not use calculators, notes, books, search engines, AI tools, messaging apps, or code editors unless specifically allowed in the paper instruction.
- Do not refresh, close, minimise, switch tabs, or leave the exam window unnecessarily.
- Use the Submit/Finish button only after checking all answers carefully.

## 4. Marking Policy

Scoring Item	Policy
Correct answer	+3 marks for each correct response in the standard SCO ICO format.
Wrong answer	0 marks; no deduction in the standard format.
Unanswered question	0 marks.
Maximum marks	Standard public format: 105 marks for 35 questions.
Negative marking	No negative marking unless a specific paper or level instruction clearly states otherwise.
Final score	Final published score may reflect official validation and proctoring review where applicable.

### Paper-specific instruction rule

If the live exam screen, admit card, or official paper instruction shows a different duration, question count, or marking scheme, the paper-specific instruction will apply for that exam.

## 5. Proctoring and Integrity Rules

SCO may use online proctoring and event review to protect the fairness of international competition. Proctoring is not intended to disturb genuine students; it is used to identify behaviours that may affect result validity.

Prohibited Behaviour	Possible SCO Action
Frequent tab switching, leaving full-screen mode, or opening other applications	Warning, review flag, penalty, hold, or cancellation depending on severity.
Face not visible, multiple faces, or another person helping	Proctor review; result may be held or invalidated.
Using unauthorised notes, phones, AI tools, search engines, or communication apps	Disqualification or score cancellation.
Copying, photographing, recording, or sharing exam content	Cancellation and restriction from future participation.
Attempting duplicate logins or impersonation	Immediate review and possible invalidation of registration/result.

### Proctoring outcome bands

After review, an attempt may be treated as clear, warning-level, penalty-level, hold-for-review, or invalid. SCO may show a simplified student-facing explanation without exposing raw technical logs.

## 6. Technical Issues and Retest Requests

- Students should immediately inform the school/parent coordinator if the internet, power, login, or browser fails.
- A technical request must include student name, grade, Olympiad, registered email, date/time, screenshot where possible, and a brief issue description.
- Retest approval is not automatic. SCO may review system logs, attempt status, proctoring events, and school confirmation before deciding.
- Repeated avoidable device or network issues may not qualify for a retest if the student had reasonable time to complete the exam.

## 7. Results, Certificates, and Awards

- Results are published only after official validation and cycle-based publication approval.
- Certificates and award categories are issued according to the applicable SCO result policy for that Olympiad and cycle.
- A score displayed before official publication, if any, should be treated as provisional.
- SCO may correct clerical, technical, duplicate, or integrity-related errors before final publication.
- Certificate verification may be supported using official certificate code and SCO verification flow where enabled.

## 8. Student Declaration

### Declaration text

I confirm that I will attempt the SCO International Coding Olympiad honestly, independently, and according to the official rules. I will not use unauthorised help, copy exam content, or take actions that affect fair competition.