

FRBNY Instructions to the judges – 2012 High School Fed Challenge

The head judge (appointed before the event) is responsible for taking charge of the room, implementing procedures, and submitting a master score sheet for each team.

Prior to the competition:

- The head judge will receive a packet that contains the following:
 - Master score sheets to be turned in for each team (noted in red at top);
 - Scratch copies of judging rubric for taking notes during the presentation;
 - Manila envelope for enclosing master score sheets.
- Please check to make sure that all envelopes have the room number written on them.
- Please write the name of the head judge and room number on the master score sheets.
- **Please write the team presentation time in the box at the upper right hand corner on the master score sheet. This is the only way to match the team to their score.**
- Team presentation times are: **9:30am; 10:20am; 11:10am; 1:15pm, 2:05pm; 2:45pm.**
- The head judge should appoint another judge to be the timekeeper. Students should be told when they have **2 minutes** left in their presentation.
- Please decide on one “benchmark” question to be asked of all teams.

During the competition:

- Remember the participants are high school students. They may be very nervous!
 - Smile and look them in the eye.
 - Introduce yourselves and shake their hands.
 - Ask them to introduce themselves without revealing their school.
 - Treat them with respect.
- Before the team presents, the head judge should remind students that:
 - They may refer to, but not read from, notes or scripts.
 - Their **presentation** cannot exceed **12 minutes**. They will hear a warning when there are **2 minutes** left in their presentation.
 - There is a five point penalty if a team identifies its school.
 - More than one team member may answer a judge’s question.
 - Huddling to formulate a response to a question is permitted; excessive huddling may result in a deduction if it significantly limits the number of questions posed.
 - No questions will be addressed to the team during its presentation.
- Please record comments on copy of the judging rubric.
- Judges can ask **questions** for a maximum of **13 minutes**.
- Think of this as a teaching and learning opportunity. Ask more basic questions of teams with more basic presentations. Ask more sophisticated questions of teams with more sophisticated presentations.
- Judges will be provided with two sets of questions students have received in advance (they are posted online): [indicator chart questions](#) and [sample policy questions](#). Please choose one question from each set, which should be asked of each team. In addition, please ask at least one additional benchmark question.
- Please take care in formulating your questions and avoid complicated multi part questions (break them into separate questions or into question/ follow up).
- At the end of the Q&A, the judges should congratulate the team, shake each person’s hand, and distribute a pin to each presenting team member.
- Judges may also provide brief oral feedback to the team. Please comment both on the positive aspects and places for improvement. **Direct most of the comment to the analysis of the economy and monetary policy. This is a chance for teams to learn about economics and improve their analytical skills – make the most of it!**
- **Honor System. Fed Challenge judging is run on an honor system. Judges are on their honor to judge fairly and impartially. If a judge believes he/she cannot be impartial, this should be reported to the head judge as soon as possible. The head judge makes the final decision; the judge with the conflict either can continue if he/she can be impartial; otherwise leave the room. The head judge may choose to consult Fed Challenge staff but his/her decision is final. The head judge should announce that the departing judge will not be participating further.**

After the competition

- Please fill out one master score sheet for each team with all scores and comments. Please transfer all relevant comments from individual judge’s copy of the rubric. Please write clearly and neatly.
- Please enclose the master score sheet for each team and in smaller manila envelope and leave in your room to be collected.

Have fun! Thank you for helping!