

Tournament of Minds

How to Participate in 2010

A step by step guide for NSW TOM Coordinators

Tournament of Minds NSW is proudly sponsored by

1. Register your school

- The Regional Tournaments are on the weekend of **28-29 August 2010**. There are 11 venues around the state at which teams can present their Long Term Challenge solution and perform an unseen Spontaneous Challenge:

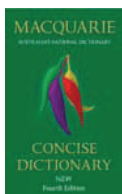


TOM Region	Venue	Dates
Sydney North	TBA	Sat 28th August
Sydney East	Sydney Girls' High School, Surrey Hills	Sun 29th August
Sydney South West	UWS, Bankstown Campus, Milperra	Sun 29th August
Sydney West	UWS, Kingswood Campus, Penrith	Sat 28th August
North Coast	Southern Cross University, Lismore	Sun 29th August
Mid North Coast	Westport High School, Port Macquarie	Sat 28th August
NSW North West	UNE, Armidale	Sun 29th August
NSW Western	Orange High School	Sun 29th August
NSW Hunter	University of Newcastle	Sun 29th August
NSW South Coast	Nowra High School	Sun 29th August
NSW Riverina	Turvey Park Public School, Wagga Wagga	Sat 28th August

- Register your school via the TOM Web Portal at www.tomnsw.org.au by **Friday 28th May**.
- New schools should click the [Register] button under 'New Users', then select Item 3, [Register New School]. We will respond with an activation code and further instructions on how to register online.
- When registering you will need to choose your Tournament Region (from the list above) and enter the anticipated number of teams. There is no limit to the number of teams a school can enter. If you are uncertain as to how many teams you will have just register one. You can always add extra teams later. We do have a **NO REFUND** policy and do not want to see you lose money unnecessarily!!
- Once registered you will receive an email to confirm your registration with your tax invoice attached.
- School registration costs \$140 and \$50 for each team registered., Payment may be made by cheque to *Tournament of Minds (NSW) Inc.* or by EFT.
- When your school's payment has been processed by the NSW TOM Office, you will have access to all the 2010 documentation via the 'Tournament Resources' page of the TOM Portal. This includes the *New South Wales Schools' Instruction Manual*, a sample of each of the challenges, team forms, curriculum resources and much more.

2. Prepare your Teams

- New TOM Coordinators and Team Facilitators should consider attending an *Intro to TOM Workshop*. Register online at www.tomnsw.org.au. Workshops are run in around the state during Terms 1 & 2. The cost is \$80. Experienced facilitators wishing to add new dimensions to team preparation are invited to attend an Advanced Thinking Skills Workshop. Registration and details on-line.
- Invite and select students to participate in the program. You will need to organise them into multi-aged teams of seven, as per the TOM rules, with an adult facilitator for each team.
- Run an information session for students, parents and teachers to outline the program and agree on a commitment. This year, all schools are asked to supply one judge for the Regional Tournaments. Many schools use Term 2 to begin training the students for the program. This may include: team-building Exercises, learning and practising creative thinking and presentation (drama) skills, doing lots of spontaneous challenges and discussing the long-term challenge structure, scoring and rules.



- **NEW for 2010—School Incursions.** Our team of trainers will visit your school and conduct a Thinking Skills workshop, with special emphasis on how to apply these new skills to the TOM Program. Have your teams trained at school. Or why not combine with a nearby or feeder school to cut costs? Details will be on the TOM website.
- TOM has CDs for sale containing past Challenges and a DVD outlining the TOM Program, useful for running an information session. Order forms are available on the NSW page of the National website www.tom.edu.au or by phone. The cost is \$50 each for the Past Challenge CD and \$55 for the TOM DVD.



3. The Challenges

- The Challenges can be downloaded by registered schools from the TOM Web Portal at www.tomnsw.org.au from **Friday 16th July 2010**.
- Schools may distribute the Challenges to their teams on **Monday 19th July 2010**, when the six (6) week Challenge period begins.
- Teams should select one Long Term Challenge only, from Applied Technology, Language Literature, Maths Engineering or Social Sciences.
- Teams arrange to meet with their facilitators regularly over the six weeks to prepare the presentation of their solution to their selected Challenge.
- Any questions regarding the Challenges should be made via the 'Challenge Question' section of the TOM Portal at www.tomnsw.org.au. No phone, fax or email Challenge Clarifications will be accepted. To view responses to general Challenge Clarifications, log in and click on 'Challenge Clarifications'. Once work on the Challenge solution has begun up-dates will be posted each week.

4. Nominate your teams

- Each team must consist of seven students - with no substitutes or reserves allowed. If by TOM Day you have less than 7 students you are still able to participate, however you cannot substitute one team member with another student.
- A **Primary Team** consists of a mixture of students from at least two year levels with a maximum of four students from any one year level;
A **Secondary Team** consists of a mixture of students from at least two year levels up to and including year 10, with a minimum of two students from Year 7 and a maximum of four students from any one year level.
A team having less than 5 members on TOM Day is still encouraged to participate, although they will not be eligible to win first place or honours.

5. Attend your Regional Tournament

- About 10 days prior to the Regional Tournaments your school will receive the presentation timetable for each team. It will outline the school, team name, the Challenge chosen, the Division (primary or secondary), and the presentation times for the Long Term Challenge and the Spontaneous Challenge. These details will be on the portal under the region you have chosen to present at on TOM Day.
- Ensure each team brings the necessary documents, completed, to the Tournament: Cost Form, Outside Assistance Form, Presentation Skills Form, one copy of the script and any further documentation specifically required by the Challenge.
- Arrive at the venue at least 45 minutes before the team's first presentation time. Register as a team at the registration desk. Venue maps outlining the registration location, parking and catering availability will be available from the TOM Portal.
- All NSW Regions hold an awards ceremony at the end of Tournament Day. Winning teams are invited to participate in the State Finals on **Sunday 12th September 2010** at the University of NSW, Kensington.

Tournament of Minds (NSW) Incorporated

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