

Hackathon Terms and Conditions

1. Introduction

These terms and conditions ("Terms") govern participation in the Hackathon ("Event") organized by Mafikeng Digital Innovation Hub ("Organizer"). By registering and participating, all individuals and teams ("Participants") agree to abide by these Terms.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1 Participants must be at least 18 years old or have parental/guardian consent if under 18.
- 2.2 Employees or affiliates of the Organizer may participate but are not eligible for prizes.
- 2.3 Teams may consist of not more than 6 members, and all work must be original and created during the Event.

3. Registration & Participation

- 3.1 Participants must register before the deadline and provide accurate information.
- 3.2 The Organizer reserves the right to disqualify any participant for misconduct, rule violations, or unethical behavior.
- 3.3 Participants must attend all mandatory sessions and submit their projects before the stated deadline.

4. Intellectual Property (IP) Rights

- 4.1 Participants retain ownership of their projects.
- 4.2 **By participating, Participants grant the Organizer a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license to use, modify, and distribute their submission for promotional, educational, or business purposes.**
- 4.3 If a Participant uses third-party tools, code, or content, they must ensure they have the appropriate rights and licenses.
- 4.4 If the Organizer provides specific datasets, APIs, or tools, Participants may only use them within the scope of the Event.
- 4.5 The Organizer is not responsible for resolving disputes regarding IP ownership among team members.

5. Prizes & Compensation

- 5.1 Winners will be determined by a panel of judges based on predefined criteria, including innovation, feasibility, and presentation.
- 5.2 Participants acknowledge that no additional compensation, will be provided.
- 5.3 If a winning project is selected for further development or commercialization by the Organizer, separate agreements will be negotiated.

6. Code of Conduct

- 6.1 Participants must act with professionalism, integrity, and respect towards others.
- 6.2 Harassment, discrimination, cheating, or any form of misconduct will result in immediate disqualification.
- 6.3 Participants must comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

7. Liability & Disclaimers

- 7.1 The Organizer is not responsible for any damages, losses, or claims resulting from participation in the Event.
- 7.2 The Organizer reserves the right to modify, cancel, or postpone the Event for any reason.
- 7.3 Participants acknowledge that the Event is provided "as is," without warranties of any kind.

8. Privacy & Data Protection

- 8.1 The Organizer may collect and process personal data for the purpose of administering the Event.
- 8.2 Participants consent to their names, photos, and project details being used for promotional purposes.

9. Governing Law & Dispute Resolution

- 9.1 These Terms are governed by the laws of South Africa, specifically the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Act (2013), the Companies Act (2008), and any applicable contract and competition laws.
- 9.2 Any disputes shall be resolved through negotiation, and if unresolved, through mediation or arbitration.

10. Acceptance of Terms

By registering and participating in the Hackathon, Participants agree to these Terms and Conditions.