

Competition Rules for University of Toronto Participants

The BMO Financial Group Finance Research and Trading Lab (“Rotman Finance Lab” or “Rotman FRT-Lab”) is committed to providing an immersive, experiential, and professionally rigorous environment for all participants in our competitions. The following rules have been established to ensure fairness, transparency, and the integrity of the competitive experience, while also supporting a safe and respectful community of learners. All competitors and attendees are expected to review and adhere to these rules in full. Participation in any Rotman FRT-Lab competition constitutes acceptance of these guidelines and a commitment to uphold the standards of conduct and professionalism that define the Rotman experience.

Eligibility

1. All competitors must be enrolled in a degree program in the current academic year at the University of Toronto.
2. Competitors must complete all registration steps to participate in the competition.
3. Competitors must be the individuals officially registered with their team and no substitutions are permitted. Breach of this rule will result in a team’s disqualification from the competition.
4. In the event of a team member’s absence, the team will continue to participate in any scored competition case without substitutions. Any role assigned to the absent team member for that case will remain unfilled, and the absent team member’s score will reflect participation without submitting any trades.
5. In case the entire team does not participate in any heats for a case, the team will be automatically ranked last for that case.
6. Teams that are deemed ineligible will be disqualified and removed from the competition.

Communication

1. Competitors may only communicate with their teammates, Rotman FRT-Lab staff, or other teams’ competitors during a scored competition case, in accordance with the rules of the particular scored competition case.
2. Communication between members of the same team participating in the heat is allowed.
3. For virtual competitions, competitors must remain in the competition Zoom streaming window during each scored competition case.
4. All communication at the competition is in English only. However, there are no language restrictions for communication within a team.
5. Any verbal abuse and harassment of other competitors, Rotman FRT-Lab staff and any competition attendee will result in a team’s disqualification.

Rotman FRT-Lab staff Aid

1. Rotman FRT-Lab staff is available to help oversee and facilitate the competition, and to answer questions that do not alter the competitiveness of any team.

Connectivity

1. The BMO Financial Group Finance, Research and Trading Lab will not be held liable for any technical failures including but not limited to loss of network connectivity, competitors' computers malfunctions, trading application data errors, user-submitted erroneous trades, and/or software-related erroneous trades/submissions.
2. If a competitor is connecting to a competition using a personal computer, they are responsible for ensuring it is connected to the internet and compatible with working with the RIT or RPM software and all related supporting modules.
3. Any technical difficulties experienced on competitors' computer are the responsibility of the competitor.
4. Competitors are reminded that loading extremely complex models, or loading too many trading modules, will negatively affect the performance of their computer.
5. In the unlikely event of a server/network disruption, the competition heat will be cancelled and re-run, and the scores from that heat will not be kept. The competition schedule may be changed to allow for additional time for heats.

Excel/MATLAB/Python Models

1. Competitors are allowed to open and use any models (including Excel macros, Python, Matlab, etc.).
2. Excel/MATLAB/Python models are for the competitors' own personal use during the competition. These models are allowed to have any information competitors wish to have on them.
3. Rotman FRT-Lab staff **cannot** aid competitors in any way with models. Models are to be created by the team alone. Questions such as "is my model correct?", "why isn't my model working?", or any other similar questions will *not* be answered. This is to ensure fairness for all competitors in the dissemination of the same amount of information to all teams.

Trading

1. The BMO Financial Group Finance Research and Trading Lab reserves the right to break any trades, electronically or manually submitted, that are deemed to be outside the context of the market. A trade break involves cancelling the trade print and debiting and crediting the parties involved in the trade with funds and securities such that their positions are equal to their positions prior to the trade occurring. Trade breaks may occur either during the scored case (in real-time) or after the scored case has been completed.

Scoring

1. Team-level scoring data will be made available to participants throughout the competition.

2. Individual and team level data may be made available to the sponsors, partners, and Rotman FRT-Lab staff for analysis, research, and recruiting purposes.
3. Requests to remove individual data from our scoring files will be considered on a case-by-case basis and should be made in writing to Rotman FRT-Lab staff prior to the competition by sending an email to financelab@rotman.utoronto.ca.

Photography and Media Recordings

1. We reserve the right to photograph, audio and video record, and take screenshots during the competition and related events to document the competition.
2. Photos and videos from the competition may be used in Rotman marketing materials as well as documentary films and media publications under the permission of the Rotman School of Management.
3. By signing the Registration Form or Team Registration form (where applicable) for a competition hosted by the BMO Financial Group Finance, Research and Trading Lab, competitors agree to allow their screenshot, video, or film likeness to be used for any legitimate purpose by the event holders, producers, sponsors, organizers, and/or assignees.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Preface

1. Competitors and all attendees ("Attendees") of the BMO Financial Group Finance Research and Trading Lab Competition ("Rotman FRT-Lab", or "Competition") must follow the law, act honourably, and treat fellow attendees with courtesy and respect.
2. To facilitate a safe, fair, and inclusive competitive environment, Attendees are expected to know and follow this Code of Conduct ("Code"). Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action, up to and including team disqualification from the Competition, removal of privileges, and dismissal from the virtual event.

Act with Integrity

1. All Attendees must act with fairness, honesty, integrity, and professionalism throughout the Competition.
2. Attendees must respect the rules of the Competition and the decisions of Rotman FRT-Lab staff and uphold themselves to the highest standards of professionalism.
3. All Attendees must take responsibility for and be accountable for their actions and decisions.

Treat Others with Respect

1. Attendees must treat all persons with respect, equality, and dignity, without any discrimination based on gender, race, ability, age, race, culture, religion, place of origin, ancestry, political beliefs, marital status, sexual identity, or sexual orientation.

Harassment - Zero Tolerance

1. We have a zero-tolerance policy with respect to personal and/or sexual harassment. Personal and/or sexual harassment, in any form, is strictly prohibited and is grounds for immediate team disqualification from the competition.
2. Personal harassment is defined as any conduct whether verbal or physical, that is discriminating in nature, based upon the person's gender, race, ability, age, race, culture, religion, place of origin, ancestry, political beliefs, marital status, sexual identity or sexual orientation.
3. Sexual harassment is defined as any conduct, comment, gesture or contact of a sexual nature that one would find to be unwanted or unwelcome by any individual; or that might, on reasonable grounds, be perceived as placing a condition of a sexual nature on any opportunity for advancement.

Obey the Law

1. All Attendees must fully comply with the laws of Canada.

Comply with the Code

1. It is the responsibility of all Attendees to be aware of and to comply with the policies established in this Code.
2. Each Attendee has the responsibility to report any misconduct that has, or may have, occurred during the Competition to Rotman FRT-Lab staff.

Comply with Competition Staff Decisions

1. Infractions of this Code may result in disciplinary action, up to and including team disqualification from the Competition, removal of privileges, and dismissal from premises.
2. Competition staff will evaluate infractions and determine appropriate disciplinary action. The Competition staff have ultimate authority regarding such matters and their rulings are final.
3. Not all contingencies can be anticipated, and the Competition staff may be called upon to make rulings on situations outside of the confines of this document. In the event of such occurrences, the rulings made by Competition staff are final.