

2025 Crystal Ball Cup

## Format

You will be presented with a series of hypothetical events. For each event, you will have one minute to submit a probability  $p \in [0, 1]$  that the event occurs before the end of 2025.

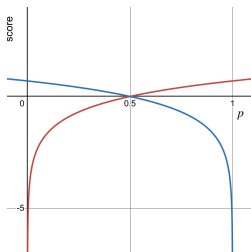
No discussion is allowed except for clarifying questions.

You may not consult external resources. You may not collude with each other to affect the outcome of any event before 2026-01-01.

## Scoring

On 2026-01-01, I will compute your score to be the mean of your scores across all events. Your score on one event with submitted probability  $p$  is defined as:

$$\text{score}(p) = \begin{cases} \ln p - \ln 0.5 & \text{if the event occurred} \\ \ln(1 - p) - \ln 0.5 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



# Retrospective

On some day early next year we will reconvene to evaluate our 2025 predictions and make predictions for 2026.

## Events

# 1. Nintendo announces a new Super Smash Bros.

Nintendo announces a new Super Smash Bros. game on some date before 2026-01-01.

## 2. Zohran Mamdani wins the NYC mayoral election

Zohran Mamdani is elected mayor in the 2025 New York City election on some date before 2026-01-01 via consensus of credible reporting and official information from New York City.

### 3. The top grossing domestic film of 2025Q4 is based on an original screenplay

The top grossing domestic film of October, November, or December, according to Box Office Mojo, is based on an original screenplay.

An original screenplay is defined as one not based upon previously published material, adjudicated by the Writer's Branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.



#### 4. A young adult wins the 2025 US Open Men's Singles tournament

The winner of the US Open tennis tournament is under 25 years of age, determined on the date of the Men's Final.

## 5. Sam Bankman-Fried is pardoned

Sam Bankman-Fried receives a presidential pardon from the president on some date before 2026-01-01.

## 6. More than five participants play chess on a random November date

On a randomly selected date in November, I will poll the group via mailing list. If more than five respondents claim to have completed a full game of chess in a specified twenty-four hour period, then this event resolves to true.

## 7. There is an unplanned market closure

A National Market System stock exchange, such as Nasdaq or NYSE, ceases trading on some date before 2026-01-01, due to a reason such as natural disaster or death of a major political figure.

## 8. Travis Kelce and Taylor Swift are engaged

Travis Kelce and Taylor Swift are engaged on some date before 2026-01-01 via consensus of credible reporting or primary sources.

## 9. Life is discovered beyond Earth

A credible agency, such as NASA, confirms the discovery of life beyond Earth on some date before 2026-01-01.

## 10. The Epstein files are released

The Department of Justice releases the Epstein files on some date before 2026-01-01.

## 11. The Neom construction project is canceled

Saudi Arabia announces the cancellation of the Neom construction project on some date before 2026-01-01.



## 12. California experiences a large earthquake

On some date before 2026-01-01, an earthquake with epicenter in California and a magnitude 7 or greater occurs, adjudicated by the United States Geological Survey.

### 13. Our most listened-to artist is male

The artist with the highest number of occurrences across our 2025 Spotify Wrapped Top Artists lists is male.