Timeline:

- 24 May at 18:00 – 2 Lectures on how to build a predictor.
- 25 May to 14 June – Participants build and submit their predictor along with prediction. Participation is open to everyone and anyone with an interest in this type of work.
- June 15 – FIFA World Cup starts.
- July 15 – FIFA World Cup Ends.
- Week of July 15 – Winner Announced

Rules:

- Only one submission per person, latest submission before deadline counts.
- Predictor must be your own work.
- Predictions submitted must come from the submitted Predictor code
- Only consistent predictions are allowed eg. Brazil to lose in semi final and Brazil to win the final are contradicting.
- Predictions must be in the required format and valid, otherwise will not be accepted.
- All decisions made by the organizing committee are final.
- We reserve the right to disqualify participants and withhold the prizes for unfair behaviour or breaking of rules.
- The winning predictors code must be demonstrated.
- Only predictions coming from a predictor built by the participant are valid entries to this competition.
- By taking part in this competition you are agreeing to allow us to collect and store a user name, real name and email address in line with the new GDPR guidelines for the duration of the competition. All information will be deleted after the event.

Submission Format:

The submission format is a CSV file in the same format as the sample prediction for 2014 which can be found under :

https://wc-predictor.insight-centre.org/downloads/

Predictions in CSV format are to be emailed no later than to 14 June 2018 23:59pm:

uccacmsubmissions@gmail.com

Columns of CSV submission files:

First column – Game Number (1-64), matching the number in the fixtures file

Second column – Group (Group A, Group B, Round of 16, Quarter-finals, etc)

Third column – Home Team Name

Fourth column - Away Team Name

Fifth column – Home Team Goals (at end of official play time, 90mins+ added time)

Sixth column - Away Team Goals (at end of official play time, 90mins+ added time)

Seventh column – WDL (for all games, overall winner in case of extra time/penalties)

W – Home team is overall winner

L – Home team is overall loser

D – Draw (only valid selection for group stages)

Scoring System

-------------------Group Stages----------------------

Each Group Stage match can give a maximum of 3 points.

1 point : Correct Outcome (column 7: W, D, L)

3 points : Correct Outcome (W,D,L) and Score (column 5 and 6)

----------------- Knockout Stages--------------------

The same scoring for each match is applied as in group stages. However, each round has a multiplier value for the received score to account for increased difficulty in predictions further on.

Round of 16 :   score * 2

Quarter-final :   score * 4

Semi-final :   score * 6

Final :   score * 10

----------------- Bonus Points--------------------

To account for the difficulty of predicting the correct team in the correct bracket of the tournament we award bonus points for every correctly predicted team in each stage of the competition. These Bonus points are structured as follows:

Round of 16 :   1 bonus point per correctly predicted team

Quarter-finals : 2 bonus point per correctly predicted team

Semi-finals :   4 bonus point per correctly predicted team

Final :   6 bonus point per correctly predicted team

4th Place :   5 bonus points for correct 4th Place.

3rd Place :   5 bonus points for correct 3rd Place.

2nd Place :   6 bonus points for correct 2nd Place.

1st Place: 8 bonus points for correct Winner of World Cup.

Only the highest applying bonus score is given per team, i.e a correct third place scores 5 points, not 5+4+2+1.

The overall winner is the person whose prediction scores the most points according to the above rules.