AHEPA Empire District 6 (New York State)
4TH HELLENIC HISTORY TOURNAMENT
2027 Competition Rules for Students

1. Introduction

The Hellenic History Tournament (HHT) is sponsored by the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association's (AHEPA) Empire District 6. Its objective is to help achieve the first two of the five missions of AHEPA, namely, to promote Hellenism through education. It achieves this objective by identifying and rewarding those middle and high school students who know the most about the 3,500-year-old history of the Hellenes.

The selection process takes the form of a simplified quiz show. Students compete in three-member teams, two teams at a time, in a sequence of groups of matches known as rounds. All teams have the opportunity to participate in the first three group rounds. After the third round, the four teams that accumulate the most points (by answering the most questions correctly) remain in the competition, while the rest of the teams are eliminated. The competition now takes the form of a single elimination bracket, also known as knockout, cup or sudden death. In the fourth round, called the semifinals, the remaining four teams compete in two matches. The resulting two winning teams then proceed to the fifth and final round in a single match that determines the overall winners. See details under "5. Competition Format" below. Note: A fourth group round may be necessary if more than 12 teams are competing.

The tournament will take place if at least ten teams participate. Failure to attract at least 10 participating teams may result in the cancellation of the tournament.

2. Prizes

The first prize is $3,600 per team or a $1,200 award to be given to each of the three members of the team that wins the final match. Each member of the winning team also receives a trophy inscribed with the words Hellenic History Trophy. The second prize is a $1,500 per team or a $500 award for each of the three members of the team that loses the final match. The third prize is a $900 per team or a $300 award for each of the three members of the team that has accumulated more points than the fourth team in the other semifinal match. These prizes are meant to further the students' educational aspirations. There are no other prizes.

In addition, the finalist top two teams qualify to compete for $10,000 in cash prizes at the International Hellenic History Tournament that normally take place in July at the AHEPA Supreme Convention. If any of the finalist teams will not be able to participate at the International HHT, the third placed team will be invited. The location and date of the International HHT will be announced to the invited teams since the upcoming AHEPA Supreme Convention will take place in Chicago, IL.

3. Student Eligibility

Any student attending school grades 8-12 at the time of competition and sponsored by an AHEPA or a Daughters of Penelope (DOP) chapter, business, organization, school or church in New York State is eligible to participate. Exceptions may be made for teams sponsored by Hellenic communities that lack a nearby AHEPA chapter. AHEPA family membership, Hellenic heritage or Greek Orthodox religious affiliation is NOT required. However, the written approval of a parent or guardian on the registration form is required for eligibility.

There are three ineligibility criteria:

- A student who is in college at the time of the tournament is NOT eligible to participate.

- If a student has been a first-place winner in two previous New York tournaments, he or she cannot participate again.
- If a student has been a first-place winner in the International Tournament, he or she cannot register to participate again in either the District 6, or any other regional tournament, nor can he or she can participate again in the International Tournament. However, a student who registers for the next AHEPA District 6 Tournament BEFORE they win the International tournament will be allowed to participate.

4. Student Registration

Prospective participants who meet the eligibility requirements must register with the HHT Committee by mailing or emailing a completed registration form by clicking at https://www.ahepad6.com/hht, and submitting a non-refundable check for $30 made payable to the AHEPA Empire District 6, Dean Moskos, HHT Committee Co-Chair, 53-05 Overbrook Street, Douglaston, NY 11362 or electronically by Venmo at @Dean-Moskos. Registration payments are not refundable and must be submitted by the due date. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase of borrow a copy of the "*Hellenik*a Heritage and History", a book by T. Peter Limber about the history of the Hellenes, which will give each participant the help to provide a basic knowledge of the subject and a bibliography for further reading. The "Hellenika" book can be ordered online by visiting www.greeceinprint.com. At the Search field, enter the book's ISBN number 9780966044904. Some chapters may have the books available to lend. Please inquire.

- There is no commitment to limit the questions and answers only to items discussed in the *Hellenik*a book. There is, however, an intention to base most of the questions on that book.

Before sending in the registration form, a student must:

1. Form and/or join a local three-member team and designate it on the registration form. Students who are not members of a three-member team should not register. (A two-member team may be allowed. Please contact Co-Chairman Dean Moskos to inquire.)

2. The team members must select one of their teammates to be the team Captain who will be the spokesperson for the team. The captain's name must be indicated on the form.

   Secure the sponsorship of the nearest AHEPA or DOP chapter, business, organization, school or church. Sponsorship is the monetary contribution that must accompany every participating team and is the primary source of prize funds. To reach out the local AHEPA Chapter to request a Team Sponsorship, please go to www.ahepad6.com / chapters. Similarly, to reach out to your local DOP Chapter, please go to www.dopdistrict6.com / chapters.

3. The sponsoring chapter (or organization) and contact name must be indicated on the form.

**** Each student must register individually with a separate registration form. ****

If a registered student becomes unable to attend the competition, the remaining team member(s) can choose to either (1) replace him/her with another student in the appropriate age group, or (2) compete with fewer than three team members. In the latter case, should the team win first, second or third place, only the competitors present at the tournament will receive the individual winning prize ($1,100, $600 or $300 each).

5. Competition Format

A match will consist of 24 questions. The two teams will alternate going through a question cycle. Each question cycle will consist of the following stages (assume it is the turn of Team A):

1. Team A chooses a question category of those remaining (see Questions & Answers below).
2. The moderator asks a question from that category.
3. Team A answers the question. If Team A answers the question correctly, it gets a point, and the question cycle ends, with the initiative now going to Team B. If Team A answers the question incorrectly, it does not get a point, and Team B gets an opportunity to answer it and get a point. Whether Team B answers Team A's question correctly or not, the question cycle ends, with the initiative now going to Team B.

This question cycle is repeated until a total of 24 questions have been asked. For a given match, the team that accumulates the most points (by answering the most questions correctly) is declared the winner. If, at the end of the 24 questions, the two teams are tied with the same number of points, additional questions will be asked until a clear winner emerges.

The competition structure will be a hybrid single-elimination tournament, with the first two or three rounds used to identify the four semifinalists who will compete in the last two single elimination rounds. The first rounds will pit half the teams against the other half, with the specific match ups (Team A vs. Team B) determined by lot. If the number of teams is odd, the two teams that participate in only one of the first two rounds will compete against each other in a one-match Round 3.

At the end of the third round, four teams will be selected for the fourth round (the semifinals) using their cumulative score as the primary criterion and the number of wins they achieved as a tie breaker. If there is still a tie, the two tied teams will compete in a one-match mini-round (designated 3b) to determine which one will go on to the semifinals. This will bring the tournament to a traditional single-elimination bracket for the fourth and then the fifth and final round.

6. Appeals

All decisions regarding validity of tournament answers have already been made and are final. There are no provisions for challenging these decisions and no resources for evaluating the challenges. If there are other issues during a match, the following appeals process will be followed:

1. The Captain of each team will be the spokesperson for the team on the appeal. No adults.
2. The appeal should be raised right away after it occurs and should be resolved immediately by the moderator.
3. If the moderator cannot resolve the issue, the moderator should bring in the Dispute Resolution Advisor or the HHT Co-Chairs who will be the final arbiter.

7. Competition Questions & Answers

The questions and answers will cover the full span of the history of the Hellenes, i.e. Greek speakers, beginning with the Mycenaeans and ending with the contemporary Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Cyprus, and the Greek Diaspora. Greek mythology will NOT be covered, except as it might pertain to historical facts. All questions will be in the form of multiple-choice (4 choices).

Persons providing questions and answers for this competition are asked to certify that they do not have any family ties and have not divulged any questions and answers to any of the competitors.

Since the questions are provided by different people, it is difficult to limit them to a single book, such as the "*Hellenika*" volume sent to each participant. That textbook is meant to serve as a brief starting point for a life-long study of Hellenic history; students are urged to use its extensive bibliography for further reading.

To ensure that each match covers the complete 3,500-year span of the history of the Hellenes, the questions will be separated into three groups of 8 questions according to their period:

1. Ancient: Mycenaean through Hellenistic (1500 BC to 30 BC);
2. Middle: Roman and Byzantine (29 BC to 1453 AD); and
3. Modern: Ottoman and Modern (1454 AD to the present)

For questions and answers in groups 1 and 2 (through 1453 AD), the names of persons and places should be those that are standard in an English-speaking history course. Non-standard transliterations from the Greek should not be used. Examples: Athens is OK, Athinai is not; Socrates is OK, Sokratis is not; Pericles is OK, Periklis is not, Constantine is OK, Konstantinos is not; Theodosius is OK, Theodosios is not, etc. For questions in group 3 (1454 AD to the present), Modern Greek transliterations into English are preferred. Examples: Theodoros Kolokotronis is preferred to Theodore Colocotrones; Konstantinos Karamanlis is preferred to Constantine Caramanles, etc.

To increase the educational value of the questions and to help the contestants navigate through time, each question will be associated with a specific year (either exact or approximate) which will be displayed as part of the question text. This implies that the answers cannot be specific years.

8. Competition Venue

The complete tournament will take place at the facilities of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 10 Mill Road, New Rochelle, NY 10804. We are very grateful to the Holy Trinity community for making its superb church facilities available to us free of charge, and to the hosting AHEPA Evzone James Plevtitis – Joseph C. Keane Chapter 405.

9. Dates

- Student Registration Form and Non-refundable Fee ($30) to HHT Co-Chair – Deadline: **Saturday, February 13, 2027**
- HHT Competition at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church – **Saturday, March 13, 2027**
    - Registration, light breakfast and coffee at 9 am; Competition starts at 10 am. Lunch will be served around noon after completion of the second or third round.

10. Questions

Please submit your questions to the HHT Co-Chairman Dean Moskos via email at HHT@ahepad6.com.

