

## **Competition Participation Rules for “DATA ANALYTICS COMPETITION AT INTERNATIONAL JOINT CONFERENCE ON ROUGH SETS 2024 (IJCRS 2024)”**

By entering this Competition, you accept these official Competition rules.

### **A. Organizer**

1. The Competition is organized by the International Joint Conference on Rough Sets 2024 conference (IJCRS 2024, <https://ijcrs24.cs.smu.ca/>), hereinafter referred to as the Organizer. The Organizer shall provide the Prizes and duly distribute them to the winners selected in accordance with these Rules.
2. The Competition is sponsored by Southwest Properties Limited (the Sponsor, <https://southwest.ca>).
3. The Competition Organizing Committee shall include representatives of the Saint Mary’s University, Canada, Southwest Properties, Canada, and QED Software Group who shall assist in managing the competition on behalf of the Organizer.
4. Any submissions should be made in accordance with the instructions provided at the competition webpage: <https://ijcrs24.cs.smu.ca/DataMiningCompetition.html>
5. All datasets used in the competition that are acquired by participants need to have a traceable source that is publically available and participants must have rights to use them in their solution.

### **B. Entry**

1. The Competition is open to all interested researchers, specialists, and students.
2. Members of the Competition Organizing Committee (see the dedicated section on the Competition page) are not allowed to participate.
3. Persons who are residents of or are affiliated with or employed by or otherwise contractually or legally tied to an organization, educational institution, company, or other entity of any state or territory that falls under the scope of international sanctions or controls for reasons of war, terrorism or otherwise, are not allowed to participate. The current list of such legal restrictions in force in the European Union is available at <https://sanctionsmap.eu/#/main>. If you have any doubt about whether such restriction may apply to you, the Organizer reserves the right to verify eligibility and to adjudicate your eligibility at any time.
4. Participants must be of legal age of majority (Check your country’s law, in Canada and in most countries, it is 18 years of age).
5. Registration for the Competition is done via the competition webpage: (<https://ijcrs24.cs.smu.ca/DataMiningCompetition.html>).

### **C. Timeline**

1. A detailed Competition time schedule is available in the **Timelines** section of the Competition page.

### **D. Participants and Teams**

1. A person may enroll in the Competition only once. Using multiple accounts constitutes grounds for exclusion from the Competition.
2. Participants submit their solutions as members of teams made up of one or more persons.
3. The maximum number of team members is fixed at six persons.
4. Each participant may be a member of only one Team enrolled in the Competition.
5. Each Team must designate one of the Team Members as the Team Leader responsible for communication with the Organizer.
6. Participation in the Competition is free and voluntary.
7. Privately sharing elements of the solution such as code or data outside of Teams is not permitted and may result in disqualification of the persons or Teams involved, however, it is permitted to share remarks and ideas with all participants on the Knowledge Pit Competition Forums.
8. Participants must use their own resources, particularly software and other necessary tools and equipment needed to prepare a solution to be submitted.

### **E. Solutions**

1. Participants submit their solutions in accordance with the instructions provided at the competition webpage. The submitted solution must contain:
  - Video presentation
  - PDF of the presentation
  - Link to the demo website
  - Link to the code repository.

2. Each team may submit only one solution.

#### **F. Evaluation**

1. Each solution will be evaluated by an independent committee of judges (the Jury), composed of at least five persons. The evaluation process will have two stages:
  - At the first stage, the Jury will create a ranking of all submitted solutions. Only the top five solutions from this ranking will be considered in the second evaluation stage.
  - Authors of the selected top five solutions will be invited to present them during the IJCRS 2024 conference.
  - The second evaluation stage (the Final Evaluation) will consider the overall quality of the solution, its compliance with the requirements listed on the competition webpage and will be conducted after the presentation delivered at the conference.
2. The winners will be officially announced at the conference's Gala Dinner.
3. After the Final Evaluation, three top-ranked Teams will be asked to provide the source codes that can be used to reproduce their solutions and documentation that would allow running the code. If the code is required to be run within a complex environment (e.g. distributed Hadoop cluster), a detailed setup explanation should be provided as well. The source codes will be used to verify the legitimacy of the solutions.
4. For a Team to be eligible for an Award in this Competition, a Team must be one of the three top-ranked teams in the Final Evaluation. Moreover, a Team must provide the report and source codes upon request for the verification of their legitimacy.
5. The Organizer holds the right to extend the deadlines for submitting solutions. In such a case, participants will be informed about such an extension through the competition webpage.
6. The Organizer is not responsible for any consequences of technical issues related to the participant's ability to access or submit solutions, especially for issues relating to Internet connectivity. If due to technical problems within the Organizer's control, the resulting delays or temporary unavailability of the platform or its components are likely to impact the participant's ability to timely submit the Team's solution, the challenge deadline will be extended by the Organizer by the time of such unavailability, and participants will be informed of such extension by email.
7. The final ranking of the competing Teams will be published based on the Final Evaluation results.

#### **G. Prizes**

1. The Prizes are listed in the dedicated section of the Competition webpage.
2. The registration fee is a prize component that is non-monetary and cannot be converted into a monetary value.
3. Each winning Team must select their representative Team Member to participate in the IJCRS 2024 and notify their selection to the Organizer. If no Team Member is selected by their Team to participate in the conference, the registration fee shall be forfeited and not constitute part of the prize.
4. Following the announcement of the winners, the Organizer shall pay the monetary prizes to the winning teams. Each winning team shall notify the Organizer within 21 days following the announcement of how the Team wishes the monetary prize to be paid out (single payment, split payments, etc.).
5. In order to receive the Prize, each prize recipient is required to submit to the Organizer all documents necessary for the remittance of such prizes, such as their personal details, including bank account number, their certificate of tax residency issued by the tax authority of their place of residence or other documents required by law as requested by the Organizer. If such necessary documents are not submitted within the time limit indicated in the notification of the award, the monetary prize cannot be paid out and is deemed to have been forfeited by the winner.
6. The winning participant who fails or refuses to provide the necessary legal documentation such as defined above within the time limit specified by the Organizer in the notification of the prize award will be deemed to have forfeited the monetary prize, and such prize will not be paid out. In such a case, the winning Team may select another of its members as the recipient of such a prize.
7. In accordance with the law, the Organizer shall cover the tax payments required on the awarded prizes at the rates and on terms prescribed by law in the country of the Organizer.
8. The Organizer is not responsible in any way for any duties, levies, fees, or taxes that the winning participant may be subject to in his or her country of residence. It is the sole responsibility of the winning participant to inquire to the appropriate authorities about applicable documentation and/or tax payments that she or he may be required to submit.

## **H. Claims**

1. Submissions are not admissible if they are in whole or in part illegible, incomplete, damaged, altered, counterfeit, obtained through fraud, or late, or made or submitted in breach of these Rules.
2. A Participant may be disqualified if the Organizer reasonably believes that the participant has attempted to undermine the legitimate operation of the Competition by using multiple accounts, cheating, deception, or other unfair playing practices or abuses, threats, or harassment toward other participants or the Organizer.
3. Organizer may at its discretion reject any submission or disqualify any participant if the Organizer reasonably believes that it was – respective–y - produced in an unfair or illegitimate way or submitted by a person who has broken the challenge rules without providing any additional explanation.
4. If you think you were excluded without reason, or have any questions, please contact the Organizer at [ijcrs24@cs.smu.ca](mailto:ijcrs24@cs.smu.ca).

## **I. Data security, Privacy and Copyright**

1. Each participant agrees to use reasonable and suitable measures to prevent persons who have not formally agreed to these Rules from taking part in the Competition.
2. You agree to only use data that was acquired in accordance with Canadian law, and to not transmit, duplicate, publish, redistribute or otherwise provide or make available any data for which you do not have legal rights.
3. Each report, paper, and any other type of publication based on the team's or participant's research related to this Competition should credit the Organizer and Sponsor.
4. Accepting the award is equivalent to granting to the Organizers and Sponsor a worldwide, non-exclusive, sub-licensable, transferable, royalty-free, perpetual, and irrevocable right to use, reproduce, distribute, create derivative works of, publicly perform, publicly display, digitally perform, make, have made, sell, offer for sale and/or import, the winning solution submitted and the source code used to generate it, in any media now known or hereafter developed, for any purpose whatsoever, commercial or otherwise, without further approval, and without any payment to the participant or participants who authored or co-authored it. By accepting the award, the participants also acknowledge that they have full and unrestricted rights to grant the aforementioned rights.
5. By enrolling in this Competition, the participant grants their consent for the processing of their registration data and the submissions and reports by the Organizer and Sponsor, and grants them the rights to use such data and submissions for the purpose of evaluation of solutions, competition administrative purposes and in post-competition research.
6. By accepting the award, the winning participant grants the Organizer the right to process participant's personal data such as name, address, personal identification or security number, bank account or credit card number, and other necessary details provided, for the purposes of prize processing and payment, including the payment of applicable taxes.
7. By accepting the award, the participant grants the Organizer the right to use the participant's name, affiliation, and/or prize information for the purpose of informational and promotional purposes of the Competition in any medium without additional compensation.
8. Participants' data is administered by the Organizer for the purposes of running the competition and selecting its winners, and shall be processed in accordance with the applicable privacy protection rules. For more information check Organizer's Privacy Policy.

## **J. Final arrangements**

1. The Organizer reserves the right to modify the Rules of this Competition, including without limitation for the purpose of clarification, correcting obvious editing mistakes, extending the deadlines for the benefit of participants, or other minor amendments. In the event of any change to the Rules, participants will be informed of them via the Competition forum.
2. If any provision of these Rules is held to be invalid or unenforceable, all remaining provisions of the Rules will remain in full force and effect.