

The Oxford University Quiz Society is pleased to announce that it will host the Oxford Open Tournament on 21 January 2012. This tournament will be open to anybody who wishes to participate. We encourage current university students, recent alumni, and less recent alumni to form teams for this tournament. There are no restrictions on what players can be on your team.

The venue for this tournament will be one or more of Oxford's colleges, to be announced closer to the date of the tournament. Registration on the day of the tournament will begin at 9:30am with the goal of starting games precisely at 10. We expect this tournament to go until dinnertime, with the goal of finishing at 6pm. Since many of the participants will be friends, we expect that several large groups will go out for dinner after the tournament. As always, we would encourage you to plan to eat dinner in Oxford rather than booking a train for right after the end of the tournament in case of unforeseen delays.

To register your team or to ask any questions about this tournament, please e-mail *both* OUQS president Maris Rowe-McCulloch (maris.rowe-mcculloch@univ.ox.ac.uk) and tournament organizer Kyle Haddad-Fonda (kyle.haddad-fonda@magd.ox.ac.uk).

This tournament will be an edited packet-submission tournament – the first-ever to be held in the United Kingdom. If you submit a packet of 24 tossups and 24 bonuses for this tournament, then you will receive a substantial discount on the entry fees. If you choose not to submit a packet, then you can still play, but you will have to pay more.

The fee structure for this tournament is as follows:

Base fee: £60

Discount for submitting a packet before 1 January: -£20

Discount for submitting a packet before 20 December: -£40

Discount for bringing a workable buzzer system: -£5

Discount if at least two members of your team have to take a plane to get to the tournament: -£20

Minimum fee: £0

As you can see, being prompt about your packet submission and playing with foreigners will allow you to play for free.

Since this is the first packet-submission tournament to be held in the UK, we hope that it will be a good opportunity for standards and distributions to develop somewhat organically, as they have in the United States over the course of the last several decades. Accordingly, the required distribution for your submitted packets will be quite flexible. The packets will be edited to ensure no repeats and a uniform standard of quality and difficulty, but every attempt will be made to preserve the original character of the submitted packets.

If you choose to write a packet for this tournament, please consult some of the many excellent guides to question writing that are available online. Several of the best can be found via the links section in the OUQS website.

Your submitted packets should adhere to the following distribution:

5/5 Science (at least 1/1 biology, 1/1 chemistry, 1/1 physics)
5/5 History (at least 2/2 non-European)
5/5 Literature (no more than 2/3 or 3/2 of which can be British)
2/2 Fine Arts (1/1 each of visual art and music)
2/2 Religion/Mythology/Philosophy (no more than 1/1 of any subject)
1/1 Geography
1/1 Social Science
3/3 Miscellaneous/Your Choice (note that this area includes pop culture and sports)

The difficulty of this tournament is officially advertised as *not too hard*. Those familiar with the American quizbowl scene will recognize this admonishment as yet another way of expressing the nebulous idea of “regular difficulty.” British participants should be advised that the ideal question is more difficult than the average question at last year’s British Student Quiz Championships, but not that much harder. All bonuses should have an easy part, a middle part, and a hard part; the easy part should be converted by nearly every team, while the hard part should in all cases be answered by at least some teams. All tossups should consist of five lines in size 10, Times New Roman font. Submit your packets when completed by e-mail to [Kyle](#).

We hope to see you all at the tournament in January!

Current confirmed field:

Bruce Arthur & Friends
Edmund Dickinson & Friends
University of Chicago A
University of Chicago B