

ZERO HOUR — RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. TEAM COMPOSITION & ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1 Teams must consist of 4 members.
- 1.2 All team members must be present for the entire 3-hour duration of the event.
- 1.3 Team members cannot be changed after the kickoff.
- 1.4 Solo participation is not allowed.

2. THEME & PROJECT

- 2.1 The theme and problem statement will be revealed at the kickoff.
- 2.2 Teams must choose ONE of the three available themes.
- 2.3 Teams cannot switch themes after selection.
- 2.4 The project must be developed entirely during the event.
- 2.5 Pre-built project code, templates, or complete solutions may not be used.

3. TOOLS & RESOURCES

- 3.1 Participants may use open-source tools, libraries, and frameworks.
- 3.2 Internet access is permitted for research, documentation, and reference.
- 3.3 AI assistants such as ChatGPT, GitHub Copilot, Claude, and similar tools are allowed.
- 3.4 Participants must create their project during the event and may not use pre-built templates or complete solutions found online.
- 3.5 Participants are responsible for bringing all required equipment for the event, including a personal laptop, charger, mobile hotspot and their own extension cords (min 4 socket).

4. GAUNTLET CHALLENGES

- 4.1 Each Gauntlet Challenge must be attempted by a different team member.
- 4.4 All Gauntlet Challenges are strictly timed and must be completed within the allotted duration.
- 4.5 The event will be conducted across 5 classrooms. Participants must use their personal laptops and personal mobile hotspots throughout the event. College systems and Wi-Fi will not be provided.
- 4.5 Failure to complete a challenge within the allotted time will result in 0 points for that challenge.

4.6 Challenge-Specific Rules

Challenge	Rule
Debugger	All teams receive the buggy code snippet. The challenge follows a race format, with faster successful fixes receiving higher scores.
UI Sprint	The participating member draws a chit to determine their assigned UI task. Tasks cannot be switched.
AI Music	Generated music must match the team's selected theme and must be 60 seconds long.(And it must be original and authentic)

5. SUBMISSION RULES

5.1 All final submissions must be uploaded to the designated ZERO_HOUR_SUBMISSIONS Google Drive folder before the official deadline.

5.2 Each team must submit the following four components:

MAIN SOLUTION: TeamName_Theme_Main.zip

DEBUGGER: TeamName_Theme_Debugger.py/.js/.html

UI SPRINT: TeamName_Theme_UI.zip

AI MUSIC: TeamName_Theme_Music.mp3

5.3 The final submission must also include:

A public GitHub repository link submitted via Google Form.

A deployed project link/demo video submitted via the same Google Form.

5.4 GitHub repositories must be public or accessible to the organizing team.

5.5 The mandatory file naming convention is:

TeamName_Theme_FileType

5.6 The AI Music submission must be a 60 second MP3 file corresponding to the team's selected theme.

5.7 All required files and links must be submitted before the official deadline of 3:00 PM.

5.8 Late submissions may result in point deductions or disqualification at the judges' discretion.

6. CODE OF CONDUCT

6.1 All participants must maintain respectful and professional behavior throughout the event.

6.2 Participants must comply with all venue rules and applicable TechFest regulations.

6.3 Harassment, discrimination, or inappropriate behavior will result in immediate removal from the event.

6.4 Participants must not disrupt, interfere with, or tamper with another team's work.

7. DISQUALIFICATION CRITERIA

7.1 Plagiarism or Code Theft — Copying another team's code or using complete pre-built solutions.

7.2 Missing the Submission Deadline — Failing to submit the required deliverables before 3:00 PM.

7.3 Tampering — Interfering with another team's code, systems, or project.

7.4 Misconduct — Harassment, disrespect, or disruptive behavior toward judges, organizers, volunteers, or participants.

7.5 Rule Violation — Any violation of the rules and regulations of Zero Hour.

8. JUDGING & SCORING

8.1 The total score is 100 points.

8.2 The scoring breakdown is:

Main Product Demo: 50 points
Debugger Challenge: 15 points
UI Sprint Challenge: 15 points
AI Music Challenge: 10 points
Presentation + Q&A: 10 points

8.3 Judges' decisions are final and binding.

8.4 Results will be announced after all team presentations and judging have been completed.

9. GENERAL PROVISIONS

9.1 The organizing team may propose modifications to the event rules if necessary. Any changes to approved event details or rules will require the necessary approval and will be communicated to participants in advance.

9.2 Any disputes will be resolved by the organizing team and judges.

9.3 Participants are responsible for their own devices and personal belongings.

9.4 By registering for Zero Hour, participants agree to abide by all rules and regulations of the event.