




Clubs:  
Student Package



Everything you need to know  
about starting an OEB club at  
your school!



2023-2024





# Table of Contents



Introduction.....	3
Getting Started.....	3
Club-Only Activities.....	5
1. Workshops and Learning Opportunities.....	5
2. Social Events.....	7
3. Awards.....	8
4. Interview with the President.....	9
5. Exhibition Feedback.....	9
6. Meeting Guidance.....	10
Conclusion.....	10



# Introduction




The Ontario Ethics Bowl (OEB) Organization will introduce high school clubs for the first time in the 2023-24 season!



In OEB clubs, enthusiastic students with a common interest in collaborative problem solving can voluntarily meet to discuss various ethical topics and global issues.

High school teams who choose to create a club will gain access to club-only activities that will help in preparation for the Ethics Bowl competition. Especially for new students in grades 9 or 10, clubs will also provide an opportunity to form bonds, become acquainted with the OEB system, and be mentored by older peers.



Creating a club is also a great way to enrich the OEB experience and continue to build on the skills that the competition fosters like critical thinking and oral communication. Clubs are inclusive and not limited to students on an OEB team—it's an opportunity for your whole school! This is a chance to bring together a diverse group of students who are eager to share their perspectives on current issues through an ethical lens in a thoughtful, open-minded, and collaborative environment. Discussion topics are not limited to the OEB cases, and exploration of new topics that students may be passionate about is encouraged!

# Getting Started



Now that you understand (some of) the reasons to join a club, the question remains: **what do you have to do?**

The requirements for clubs to be recognized and benefit from our club-specific activities are as follows:



## 1. Membership:

One of the advantages of a club is that it will help facilitate an exciting, but at times underutilized, opportunity within the Ethics Bowl: mentorship. For that reason clubs must be composed of at least 4 students, one of whom must be in Grade 9 or 10.

## 2. Leadership:

To help your club stay organized, you must have a teacher-supervisor and appoint a student president.

## 3. Communication:

Clubs must set up a club gmail account to communicate with the OEB. Please note: the club's gmail account must be different from any team's gmail account. The recommended email format is school.oebclub@gmail.com.


## 4. Socialization:

To help you advertise your club, stay up-to-date on club activities, and be a part of the Ethics Bowl community, a club must create an Instagram account. The recommended Instagram format is @school\_OEBclub



## 5. Constitution:

Each club must make a copy of the following constitution and complete it.



Once all the requirements are complete, your club is ready to get started! To have your club recognized by the Ontario Ethics Bowl you must:

1. Use your club gmail account to email the Director of Teams, Jess Strachan, at: [engagement@ontarioethicsbowl.ca](mailto:engagement@ontarioethicsbowl.ca)
2. The email should include:
  - a. The school you are from
  - b. The name of your president and teacher-supervisor
  - c. Confirmation that you have at least one student who is in either Grade 9 or 10
- a. A list of your club's founding members
- b. Your club's Instagram handle
- c. Your completed constitution in pdf form



**\*Please Note\*:** We highly encourage and recommend that each club follow the club registration process as laid out by their individual school boards. Doing so is not, however, necessary to be recognized as a club by the Ontario Ethics Bowl.

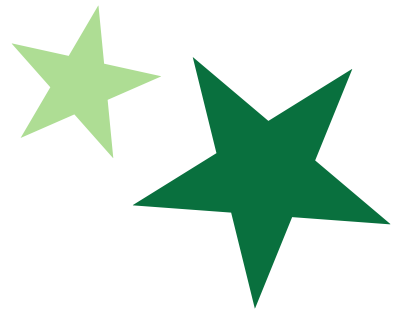
Once you have completed all necessary steps you will receive written confirmation that the OEB officially recognizes your club. Upon receiving this recognition, you will gain automatic access to the following club-only activities:

## Club-only Activities

### 1 Workshops and Learning Opportunities

Workshops and presentations provide members of Ethics Bowl clubs with the opportunity to expand upon, and enhance, their entire OEB experience! Meetings will be virtual, with access links and codes available to all Ethics Bowl club members. Any and all resources used in these meetings will also be made available afterwards to Ethics Bowl club members who could not attend.

## Crash Course: Judge Q&A

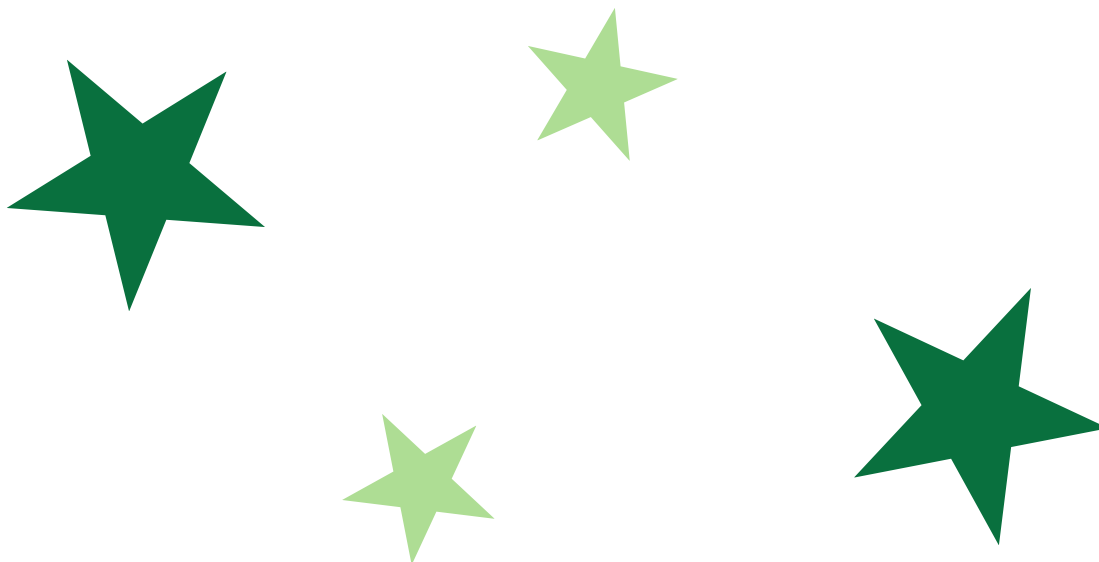


**Who:** This video resource will be open to all members of Ontario Ethics Bowl clubs.

**What:** This crash course on Judge Q&A will be a recorded presentation on tips for how to respond judge's Q&As.

**Where:** The video will be emailed to clubs in December.

**Why:** We understand that the Judge Q&A portion of the Bowl can be stressful for teams. The Crash Course: Judge Q&A is the perfect opportunity to gain a better understanding of how best to approach (and respond to) a Judge's question.





## Social Events



**What:** Want to meet people who are like-minded and committed to the Ethics Bowl while having fun? These social mixers offer the opportunity to be placed in groups with like-minded students all over the province!

**Who:** These social mixers are available to any student in a registered Ethics Bowl Club.

**Why:** This offers the opportunity for students to get to know like-minded students outside of the actual competition!

**How:** All Ontario Ethics Bowl clubs will be contacted as to how to join social mixer meetings when the events are scheduled.

**Where:** All social mixers will be held virtually over zoom.

**When:** The date and time of social mixers will be announced to clubs at a later date.

## 3 Awards

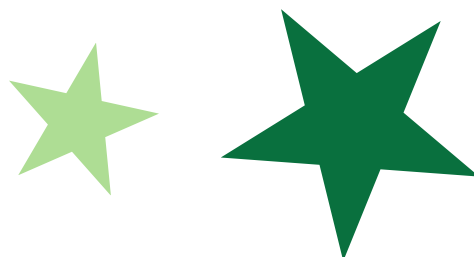
**Who:** All Ontario Ethics Bowl clubs will be eligible to receive awards.

**What:** The following awards are available:

- **The Dedication Award**
  - Awarded to the club that participates in the most exhibition matches.
- **The Mentorship Award**
  - Awarded to the club with the highest number of Junior members (provided the club has at least one Senior member).
- **The Engagement Award**
  - Awarded to the club that is the most active and engaged on Instagram.
- **The Academic Excellence Award**
  - Awarded to the club that has the most members write the Critical Thinking Competition.

**When:** Winners will be announced through the OEB Instagram in late January.

**Why:** The Ontario Ethics Bowl recognizes that there are many ways to be a great club beyond one of your team's winning the competition; these awards are the perfect opportunity for schools to receive formal acknowledgement for their hard work and success.





## 4 Interview with the President



**Who:** Jeffrey will select one club to receive an in-person meeting with Ontario Ethics Bowl director Jeffrey Senese.

**What:** Jeffrey will bring a camera crew to conduct a recorded, professional interview with the selected team.

**Where:** The meeting will take place in-person at the selected club's school.

**When:** The recipient school will be notified in December.

**Why:** A lot of amazing students and teams participate in the Ethics Bowl. This is a chance for your school, club, and team(s) to be featured on the Ontario Ethics Bowl's Instagram account.

## 5 Exhibition Feedback



**Who:** This opportunity will be available once to every team associated with an Ontario Ethics Bowl club.

**What:** In one exhibition match a team will have an Ethics Bowl representative with judge experience sit in and give written feedback.

**Where:** Exhibition feedback will occur in a predetermined exhibition match. Teams will coordinate with the Ontario Ethics Bowl to determine which exhibition match a representative will be sitting in on.

**When:** This will be available during one of a team's regular exhibition season matches.

**Why:** It can be hard to tell if you are on the right track, or if you have missed something in one of your presentations. Having a third party (who has judged before) review your work is the best way to up your game.

## 6 Meeting Guidance



**Who:** This opportunity will be available to every Ontario Ethics Bowl club.

**What:** An Ethics Bowl representative will virtually join one of your meetings to help guide and facilitate a productive conversation.

**Where:** Virtually using Zoom in one of your club meetings.

**When:** At a date to be determined by your club and an Ethics Bowl representative. The representative will reach out to schedule in October.

**Why:** Ethics Bowl cases spark incredibly complicated discussions and it can be very easy for those conversations to become derailed. An Ethics Bowl representative can not only help you get one good conversation going, but can also give you the tools to have more productive conversations in the future.

## Conclusion



Creating an OEB club for your school is a great way to enrich your Ethics Bowl experience! Making a club will not only allow you to gain more experience and build skills that will strengthen your team for the competition, but it will also help you connect with peers who are interested in the same issues.

Review the requirements needed for a club, and refer to the constitution when getting started. Please direct any questions about clubs to Jess Strachan at [engagement@ontarioethicsbowl.ca](mailto:engagement@ontarioethicsbowl.ca).