Our Aim
Tournament of Minds’ aim is to enhance the potential of our youth by developing diverse skills, enterprise, time management, and the discipline to work collaboratively within a challenging and competitive environment.

Our Objectives
- To promote the stimulation of real, open-ended challenges
- To develop creative problem-solving approaches and techniques
- To foster cooperative learning and teamwork
- To promote knowledge and appreciation of self and others
- To encourage experimentation and risk taking
- To expand and reward creative and divergent thinking
- To stimulate a spirit of inquiry and a love of learning
- To develop enterprise
- To celebrate excellence

What is Tournament of Minds?

Tournament of Minds (TOM) is a problem-solving program for teams of students from both Primary and Secondary years. Students are required to solve demanding, open-ended challenges from one of the following disciplines:

- Applied Technology
- Language Literature
- Maths Engineering
- Social Sciences.

TOM is an opportunity for students with a passion for learning and problem-solving, to demonstrate their skills and talents in an exciting, vibrant and public way.

Tournament of Minds has been one of the fastest growing national inter-school programs to challenge the youth of Australia, and is now expanding internationally.

The Challenges

Teams are required to work together on a Long Term Challenge for six weeks without assistance from teachers, parents or peers. They are encouraged to explore possibilities and experiment with ideas as they endeavour to produce their best possible solution.

They develop a creative and original way to communicate this solution to others, working within predefined parameters such as limited materials, complex challenge criteria and the deadline of Tournament Day.

Students present the product of their ideas - their challenge solution - to a panel of judges and an audience on Tournament Day. They have ten minutes in which to present and must do so within a 3 x 3 metre performance area.

The teams must also participate in an unseen Spontaneous Challenge on Tournament Day. This challenge requires rapid interchange of ideas, the ability to think creatively and well developed group cooperation skills.

Tournament of Minds (Vic) Inc
Ground floor, 123 Church Street, Hawthorn 3122
Telephone: (03) 9818 8311 Facsimile: (03) 9818 8344
Email: vic-director@tom.edu.au Website: www.tom.edu.au
Tournament of Minds 2007

Regional Tournaments

Central Victoria Region
La Trobe University, Bendigo
Saturday 18 August

Geelong Region
Deakin University, Water Front Campus
Saturday 18 August

Gippsland Region
Monash University, Churchill
Saturday 18 August

Goulburn Valley Region
Goulburn Valley Grammar School, Shepparton
Saturday 18 August

Lilydale Region
Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn
Saturday 18 August

Metro Central Region
Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn
18 & 19 August

Metro Northern Region
La Trobe University, Bundoora
18 & 19 August

State Final
La Trobe University, Bundoora
Sunday 9 September

Australian Final
Australian National University, Canberra
Saturday 20 October

Real World Benefits

Tournament of Minds looks beyond academic achievement and understands that the pursuit of excellence knows no boundaries.

TOM offers students a unique, total experience, providing challenge and growth through its six-week problem-solving structure. The Tournament process provides a platform for excellence and equips participants with strategies and skills to become lifelong learners.

Tournament of Minds mirrors what successful businesses practise.

How to Participate

Schools: simply complete a School Registration Form which is downloadable from the Victorian TOM web site. Complete the form and return it with payment to the Victorian TOM Office.

As a Judge: If you enjoy the exhilaration of youth excellence and are enthused by creativity and challenge, you may be interested in becoming a Tournament Judge.

As a Sponsor: A number of exciting sponsorship opportunities are offered.

As a Challenge Writer: Tournament Challenges are designed to be complex, open-ended, challenging and appealing. If you are interested in submitting ideas, we would be pleased to hear from you.

TOM Resources

Tournament of Minds can provide students and staff with resources and workshops to assist in running the TOM Program and the wider Thinking Curriculum.

Workshops
- Introduction to TOM
- Advanced Thinking Skills
- Judge Training
- Drama/Integrated Thinking Skills

Resources
- TOM DVD
- Past Challenge CDs

Visit www.tom.edu.au for more information.

Challenging the World

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