

Sydney 2019

Inter-School Quran Competition Specifications



*The Messenger of Allah (Peace be upon him
and his pure progeny) has said:*

*“These hearts rust just as iron rusts;
and indeed they are polished through
the recitation of the Qur’an.”*

Irshadul Qulub; Page 78

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أُولَئِكَ يُسْرِعُونَ فِي الْخَيْرَاتِ وَهُمْ لَهَا سَابِقُونَ

“These hasten to good things and they are foremost in attaining them” (Quran 23:61)

Summary

Introduction and Overview

After two years of running the inter-school Quran competitions¹, once again a group of passionate individuals from Imam Husain Islamic School and some other Islamic schools in Sydney are organising the **third Inter-school Quran Competition** for students, teachers and parents in 2019. The ultimate goal is to improve familiarity with our holy book and please the Imam of our time, may Allah (s.w.t.) hasten his reappearance.

The Purpose of this Document

This document outlines details of the competition and has the following purposes:

- 1- It provides a communication platform between **liaison persons** from each school.
- 2- It is for **school heads** to incorporate this plan into their internal school syllabus.
- 3- It can be given to possible **donors**.

Please note that this document is **not** created for participants, however school heads should advertise these specifications to students, parents and teachers in any way they wish.

Document Amendments

This is the only document throughout the year explaining the competition and in case of any minor change, all liaisons will be notified. However, we endeavour to keep changes to minimum and important plans such as the table of categories and the dates of competition will not be amended throughout the year. Also, we ensure those minor changes, if any, do not adversely affect the plan of schools, so all changes will be communicated effectively.

¹ Please do not hesitate to contact the coordinators to get extra information about the performance of last competitions. Alternatively, you can visit <http://islamicsyllabus.com/qurancomp> for more information.

The Road Ahead

Vision

The vision of our group is:

“To place the holy Quran in the hearts, so nothing enters but Allah”

This statement is our aspiration which was developed by receiving inspirations from the holy Quran and our beautiful Ahadith.

As Allah (s.w.t.) mentioned in the holy Quran², he has placed only one heart in each of us, not two, so the only thing to enter should be divine, free from any impurities. Hearts are delicate and dislike any stranger, thus we said ***“so nothing enters”*** to ensure is free from all spiritual diseases and is filled by heavenly attributes. Because the heart is the house of Allah (s.w.t.)³, ***“but Allah”*** was added.

A way to keep this divine house away from strangers is to place the true spirit of the holy Quran, as the first weighty thing, which is perfectly explained only by the other weighty thing, Ahlul-Bayt (a.s.)⁴. This is the reason why ***“To place the holy Quran”*** was mentioned. Although, the holy Quran is one but can have multiple recipients. Therefore, we thought ***“in the hearts”*** can do justice to our vision.

Strategy

To achieve our vision, the overall strategy is to focus on **competitions**.

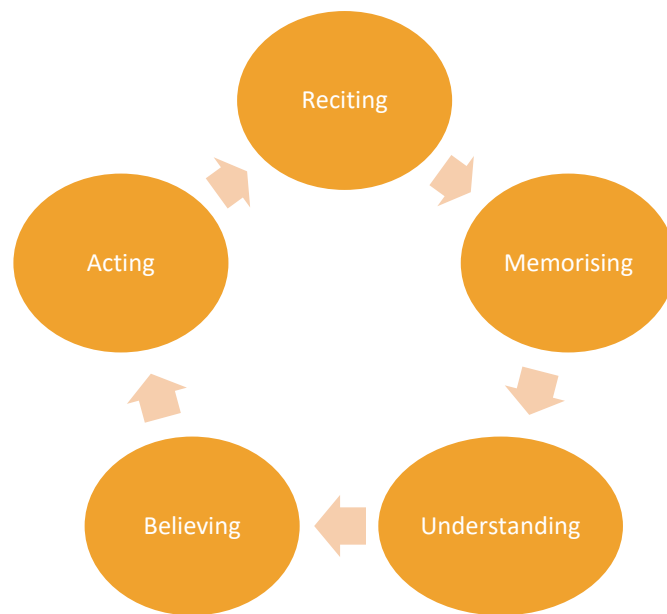
Although, we acknowledge knowing the verses of holy Quran in itself is not sufficient to reach the status of full purity of heart and acting upon those verses is necessary for a person to clean his heart from all other than Allah (s.w.t), definitely becoming familiar with the holy Quran can help the person to use it as a shield against all strangers of the heart. We believe this can be achieved by running various sort of Quran competitions which can motivate individuals to become closer to the vision above.

Therefore, the competitions should be designed in such a way that ultimately encourage participants to act upon the holy verses. It is a journey and can be represented by the following process. Reciting and memorising are the first steps and that is why they have been the main focus of competitions so far.

² “Allah has not put two hearts within any man ...”, the holy Quran 33:4

³ Imam Sadiq (a.s.): “The heart is the house of Allah, so do not place in the house of Allah anything other than him”

⁴ In hadith al-Thaqalayn, the prophet (s.a.w.): “I am leaving behind me two very weighty things for you. So long as you will remain connected with them you will never go astray after my departure and they (the two things) are heavier than one another. One of them is the Book of Allah and it is a rope which hangs from the heavens to the earth and the other is my progeny, my Ahlul Bayt (a.s.). Doubtlessly they will never be separated from one another until they come to me at the side of the pond of Kauthar in Paradise.”



Competition Types

After two years of running memorisation competitions, we are introducing a new competition focusing on recitation which helps our community to identify new talents and encourages more participation. Therefore, this year there are two competition types:

- 1- Memorisation Competition
- 2- Recitation Competition

For the following years, we are considering other types of competitions that can facilitate understanding of Quran and help us to engage more members of our community. Below are some examples within our strategy that can take us closer to our vision:

- **Quran Vocabulary Competitions** for all age groups (plan to start in 2020)
- **Stage Play Competition** for all ages (plan to start in 2020)
- **Writing Contests** for teens (plan to start in 2021)
- **Sequential Art Competition** for kids (plan to start in 2021)
- **Teaching Quran Competitions** for teachers (plan to start in 2022)

We believe that to uncover great ideas, we should generate a large quantity of them, so please share your ideas with us as early as possible.

Competition Objectives

As mentioned above, this year the main focus is on the memorisation and recitation competitions and the main objectives of these competitions are to:

- Raise the overall standards of **recitation** amongst the Islamic schools in Sydney
- Encourage Islamic communities to work harder on **memorising** the Holy Quran
- Increase the **acquaintance** with the Holy Quran
- Enhance **collaboration and unity** between Islamic schools in Sydney

Memorisation Competition

General Format

- There are **six categories** as illustrated in the table of categories⁵; Categories 1-6.
- Each student must select a category from this table, equal to or greater than his/her age.
- Category 6 is mainly for teachers and parents, but students may select this category too.
- Selecting higher categories is highly encouraged⁶. Schools should motivate each student not to select a category that he/she already knows completely, so can endeavour to memorize new Suwar of the holy Quran.
- Each category has been divided into **three parts**; Parts 1-3.
- In the **preliminary round**, only the Suwar in parts 1 and 2 will be assessed, however in the **final round** of the inter-school competition, all parts in each category will be assessed.

Round	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3
The preliminary round (August)	Yes	Yes	-
The final round (November)	Yes	Yes	Yes

- This classification can help schools to review the progress of students and make necessary changes to help students to perform well in memorising the Suwar step by step.
- It is schools' decision to determine how they would like to assess their students in school, however it is recommended to focus on Part 1 and 2 in school competitions and leave Part 3 for top students who have excelled to the final inter-school competition.
- Also, it is recommended to make it compulsory for all students in school to at least memorise Part 1 Suwar of their categories and leave Part 2 and Part 3 for selected students.

Table of Categories

The table of categories is attached to this document⁷. This sheet should be easily accessible to all participants and it is a responsibility of schools to ensure their students are memorising the correct Suwar, so if any question, ask the coordinators as early as possible.

In addition, participants must ensure they select the correct category from the table. For example, if a student was born on 23/05/2010, he can participate in all categories except category 1, because

⁵ Quran Memorisation Competition 2019 Information Sheet.pdf

⁶ Relative to the lower categories, fewer students selected category 5 last year which makes it easier to win the competition. Our prediction is that this year also more will participate in the lower categories, specially categories 2 and 3, so please take this into account that generally it is easier for higher categories because of less number of participants, to advance from the preliminary to the final.

⁷ Quran Memorisation Competition 2019 Information Sheet.pdf

all category 1 participants must be born on or after 1/01/2011, but this student was born about seven months before this date, so can't select the first category.

Also, just knowing the year of birth is sufficient to identify the correct category. For example, if a person was born in 2007, he can select one of top three categories: 4, 5 or 6. For this reason, for participation submitting the year of birth of participants is sufficient and it is not a requirement to submit the exact date of births.

Categories	Age Limit	Must be born on or after	Suwar
Category 1	8	1/01/2011	Attached to this document ⁸
Category 2	10	1/01/2009	
Category 3	11	1/01/2008	
Category 4	13	1/01/2006	
Category 5	18	1/01/2001	
Category 6	Any age	NA	

Finalists

- Each school can submit up to **four names per category** to the coordinators (listed at the end of this document). This is the criteria for any school size, so please stick to this rule.
- These four names are **not** per gender and there is no restriction in terms of gender as long as the number of participants does not exceed four per category. For example, one school can submit three boys and one girl for category 1 (i.e. four names per category 1).
- It will be assumed that the names suggested from each school will be of students who have excelled in memorisation. This can be determined either by holding an internal competition in the school (recommended), or by identifying students who have memorised best during the year.
- The students, teachers and parents from each school will then compete in two rounds in August and November where the overall winner will be determined. **Top six male and top six female participants** in each category advance to the final (more information is provided in the next section).

Comprehension

Although, participants are not required to know the meaning of verses, we highly recommend that schools share the overall meaning and theme of Suwar with students while memorising the Suwar:

- 1- Schools can use a website developed by our Shia brothers, called al-quran.info that besides translation has a great summary of each Surah.
- 2- Also, the memorisation handbook attached to this document can be used⁹. This document was developed by Ahlul-Bayt Islamic School to support the competition.

⁸ Quran Memorisation Competition 2019 Information Sheet.pdf

Memorisation Judging

General Judging Criteria

Since this competition is primarily memorisation-based, the winner will be one who has:

- Correctly memorised all Suwar in his category.
- Able to continue recitation of the Suwar when prompted from mid-way.
- Correct pronunciation of letters (Tajweed rules are **not** included).
- Page, Surah and Ayah numbers will **not** be tested; however, it is helpful to know the name of Suwar.
- In case of a tie, judges will ask more questions from the same category till they come up with a winner. A person who can recall more fluently will win the competition.

Marking Scheme

Two marking schemes have been attached to this document, one for the preliminary round¹⁰ and one for the final one¹¹.

The types of mistakes are explained below:

Type of Mistake	Description	Does the speaker sound the bell?	Marks lost	Next step
Not answering at all	The participant cannot answer the question at all, even when was helped a few times by the speaker	No	No marks given	The speaker asks the next question
Forgetting a part of the verse	The participant does not remember a part of the answer	No	4 marks	The speaker recites the missing part and the participant continues reading the rest
Notified and did not correct	The participant makes a mistake (excluding Harakah and Pronunciation) and is unable to correct it himself/herself on	Yes	4 marks	The speaker corrects it and the participant continues reading

⁹ Joz 30 Quran Memorisation Handbook.pdf

¹⁰ Marking Schema Quran Memorisation Comp 2019 - Preliminary Round.pdf

¹¹ Marking Schema Quran Memorisation Comp 2019 - Final Round.pdf

Type of Mistake	Description	Does the speaker sound the bell?	Marks lost	Next step
	hearing the bell			the rest
Notified and corrected	The participant makes a mistake (excluding Harakah and Pronunciation) and corrects it himself/herself on hearing the bell	Yes	2 marks	The participant continues reading the rest and the speaker does not do anything.
Mistake, but not notified	The speaker does not pick up the mistake (excluding Harakah and Pronunciation). In other words, does not sound the bell.	No	2 marks	The judges deduct mark without interrupting the speaker.
Corrected without notification	The participant makes a mistake (excluding Harakah and Pronunciation) and corrects it without notification	No	1 mark	The participant continues reading
Harakah Mistake	The participant makes a Harakah mistake	No	1 mark	The speaker corrects it and the participant continues reading the rest
Pronunciation Mistake	The participant makes an obvious pronunciation mistake, example reading (◌) and (ح) exactly the same	No	0.5 mark (up to five mistakes per question)	The judges deduct a mark and the speaker does not do anything.

Tie Questions

In case of tie (**± 3 marks**) in the **preliminary round**, both participants advance to the final round without answering more questions. In the first round, a tie happens if the participant is less than or equal to 3 marks from the sixth person. For example, assume there are three participants in the preliminary round who get a very close mark to the sixth person with the following average scores:

Rank	6	7	8	9
Average Mark	146	144.5	143	142.75

In this case, the 6th person advances to the final (of course), because top 6 students per category per gender advance to the final. Also, the 7th and 8th participants qualify for the final round because their marks are within 3 marks to the 6th person. However, the 9th person is not qualified as 142.75 is more than 3 marks away from 146.

However, tie mechanism is different in the final round. In case of tie (± 2 marks) in the **final round**, the speaker will continue to ask questions from **Part 3** until the first three places can be decided (a separate sheet for tie questions is provided in the attachment¹²). In the final round, after ranking all participants, tie happens when a participant's average mark is less than or equal to 2 marks from the participant above or below him, but to make it fairer, tie questions are asked from the participants with the lowest mark first, then the winner competes with the next person who had higher marks initially.

For example, let assume top six participants get the following average marks.

Rank	1	2	3	4	5	6
Average Mark	179.5	176	175	173	173	169

The first person becomes first because the second person is not within 2 marks (i.e. there is no tie between them) and the sixth person becomes sixth for the same reason (169 is more than 2 marks from 173). Therefore, there are three tie cases: 2 vs 3, 3 vs 4/5 and 4 vs 5. Always tie question start from the lowest marks as demonstrated below:

- Tie 1: Rank 4 versus Rank 5
- Tie 2: Rank 3 versus the winner of Tie 1
- Tie 3: Rank 2 versus the winner of Tie 2

In this example, the winner of Tie 3 becomes second, and the loser gets the third place.

Also, in each tie one question is asked, if still tie (± 0.5 marks) for **three times**, both of them get the same rank position and if anyone above them with tie, they both compete with that person. In the above example, let assume three questions were asked from Rank 3 and the winner of Tie 1 and it became tie each time, both compete with the second person (i.e. the one who got 176).

Judging Officials

There are three types of officials on the competition days:

- 1- **Speaker**: the person who reads the script and asks the questions
- 2- **Judges**: two officials who mark the answers
- 3- **Scorer**: the person who counts the scores and selects the winner

Some extra points about the judging officials:

- They will be selected by the coordinators and we will make sure all participating schools are informed about the selected judges before the days of competition.
- Most of the officials are teachers of the participating schools.
- The selected officials must be with good manner and behave Islamically all the time.
- The selected officials must be able to read the Quran fluently and understand basic Tajweed rules.

¹² Marking Schema Quran Memorisation Comp 2019 - Final Round.pdf

- Also, questions will be shuffled randomly by computer from a question bank, so judges do not select an Ayah or Surah by themselves and only ask the Ayah or Surah chosen by computer.
- In case of dispute, judges who mark the answers, are the prime decision-makers, however, if still a participant believes there was a clear mistake, they can talk to the coordinators for further clarification and explanation. If not in all cases, in most cases the coordinators do not change the scores.

The following tables explains the difference between the preliminary and the final rounds in terms of judging officials:

Competition	Speaker	Judges	Scorer	# of officials per category per gender
The preliminary round	There is only one person per category per gender who asks the questions from Part 1 and Part 2	There are two judges. One of them counts the scores at the same time.	One of the judges will be selected to count the scores	3
The final round	The speaker rotates between three officials. For each part, one official asks the questions while the other two judge ¹³ . In case of tie, the first official asks all the questions.	For each part, two officials who are not asking the questions, mark the answers.	One person focuses on counting the scores and selecting the final winner (for all parts)	4

Script to the Participants

On the competition days before the contest starts, the speaker reads a script for each category separately. It explains the competition in detail and consists of the following points:

- **Welcoming and congratulating** all participants for reaching to this level and emphasizing on the fact that all participants are winners since they have already memorized some verses of the holy Quran even if they do not become first.
- Sharing some inspirational points (including a hadith) about **the importance of memorising** the holy Quran.
- Explaining **the seating positions**, which will be randomly selected by the officials, so it is fair for all participants.

¹³ In the final round, to make it much fairer the speaker rotates among three officials. For example, official 1 is the speaker in Part 1 while officials 2 and 3 are judges. Then in Part 2, official 2 asks the questions while officials 1 and 3 are judges.

- **Introducing all officials** including the speaker, judges and scorer.
- Introducing **the random selection program** (attached to this document¹⁴), which is a computer software program that generates a random Ayah from a Surah in the category and hence the judges have no control over the questions.
- Explaining how **to answer the questions**, for example how to start answering the question first with Bismilliah
- Briefly explaining all **types of mistakes** as mentioned below in the next section.
- **Providing some tips**, for example asking to repeat in case not hearing the question from the speaker properly, do not rushing into answering the question or taking the time and reciting the answer loudly, clearly and slowly

¹⁴ Random Selection Program for Quran Comp 2019.xlms

Recitation Competition

General Format

- There are **three levels** as illustrated below.
- Each participant must select a level from the table below, equal to or greater than his/her age.
- Level 3 is mainly for teachers and parents, but students may select this category too.

Levels	Description	Age Limit	Must be born on or after
Level 1	Beginner	10	1/01/2009
Level 2	Intermediate	16	1/01/2003
Level 3	Advanced	Any age	NA

- Each school can submit up to **two names per level (one male and one female)** to the coordinators (listed at the end of this document).
- It will be assumed that the names suggested from each school will be of students who have excelled in recitation. This can be determined either by holding an internal competition in the school (recommended), or by identifying students who have recited best during the year.
- Students will be required to read one page of the whole Quran. The page will be undisclosed until the competition time.
- All students in the same level will read from the same page. Therefore, during the competition, participants are not allowed to listen to other participants who are in the same level and no participant will know the page until the judges ask the question during the competition.
- There is no preliminary round and the main round will be held on the same day and location as the final round of memorisation competition.

Judging Criteria

Since this competition is solely based on recitation, the winner will be one who:

1. Correctly recites the selected verses without any major mistake such as reading a word with incorrect Harakah
2. Recites with correct pronunciation of letters
3. Applies Tajweed rules correctly, including Idgaam, Idhaar, Ikhfaa, Qalqala, Madd and Laam & Ra.
4. Stops correctly, e.g. stopping at the end or in an ayah
5. Recites with fluency
6. Recites with a pleasant voice and melody

Marking Scheme

Participants are judged based on the above criteria, however each level focuses more on some aspects of recitation than others. For example, levels 1 and 2 focus more on correct recitation of words but the focus on level 3 is strongly on Tajwid. The weighting of each criteria for each level is tabulated below:

	Judging Criteria	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
1	Correct Harakaat	30	30	20
2	Pronunciation of Letters	20	20	20
3	Tajwid Rules	10	10	30
4	Correct Stopping	10	10	10
5	Fluency	30	30	10
6	Pleasant voice	0	0	10
	Total	100%	100%	100%

There is no tie question and the final mark is the average of marks given by all judges.

During the competition, to assist judging, a copy of the page of the holy Quran will be given to the judges which has all the necessary Tajwid rules, highlighted by different colours. Also judges will put a sign next to any word which is incorrectly recited.

Judging Officials

- For each session there will be **three judges** and one of them is a speaker at the same time.
- All judges will be selected by the coordinators and we will make sure all participating schools are informed about the selected judges before the days of competition.
- As discussed previously, none of judges knows the selected pages before the competition.
- The selected officials must be with good manner and behave Islamically all the time.
- The selected officials must be able to read the Quran fluently, understand advanced Tajweed rules and possess enough experience.

Participants

Eligibility Criteria

Some important points about the eligibility:

- Participants must officially be registered in 2019 in one of the participating schools mentioned below. This includes all registered students, all teachers and all parents of the registered students.
- Previously enrolled students, their parents or teachers, who are no longer enrolled or registered, will not be able to participate.
- Please strictly follow the birthday dates assigned to memorisation categories and recitation levels.
- Participants can participate in both memorisation and recitation competition.
- **Important:** for the memorisation competition, participants must at least know all Suwar in Part 1. It is the school responsibility to test students at least once before the day of preliminary competition to ensure the participants know all Suwar in this part, however, it is acceptable if the participants forget some of them during the preliminary round.
- Each school must send a declaration email to coordinators for all participants in the inter-school competition. The detail of this email is explained below.

Participating Schools

The schools and liaison persons are stated below in alphabetic order:

	School Name	Abb.	Organisation	Suburb	The liaison person	Second point of contact
1	Ahlul-Bayt Islamic School	ABIC	Ahlul-Bayt Islamic Centre	Auburn	Br Ahmad Alsamail	Br Firas Naji
2	Al-Mahdi Youth Community Madrassa	AYC	Al-Mahdi Mosque	Campbelltown	Sis Julie Karaki	Br Jawad Karimi
3	AlSadeq Arabic Association Inc.	AAA	AlSadeq Arabic Association Inc.	Kogarah	Sis Maryana Nasour	Br Saad Ramadan
4	Imam Ali College	IAC	Imam Ali College	Beverly Hills & Campbelltown	Sis Fatina Al Bash	Br Rabea Hajj
5	Imam Husain Islamic School	IHIS	Imam Husain Islamic Centre	Earlwood	Br Mohsen Alizadehfard	Br Mohammad Abbas Virjee

	School Name	Abb.	Organisation	Suburb	The liaison person	Second point of contact
6	Imam Mehdi Islamic School	IMIS	-	Auburn	Sis Zainab Rizvi	Br Syed Fariz Jafari
7	Imam Sajjad Centre	ISC	Imam Sajjad Centre	Auburn	Sheikh Ali Zahedi	Br Mohammad Jan Ali
8	IQRAA School	IQRAA	Nabi Akram Islamic Centre	Granville	Sis Lida Karimi	Br Enayat Hassib
9	MWA School	MWA	Muhammadi Welfare Association	Granville	Sis Zainab Nanji	Sis Sukaina Rizvi

Other weekend Islamic schools that are interested to participate next year can contact coordinators (listed at the end of this document).

Submission Table and Declaration Email

The names of participants (**both competitions**) must be sent by email to the coordinators by **4 August 2019**. For each student the following information must be provided in a single table:

- 1- First name
- 2- Surname
- 3- Year of birth (e.g. 2010)
- 4- Gender
- 5- Memorisation Category or Recitation Level

Besides, **one** declaration email must be sent to the coordinators by **4 August 2019** by the liaison person declaring that all participants have met the eligibility criteria. They need to consent that:

- All submitted names (i.e. finalists) meet the age requirements of this competition.
- All submitted names for memorisation nearly know all Suwar in Part 1 of their own category and they have been tested at least once before the competition.
- We tried to submit the names of students, teachers and parents who have excelled in memorisation or recitation among all applicants who were willing to participate.
- All finalists are officially registered as either students, their parents or teachers in 2019 in our school and we understand that previously enrolled students, their parents and teachers who are no longer enrolled or registered will not be able to participate in the competition.
- Finalists can be filmed during the competition (If any issue, please inform the coordinators)

Dates and Events

Important Dates

The important due dates with short comments are explained below. It is very unlikely that coordinators change these dates, unless there is a complete consensus among schools.

Item	Date	Comment
Release of the Quran Memorisation Competition Information Sheet ¹⁵	25 November 2018	Released during the celebration day last year
Release of the final document	25 April 2019	This document, which explains the specifications of the competition.
Submission of the names	4 August 2019	Each school must submit the names of the finalists: maximum four names per memorisation category, so up to 24 names for memorisation and maximum two names per recitation level, so up to 6 names for recitation competition .
The Preliminary Inter-School Competition	25 August 2019	The actual day of inter-school Quran competition (only memorisation). Details are explained below.
The Final Inter-School Competition	3 November 2019	The actual day of inter-school Quran competition (both memorisation and recitation competitions). Details are explained below.
The Celebration Day	17 November 2019	The day of prize-giving and celebration. Details are explained below.

Public Announcements

The posters will be distributed publicly to all schools attached to this document¹⁶ and it is up to schools to plan how they wish to encourage students and teachers. Liaison persons can contact coordinators to get some extra materials such as Quran memorisation booklets, and other memorisation tools.

The Preliminary Competition Day

The inter-school competition will be held on **25 August 2019** at **Imam Husain Islamic Centre in Earlwood**.

- This is only for memorisation, since there is no preliminary round for the recitation competition this year.

¹⁵ Quran Memorisation Competition 2019 Information Sheet.pdf

¹⁶ Poster Quran Competition 2019.jpg

- **All** registered names (i.e. finalists) for memorisation competition are required to attend.
- There is an allocated time for each category, so finalists do not need to stay for the whole program.
- The participants are required to come 30 minutes before their allocated time to register for the competition.
- Males' and females' competitions will be held separately yet simultaneously
- Only parts 1 and 2 will be tested.
- As multiple sessions will be running simultaneously, students need to recite without microphone, so there is not disruption to other sessions.
- **Top six participants** per category per gender will advance to the final round (in case of tie, both participants advance to the final, as discussed in the previous sections).

More information will be provided once getting closer to the competition day.

The Final Competition Day

The inter-school competition will be held on **3 November 2019** at **Ahlul-Bayt Islamic Centre** in **Auburn**:

- All participants for the recitation competition and all finalists who advanced from the preliminary round memorisation competition are required to attend.
- It is a public event so everyone in the community can attend.
- There is an allocated time for each category, so finalists do not need to stay for the whole program.
- The participants are required to come 30 minutes before their allocated time to register for the competition.
- Males' and females' competitions will be held separately yet simultaneously
- All three parts will be tested.
- Participants are required to use microphone when reciting.

More information will be provided once getting closer to the competition day.

The Celebration Day

The celebration day, in appreciation of the winners, will be held on the birthday of the Holy Prophet on **17 November 2019**, peace and blessing be upon him, where the public will be in attendance.

- There will be activities about the holy Quran.
- Prizes will be given to winners and all other finalists.
- A short snapshot video of recitations of finalists recorded on the actual day of competition will be presented to the public.
- Gifts will be given to the judges and donors will be appreciated.
- Major plans for 2020 competitions will be announced.

More information will be provided once getting closer to the competition day.

Finance

General

- There is no participation fee, but all schools are encouraged to contribute as much as possible toward the prizes and running expenses of the competition.
- School expenses that are related to Quran competition but are only specific to a particular school will not be borne by the coordinators (such as Quran memorisation booklets).
- All expenditure will be completely transparent and available for donors if required.
- School liaisons are encouraged to seek donors for prizes (or hold fundraising events to raise a proportion of the funds).
- None-cash gifts can be dropped off to the coordinators at any time through the year.
- All schools via liaison persons should help to manage the competition and celebration effectively.

Memorisation Prizes

The prize value for top three positions in each memorisation category is tabulated below.

Category	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Type
1	\$150	\$100	\$70	\$320	Cash
2	\$200	\$140	\$100	\$440	Cash
3	\$270	\$180	\$140	\$590	Cash
4	\$370	\$250	\$190	\$810	Cash
5	\$500	\$340	\$250	\$1,090	Cash
6	\$600	\$400	\$300	\$1,300	Cash
Total	\$2,090	\$1,410	\$1,050	\$4,550	

Since, there will be one male and one female per category, the final value is multiplied by two. Also, each participant will receive a non-cash gift. Therefore, the total amount of money requires for the memorisation competition is as follows¹⁷:

	Target Value	Type
Memorisation top three positions	\$9,100	Cash
Memorisation gifts to all participants	\$1,900	Non-Cash
Memorisation Trophies	\$800	Non-Cash
Total Prize Value	\$11,800	

¹⁷ Last year, \$11,553 was spent for all prizes including trophies, cash and non-cash prizes, so this budget is a reasonable amount for this year given there will be more schools/participants this year.

Recitation Prizes

The prize value for top three positions in each recitation level is tabulated below.

Level	1st	2nd	3rd	Total	Type
1	\$70	\$50	\$40	\$160	Cash
2	\$100	\$70	\$50	\$220	Cash
3	\$140	\$100	\$80	\$320	Cash
Total	\$310	\$220	\$170	\$700	

Since, there will be one male and one female per level, the final value is multiplied by two. Also, each participant will receive a non-cash gift. Therefore, the total amount of money requires for the recitation competition is as follows:

	Target Value	Type
Recitation top three positions	\$1,400	Cash
Recitation gifts to all participants	\$400	Non-Cash
Recitation Trophies	\$400	Non-Cash
Total Prize Value	\$2,200	

Other Expenses

Other expenses consist of:

- Refreshments
- Posters and other prints
- Event decoration
- Gifts to judges
- Venue (if required)

Based on experience¹⁸, \$2,000 is a reasonable amount to be allocated for all other expenses, so the total budget (including prizes) for this project is:

	Target Value
Memorisation Gifts	\$11,800
Recitation Gifts	\$2,200
Other Expenses	\$2,000
Total Budget	\$16,000

¹⁸ Last year, \$1,434 was spent for all expenses excluding prizes.

Contributors

Main Coordinators

The main coordinators are as follows:

- Brother Mohsen: mohsena67@yahoo.com or 0405 963 360
- Brother Mohammad Abbas: mvirjee@gmail.com or 0430 241 140

Should you require any further information including a detailed judging rubric, please contact them.

Management Team

This project has been running smoothly without any official management team so far, as there has been many dedicated people in our community who were willing to sacrifice their time for the holy Quran, however, as this project is getting bigger, it is necessary to develop a management team in order to develop this amazing project further by using diverse talents and sharing responsibilities.

The initial structure of the management team has been formed and we are looking for volunteers to join our team to take this project to the next level. Currently the following roles have been created so if anyone is interested, can contact the coordinators above:

Role	Main Responsibilities
Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leading the team and enabling individuals• Filling the gaps whenever required• Looking for growth opportunities
Head of Memorisation Competitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refining rules and judging criteria• Selecting judges and providing training• Providing learning materials for participants
Head of Recitation Competitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refining rules and judging criteria• Selecting judges and providing training• Providing learning materials for participants
Head of Comprehension Competitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating innovative competitions• Forming a team and recruiting talented individuals
Head of Public Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning publicity strategies• Delivering media contents• Developing and maintaining online resources
Head of Finance and Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning for all financial tasks• Keeping track of contributions and expenses• Coordinating events and decorations• Procuring prizes and trophies
Head of Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing existing technologies• Developing more tools

Acknowledgements

We would like to appreciate all individuals who helped us to run this wonderful project last years, specially liaison persons from six schools who continuously supported us and helped us to improve our performance.

Also, we would like to express our special thanks to Br Abidali, the principal of Imam Husain Islamic School, for his generous support, coaching and companionship as well as to other teachers in the participating schools involved in this project who have worked considerably behind the scene.

We also would like to appreciate all liaison persons and school heads this year for their enthusiasm and enormous support this year. This document could not have been developed without their constructive feedback and innovative ideas.

Finally, our gratitude goes to all people who will be helping us in running this competition in 2019, from donors, who will be sacrificing their wealth for this great cause¹⁹, to organisers and volunteers, who will be sacrificing their time for the Holy Quran.



¹⁹ Last year, we were very impressed with the generosity of our community and the fact that how much our community members are willing to pay for this great cause. Finally, we were able to raise \$13,462.

Attachments

The attachments can be found in the following link:

<http://islamicsyllabus.com/qurancomp/>

Attachment	File Name
Attachment 1	Quran Memorisation Competition Information Sheet
Attachment 2	Poster
Attachment 3	Joz 30 Quran Memorisation Handbook
Attachment 4	Random Selection Program for Memorisation Competition
Attachment 5	Preliminary Round Memorisation Marking Scheme
Attachment 6	Final Round Memorisation Marking Scheme