

Tips for Teachers

SCRAM is a wonderful journey into the art of communication and conflict resolution. It provides an appreciation for conflict as an opportunity for growth and change.

Success in mediation means allowing the student role-players to display emotional and behavioural reactions to conflict. The students learn to appreciate their own and other people's thoughts and feeling and to develop empathy. The adjudicators are high profile professionals predominantly from the legal profession and dispute resolution service providers. They deal with adults in conflict as part of their professional role. THE ADJUDICATORS ARE LOOKING FOR A GOOD AUTHENTIC PERFORMANCE FROM THE ROLE-PLAYERS THAT WILL CHALLENGE THE MEDIATORS AND PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM TO USE THEIR DEVELOPING MEDIATION SKILLS.

Some (not all) coaches are recruited straight from Mediation Practitioner Training and are using SCRAM as part of the supervised mediation experience toward their accreditation under the National Mediation Accreditation System. It is a shared learning journey. The professionals that volunteer are required to have a current WWC. However many do not work with youth or in schools in their professional lives. The teacher, therefore, is vital in maintaining the accepted school codes of behaviour and practices during the training sessions. Good communication between the teacher and coach is a key to success.

Tips to ensure the program is hassle free and fits the school.

- Familiarize yourself with the competition rules. It is the teacher's responsibility to:
 - Fulfill rules and procedures according to the Manual
 - Select participants & reserves for each round and have them prepared for coaching and adjudication sessions.
- A teacher MUST be in attendance at each coaching and adjudication sessions. Please clarify school visitor protocol and other relevant policy in the initial discussions.

- Liaise early with your coach to determine their flexibility and availability. Most coaches are working professionals but are prepared to make a regular commitment to the school. If possible develop a schedule of coaching days to fit the SCRAM program dates.
- Liaise with the coach about the school's aims and approach (whole class or select team) and the learning styles of the students.
- It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that students are organized and in attendance at arranged coaching sessions.
- It is recommended that a minimum of 2 coaching sessions are provided prior to round one.
- Please check with the coach what equipment they are expecting to be available.
- Download the SCRAM Model Coach and Student Handbook, and provide each student with a copy. You will need to download a copy of the SCRAM Program & Competition Rules. You will also need to refer to the Adjudicator's Assessment Handbook so you are familiar with the Adjudicator's assessment process.
- Ensure the students have a copy of the scenario at each coaching session and the adjudication. These can be downloaded from the website: <http://www.scram.business.ecu.edu.au/resources.htm>.
- Book Adjudicators early. The adjudicators are very busy professionals; they are often booked well into the future with client appointments. If possible you should be booking the adjudicator one round in advance. For example:
 - Round One should be booked as soon as you have been advised of your allocated adjudicator
 - Round Two should be booked between 29th Mar – 1 April
 - Round Three should be booked between 28th June – 2 July
 - Round Four should be booked between 23rd – 27th August
- The WADRA - SCRAM Sub-committee provide a Teachers' Mentor. The mentor for 2010 is Michelle Gore, a retired teacher who has participated in SCRAM for 8



years. She is familiar with the school environment and the issues from a teacher's perspective. She is your first point of contact if you need additional support or issues arise between the school and one of our volunteers. Email contact is michellegore@inet.net.au.

- The SCRAM Coordinator, Julia Carr, can assist with program issues. Email contact is j.carr@ecu.edu.au or phone 6304 5334 (Tuesday and Wednesday).
- In the event that a problem arises that is sensitive or serious, you should contact the SCRAM Convenor. Email contact is Max.Lewington@legalaid.wa.gov.au or phone 9261 6430.
- Feedback and suggestions for improvement are always welcome and assist with the continuous improvement of the program. Please email these to the SCRAM Coordinator.