



ITE Collegiate Traffic Bowl Program

Summary of Substantive Revisions to Competition Rules and Instructions for 2025

Background

Every year the ITE Collegiate Traffic Bowl Committee reviews the competition rules of the Traffic Bowl Program. The following is a summary of the substantive revisions to the competition rules and instructions for the 2025 tournaments to be conducted by ITE Sections and Districts and for the Grand Championship Traffic Bowl.

Student Teams and Participant Eligibility

No changes from 2024 in 2025.

Competition Category and Clue Resources

The 7th Edition of the Highway Capacity Manual has been added to the list of reference documents. The 7th Edition of the Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) was published in 2022. This change follows past practice to adopt new or revised reference documents after 2 or more years from being initially published.

Game Play

There is only one substantive change in game play for 2025. During the first round of play as clues are being read by the emcee, teams will no longer be prohibited from “buzzing in” before the clue has been completely read by emcee. However, interrupting the reading of the clue will not be without additional requirement for a team.

- After being recognized by the emcee, a response must be given immediately without conferring with other members of the team.
- If a correct response is not provided in the specified time, the value of the clue will be deducted from the team’s total score.

Here is the text shown in the 2025 Rules and Instructions, General Rules of Play, item 6c.

*After a clue is displayed, a team may signal in and interrupt the emcee’s reading. **However**, once recognized by the emcee, the team must provide an immediate response **without conferring**. Failure to respond correctly or within the allotted time will result in a deduction of the clue’s value from their score. The emcee will then re-read the clue for the remaining teams, who may interrupt under the same rules and penalties. If the emcee is interrupted a second time and no correct response is provided, the clue will not be re-read, and any of the remaining teams may answer.*

Note: This change would not apply to virtual game play.

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