A971-RTC-2026-001

OFFICIAL DOCUMENT

Official Rules, Terms and Conditions

Participation Agreement · Fight Regulations · Allocation of Responsibilities

2027 edition

VERSION
1.5

EFFECTIVE
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Arena971 Organizers · info@arena971.ae

Unitree is a third-party manufacturer. Arena971 is an independent challenge.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

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CONTACT	info@arena971.ae

APPLICATION AND BINDING PARTICIPATION TERMS

These Official Rules, Terms and Conditions (the “Terms”) govern applications, selection, training, competition, fight rules, Team and Organizer responsibilities, logistics, Training Phase safety, custody and mandatory return of the Robot, media, insurance, liability, and the division of responsibility between Teams and the Organizer.

Submitting a registration is an application to be considered for selection. Ticking the website checkbox confirms that the applicant has read these Terms. That checkbox is neither a signature nor a binding acceptance of these Terms. These Terms become binding only when a Selected Team’s Team Lead signs the acknowledgement (wet-ink or digital) at the time the Organizer requires. A Team Lead’s signature does not bind a university, company, or other organisation unless that organisation has authorised the application in writing.

The summary on the Arena971 website is for orientation only. If there is any difference between the website summary and this document, this document prevails. Schedules, selection letters, permitted-equipment lists, bout schedules, scoring sheet, and Unitree SDK or end-user terms form part of the agreement as described below.

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ARTICLE 1

Preamble and purpose

1.1 Arena971 is a research and sporting challenge in which applicants may register to compete in fully autonomous Unitree G1 robot battle. The Organizer's current working calendar is that interested Teams are collected from September to November 2026, five Teams are selected and published on the Arena971 website in December 2026, Robots, starter kits, and documentation are handed over during January 2027, a milestone review or project checkpoint (which may include a public demonstration) may be held in May 2027, and the battle takes place in October 2027. Those dates remain subject to confirmation under clause 1.3. Five (5) Teams will be selected to receive a fully functional Unitree G1, access to the Unitree SDK and usage guidelines, and training on how to repair the machine, with the object of engaging students, researchers, and engineers in the United Arab Emirates in robotic programming, and of crowning the first Arena971 winner. The contest is a mix of martial arts suited to the Robot's capabilities, not a boxing match. Robots must fight without real-time human control.

1.2 These Terms set out: (a) fight and competition rules; (b) eligibility and selection; (c) Organizer and Team responsibilities; (d) logistics, costs, and travel; (e) safety during the Training Phase and at Official Events; (f) custody, care, and mandatory return of the Robot; and (g) intellectual property, media, data, liability, and other legal terms.

1.3 The Challenge is not a boxing match. It is a judged mixed-martial-arts demonstration of fully autonomous, programmed humanoid combat, ring craft, reliability, and presentation. Dates, venue, bout timing, and certain operational details marked as to be confirmed remain placeholders until the Organizer publishes them. Those publications, once issued, form part of these Terms.

ARTICLE 2

Definitions

2.1 In these Terms, unless the context requires otherwise:

- "Challenge" means the Arena971 Unitree G1 robot battle programme, including registration, selection, the Training Phase, Official Events, and related media and administration.
- "Organizer" means the persons and entities staging Arena971, including their officers, contractors, and authorised officials.
- "Released Parties" means the Organizer, event partners and sponsors, Unitree and its affiliates (to the extent they supply robots, software, or documentation), venue owners and operators, referees, inspectors, volunteers, and each of their directors, officers, employees, and agents.
- "Team" means an applicant group registered under a team name, and, once selected, the Selected Team.
- "Team Lead" means the person named as team lead on the registration, or any replacement notified in writing and accepted by the Organizer.
- "Team Member" means any person who participates in, assists, or is presented as part of the Team, including advisors and mentors while acting in that capacity.
- "Selected Team" means one of the five Teams chosen by the Organizer to receive a Robot and compete.
- "Robot" means the Unitree G1 unit, and all batteries, chargers, cables, tools, cases, spare parts, credentials, documentation, and accessories entrusted to a Team, including replacements.
- "Training Phase" means all preparation, testing, and practice other than Official Events, wherever it occurs.
- "Official Event" means kickoff, inspections, milestone reviews, fight night, media calls, and any other gathering designated as official by the Organizer.
- "Bout" means a judged contest between Robots at an Official Event.
- "Autonomy" or "autonomous" means that, during a live round, the Robot's locomotion, targeting, striking, defence, recovery, and other competitive behaviour are produced solely by software and permitted equipment, without real-time human control, piloting, teleoperation, or other live intervention.
- "Venue" means the site of an Official Event, including pits, charging areas, arena, and spectator zones.

- “SDK” means Unitree’s software development kit, APIs, tools, keys, and related documentation.
- “Terms” means this document, numbered amendments, and the documents incorporated under Article 29.

ARTICLE 3

Binding effect and acceptance

3.1 Submitting a registration is an application to be considered for selection. It does not create a participation contract. Ticking the website checkbox confirms that the applicant has read these Terms; it is not a signature and is not binding acceptance. These Terms become binding only when the Team Lead of a Selected Team signs the acknowledgement (wet-ink or digital) at the time the Organizer requires, typically at selection acceptance or Robot handover.

3.2 By registering, the Team Lead warrants that they have read these Terms, that all registration information is true and complete, and that any organisation named on the application has granted written permission to use its name where such permission is required. Authority to bind every Team Member arises when the Selected Team’s Team Lead signs the acknowledgement. That signature does not bind any university, company, or other organisation unless that organisation has given written authority.

3.3 Every Team Member must be at least eighteen (18) Gregorian years of age, or must participate only with a parent or legal guardian who also accepts these Terms in writing. The Organizer may refuse or suspend participation until that confirmation is received.

3.4 The Organizer may publish numbered amendments on the Arena971 website or by email to the Team Lead. For Selected Teams that have signed the acknowledgement, continued participation after the stated effective time constitutes acceptance of the amendment. A Team that does not accept an amendment must withdraw and, if it has a Robot, return it immediately in accordance with Article 10.

ARTICLE 4

Nature of the relationship

4.1 Nothing in these Terms creates employment, partnership, joint venture, or agency. Teams are independent participants. Neither party may bind the other or hold itself out as doing so.

4.2 Selection, a Robot loan, SDK access, or appearance at an Official Event does not mean the Organizer, sponsors, or Unitree endorse the Team’s institution, products, or research claims.

4.3 The Robot is loaned for Challenge purposes only. Title does not pass to the Team. The championship belt, if awarded, is a prize and is separate from the Robot.

ARTICLE 5

Eligibility

5.1 Registration is open only to Teams whose Team Lead and Team Members are nationals or legal residents of the United Arab Emirates. Universities, research laboratories, companies, and independent Teams based in the UAE may apply. Applications from persons or Teams based outside the United Arab Emirates will not be accepted.

5.2 Recommended Team size is three to twelve (3–12) active members. Larger groups must designate a core competition squad.

5.3 All Team Members must be able to participate lawfully in the United Arab Emirates. Persons or entities subject to applicable sanctions, or who cannot pass reasonable identity or safety checks, are ineligible.

5.4 The Organizer may request passports or ID, proof of UAE nationality or residence, proof of affiliation, written permission to use an organisation’s name, insurance certificates, and other documents at any time. Refusal is grounds to reject, suspend, or disqualify.

5.5 Participants are subject to being called to in-person briefings, kickoff, workshops, face-offs, or demonstrations, on prior notice. Attendance of a minimum of three (3) persons is mandatory at each such event. The Organizer estimates a maximum of four (4) such events per edition.

5.6 A Team that wishes to compete under the name of a university, company, laboratory, or other organisation must obtain that organisation's prior written permission to use its name and, if applicable, its branding. The Organizer may request a copy of that permission. Absence of permission is grounds to require a name change, or to reject or disqualify the Team. Acceptance of these Terms by a student or other Team Lead does not, by itself, constitute the organisation's consent or bind that organisation.

ARTICLE 6

Application, selection, and registration

6.1 Five Teams will be selected from registered applicants to receive a Robot and a place in the competition. Selection is based on the Organizer's assessment of motivation, commitment to future editions, demonstrable programming ability, experience on similar projects, availability of a suitable space in which to carry out training, and potential to make the most of the Robot. Selection is discretionary. The Organizer need not give reasons and there is no appeal as of right.

6.2 False, misleading, or incomplete applications may be rejected or later treated as a material breach. The Organizer may revoke selection if facts later show the Team was ineligible or misrepresented.

6.3 Any entry fee will be published before the registration deadline. Unless so published, there is no fee. Fees, if any, are non-refundable except as required by mandatory law or as the Organizer agrees in writing.

6.4 Unselected applicants have no right to a Robot, SDK access, Official Event entry as a competitor, or compensation for application effort.

ARTICLE 7

Organizer responsibilities

7.1 Subject to supply, safety, and Force Majeure, the Organizer shall use reasonable efforts to:

- select five Teams and notify Team Leads;
- loan each Selected Team a functional Unitree G1 and standard accessories for the Challenge;
- arrange Unitree SDK access and usage guidelines;
- provide robot-repair training to Selected Teams;
- publish, as information becomes firm, the calendar, Venue, permitted-equipment schedule, bout schedule, and scoring sheet;
- appoint referees, inspectors, and other officials for Official Events;
- provide the competition arena and reasonable on-site safety infrastructure at Official Events; and
- communicate material changes to these Terms or to operational instructions.

7.2 Unless the Organizer expressly agrees in writing, the Organizer is not responsible for:

- Team travel, accommodation, meals, local transport, or per diems;
- Training Phase facilities, utilities, compute, tooling, or internet;
- day-to-day supervision of training or programming;
- 24/7 technical support, spare-parts logistics beyond what is stated at handover, or manufacturer warranty administration;
- personal injury, property damage, or third-party claims arising from the Training Phase;
- insurance of Team Members or of the Robot while in Team custody, except any Official Event cover the Organizer may choose to place for its own benefit;
- lost time, failed experiments, Robot downtime, or competitive outcome.

7.3 Officials' instructions on safety, schedule, and access at Official Events must be followed. Organizer rulings on safety are final.

ARTICLE 8

Team responsibilities

8.1 The Team shall comply with these Terms, Unitree usage guidelines and SDK licences, applicable law, and all Organizer instructions. The Team Lead is the Organizer's single point of contact and is responsible for cascading information to Team Members.

8.2 The Team shall:

- ensure every person who operates or works near the Robot is briefed on safety and e-stop procedure;
- keep the Robot secured against theft, unauthorised use, and weather;
- submit milestone reports, locomotion or safety demonstrations, and other materials reasonably requested;
- attend kickoff, inspections, Official Events, and the in-person sessions described in clause 5.5 with a competent squad of at least three (3) persons unless the Organizer agrees otherwise;
- notify the Organizer of any injury, near miss involving the public, or significant Robot damage within twenty-four (24) hours;
- cooperate with inspections and investigations;
- not use the Robot for hire, military or security operations, unauthorised public performances, or any unlawful purpose; and
- pay all of the Team's own costs.

8.3 Team Members are jointly and severally responsible with the Team Lead for return of the Robot, confidentiality, media licences already granted, and indemnity obligations. An organisation named on the registration is a party to these Terms only if it has authorised the application or the use of its name in writing, or has accepted the benefit of the Robot with knowledge of these Terms.

ARTICLE 9

Logistics, travel, and costs

9.1 Logistics are the Team's sole responsibility. This includes, without limitation, local transport, accommodation and meals, tooling and laboratory access, electricity, network, simulation and compute, personal protective equipment, medical needs, and any companion or spectator arrangements.

9.2 The Organizer does not reimburse those costs unless a separate written sponsor or support letter says otherwise. Failure to attend an Official Event is the Team's risk and may result in forfeiture of a Bout or of selection without compensation.

9.3 If the Organizer loans or delivers a Robot, the Team shall receive it at the place and time specified, provide a competent signatory, and complete the inventory in Schedule C (or equivalent handover form). Collection and return shipping instructed by the Organizer is at the Team's cost unless the Organizer elects to arrange transport.

9.4 Teams shall not take the Robot outside the United Arab Emirates without prior written consent. Consent may be withheld.

ARTICLE 10

Robot custody, care, and return

10.1 The Robot remains the property of the Organizer or of the supplying partner, as the case may be. Possession by the Team is a limited bailment for Challenge purposes. The Team is a responsible custodian, not an owner.

10.2 The Team shall return the Robot — complete, with all accessories, spare parts, batteries, credentials, and documentation, and with Organizer or Unitree accounts restored as instructed — on the earliest of:

- the return deadline stated at handover or in a later notice (and, if none is stated, within fourteen (14) days after the final Official Event of the edition);
- withdrawal, disqualification, or expulsion;

- written demand by the Organizer, including for safety, unpaid damage, or suspected breach.

10.3 Return shall be to the location the Organizer designates, at the Team's cost, in working order. Fair wear from diligent Training Phase use and damage sustained during an Official Event Bout in accordance with these Terms is excepted. Loss, theft, unexplained disappearance, negligent damage, water or fire damage, missing accessories, unauthorised structural modification, and damage from prohibited equipment are not excepted.

10.4 If the Robot is not returned on time, or is returned incomplete or outside the excepted condition, the Team shall pay, on demand, the Organizer's reasonable costs of recovery, repair, or replacement at then-current supplier list prices, plus shipping and a reasonable administration charge. The Organizer may withhold prizes or future eligibility until payment.

10.5 The Team shall not sell, lend, pledge, encumber, give as security, cannibalise, or abandon the Robot, or allow third parties to operate it except Team Members under the Team's control. Software accounts and SDK keys issued for the Challenge must be returned or revoked as instructed and must not be shared outside the Team.

10.6 The Organizer may require a letter of undertaking from an institution and/or insurance naming the Organizer (and, if required, the supplier) as loss payee before handover. Failure to provide them by the stated date may revoke selection.

10.7 Handover and return inspections may be photographed and inventoried. The Team Lead shall sign the inventory. Failure to note a defect on intake is evidence that the item was received in good condition.

ARTICLE 11

Hardware, software, and modifications

11.1 The primary competition platform is the Unitree G1 provided to each Selected Team. Teams shall train the Robot using reinforcement learning and the Unitree SDK development platform provided for the Challenge. The Robot must be capable of fully autonomous Bout performance as required by Article 14. The use of unauthorised software to program the Robot's embedded hardware is not permitted. Hands may be modified, and Teams may attempt other improvements, only if they remain within these Terms, the permitted-equipment schedule, and Unitree usage guidelines.

11.2 The following are prohibited on or in connection with the Robot:

- cutting or piercing edges, spikes, and sharpened contact surfaces;
- projectiles, explosives, pyrotechnics, and hazardous fluids or powders;
- structural changes that materially increase strike mass or create unsafe failure modes;
- lasers or light sources unsafe for eyes in the arena or pit;
- radio jamming, electromagnetic pulse, or attacks on another Team's network, radio, or software;
- disabling, bypassing, or failing to implement an Organizer-approved emergency stop;
- real-time teleoperation, remote piloting, joystick or similar live control, or any other real-time human control of a Robot during a Bout; and
- external sensing or offboard compute that is not listed on the official permitted-equipment schedule.

11.3 The Organizer and inspectors may require a modification to be removed before a Bout or before return of the Robot. Manufacturer warranties may be voided by modification; that risk sits with the Team. The Organizer supplies the Robot without warranty of merchantability, fitness, or uninterrupted operation, to the maximum extent permitted by law.

11.4 Teams that already own a G1 or other robots may say so on registration. Other platforms may be used for sparring and training. That does not entitle a Team to compete with a non-provided platform unless the Organizer issues a written exception. Competition is intended to be on the provided G1 class.

ARTICLE 12

Training Phase — safety and facilities

12.1 During the Training Phase the Team has exclusive operational control of how, where, and by whom the Robot is used, except when the Organizer is conducting an Official Event or an announced inspection. Safety in the Training Phase is the Team's duty.

12.2 The Team shall operate the Robot only in a suitable facility, meaning at least:

- enough clear space and a floor appropriate to falls and walking;
- physical exclusion of uninvolved persons from the strike and fall envelope;
- a designated emergency-stop operator whenever the Robot is powered in a mode that can walk or strike;
- a written safety procedure known to operators;
- personal protective equipment appropriate to the task;
- no operation by persons who are untrained, impaired, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs; and
- compliance with local health, safety, fire, and building rules.

12.3 Public demonstrations, school visits, and livestreams during the Training Phase remain fully subject to this Article. Spectators and visitors are the Team's responsibility. The Organizer is not the occupier of Training Phase sites and owes no occupier's or supervisory duty there.

12.4 The Organizer may inspect Training Phase arrangements on reasonable notice, or immediately if it reasonably suspects danger. The Organizer may suspend use of the Robot until it is satisfied. Suspension is not a breach by the Organizer and does not extend deadlines unless the Organizer says so.

ARTICLE 13

Official Events — safety

13.1 Pre-Bout technical inspection is mandatory. A Robot that fails inspection shall not compete until it passes. The Team shall present the Robot, batteries, e-stop, and any permitted external equipment as instructed.

13.2 All Robots must support an Organizer-approved emergency stop. Human handlers must remain outside the active Bout zone during competition unless an official directs otherwise for safety. They shall not operate the Robot during a live round except to use that e-stop or as an official directs.

13.3 A referee or safety official may pause or stop a Bout, practice, or pit activity at any time. Unsafe behaviour results in warnings, point deductions, disqualification, or expulsion. Safety rulings are not protestable.

13.4 Lithium batteries may be charged only in designated areas and never unattended in a manner prohibited by Venue rules. Teams shall follow marshalling, fire, and evacuation briefings. Unauthorised radio interference is forbidden.

ARTICLE 14

Bout and competition rules

14.1 Fight night is intended to feature the five Selected Teams. The tournament structure (round-robin, bracket, or otherwise), Bout order, and exact round timing will be published in the official bout schedule. Until then, Teams must plan on timed rounds with rest intervals and possible short repair windows between rounds.

14.2 Bouts are mixed-martial-arts contests between autonomously programmed Robots. Different fighting styles are permitted. The method of scoring is set out in the official scoring sheet. Assessment of scores is the Organizer's responsibility and is subjective. Officials will consider more than the combat itself, including the Robot's ability to locate its opponent, recover from falls, precision, presentation, and celebrations.

14.3 Bouts are fully autonomous. From the official start signal until the official end, pause, or stop of a live round, the Robot must compete without real-time human control and without other human intervention. Prohibited during a live round includes, without limitation: teleoperation; joystick, gamepad, pendant, or similar piloting; live command, waypoint, mode, or policy switching by a human; wireless or networked remote control of locomotion or combat behaviour; and any other real-time human-in-the-loop operation of the Robot. Programming, training, parameter setting, and strategy selection must be completed before the round starts. An approved emergency stop, and any action an official directs for safety, are permitted and are not a competitive intervention.

14.4 Bouts start and end on the official signal. During a live round, no Team Member may touch their Robot except to operate an approved e-stop or as an official directs. No Team Member may send control signals to their Robot during a live round except as this Article permits. Verbal coaching among Team Members is permitted only from the designated area and must not constitute real-time control of the Robot.

14.5 Knockdowns, immobilisations, ring exits, stalling, and inability to continue will be scored or ended according to the official scoring sheet and referee discretion. Intentional holding, unsportsmanlike software behaviour (including attacks on the opponent's communications), real-time human control of a Robot, and prohibited hardware are fouls.

14.6 The referee may pause for safety, arena faults, or technical faults.

14.7 Round duration and other Bout timing are official and are provided by the Organizer. Robots and Teams must respect those times.

14.8 English is the language of the Challenge. Internal and public communications must be in English at all times.

ARTICLE 15

Judging, scoring, and decisions

15.1 Decisions may be by points, technical-knockout criteria, or referee stoppage. The Organizer may use one or more judges. The winner of the 2027 edition is the Team determined by those procedures, and may be awarded the championship belt.

15.2 Sporting protests are accepted. They must be filed in writing by the Team Lead, stating the precise rule invoked. Protests will not be heard, analysed, or determined on the day of the Official Event. The Organizer will consider them afterwards, in the days following the event. Decisions taken by the Organizer and officials on the day of the Official Event stand for that event and may not be questioned, stayed, or reopened during the event. Safety stoppages and field-of-play facts found by the referee are final.

15.3 There is no damages claim, injunction, or appeal in any court or federation against a sporting result, except the protest process in this Article. This does not limit claims that cannot be excluded under applicable law.

ARTICLE 16

Code of conduct

16.1 Teams shall treat opponents, officials, staff, spectators, sponsors, and other Teams with respect. Harassment, discrimination, intimidation, and bribery are prohibited.

16.2 Cheating, sabotage, theft, unauthorised access to another Team's systems or pit, spreading malware, real-time human control of a Robot during a Bout, and unsafe intentional acts result in expulsion and Robot recall, without limiting other remedies.

16.3 Research integrity applies to technical reports, leaderboards, and media claims. Teams shall not make false statements about results, safety, or affiliation. Public comments shall not defame Released Parties or disclose Confidential Information.

16.4 At Official Events, Teams shall respect UAE public-order rules and Venue policies, including photography restrictions and sponsor-board instructions.

ARTICLE 17

Intellectual property

17.1 Subject to this Article and to Unitree or other third-party licences, each Team retains intellectual property in original software, training methods, and datasets it creates for the Challenge.

17.2 The Robot, SDK, firmware, trademarks, and documentation of Unitree or other suppliers remain theirs. Arena971 names, marks, and materials remain the Organizer's. No licence is granted except as needed to participate.

17.3 The Team grants the Organizer a worldwide, royalty-free, non-exclusive, sublicensable licence to use the Team name, Team logos, likenesses of consenting Team Members, Bout footage, photographs, and reasonably necessary demonstrations of the Team's software or Robot behaviour, in any media, to stage, promote, document, and archive the Challenge (including future editions). This licence does not include, and the Organizer shall not use, the name, logo, or other branding of a university, company, laboratory, or other organisation as if licensed to the Organizer. The Organizer may identify the Team by its Team name and may, where accurate, mention the organisation the Team represents. This licence does not allow the Organizer to sell the Team's source code as a product.

17.4 The Team warrants that its software and materials will not infringe third-party rights and will not contain malware. Open-source components must be used in accordance with their licences.

ARTICLE 18

Confidentiality and security

18.1 SDK keys, unpublished schedules, security arrangements, other Teams' unpublished technical information obtained in pits or private channels, and any information marked confidential are Confidential Information.

18.2 The Team shall use Confidential Information only for the Challenge, disclose it only to Team Members who need it, and protect it with reasonable care. Reverse engineering of the SDK beyond what the licence allows is forbidden.

18.3 Confidentiality does not apply to information that is public other than by breach, independently developed, or required to be disclosed by law (with prior notice to the Organizer if legally permitted).

ARTICLE 19

Media, publicity, and image rights

19.1 The Organizer may photograph, record, and livestream Official Events and may use that material indefinitely for the Challenge, partners, and bona fide news. Team Members attending Official Events consent to that use. A Team Member who does not consent must not enter recorded areas and must notify the Organizer in advance; the Organizer may then exclude them from those areas.

19.2 Teams may record their own Training Phase work, subject to safety, third-party rights, and confidentiality. They shall not film restricted Official Event areas or other Teams' pits without consent.

ARTICLE 20

Insurance (To be Confirmed)

This Article is to be confirmed. Whether Teams must obtain insurance, and on what terms, has not yet been decided. The clauses below are a working draft only.

20.1 Each Selected Team shall, at its own cost, maintain insurance reasonably adequate for: (a) public liability arising from the Training Phase; (b) travel and personal accident for Team Members attending Official Events; and (c) all-risks cover for the Robot while in the Team's custody, on terms the Organizer may reasonably specify.

20.2 Certificates shall be produced before Robot handover and before Official Events if requested. The Organizer may place its own event insurance; any such policy is for the Organizer's benefit and does not cover Training Phase operations or Team travel unless stated in writing.

20.3 Failure to insure does not transfer risk to any Released Party. Absence of insurance is not a defence to Article 10 or Article 21.

ARTICLE 21

Assumption of risk, liability, and indemnity

21.1 Combat robotics is inherently dangerous. It can cause property damage, serious injury, or death, including during programming, testing, transport, charging, falls, and Bouts. Each Team Member knowingly and voluntarily assumes all risk of participation and of the Training Phase, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law.

21.2 To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, the Released Parties shall not be liable to the Team or any Team Member for indirect, incidental, special, consequential, or punitive damages; lost profits, grants, or opportunity; lost or corrupted data; Robot downtime; or competitive outcome, whether in contract, tort (including negligence), or otherwise.

21.3 To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, the Team and Team Lead shall indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties against claims, damages, losses, and reasonable legal costs arising out of: (a) the Training Phase or Team logistics; (b) the Team's modifications, software, or negligence; (c) injury or damage caused by the Robot while in Team custody; (d) breach of these Terms; (e) infringement of third-party rights by the Team; and (f) claims by Team Members against Released Parties, except to the extent caused by the indemnified party's fraud or by liability that cannot be excluded.

21.4 Nothing in these Terms excludes or limits liability for fraud, or any liability that cannot be excluded or limited under the laws of the United Arab Emirates. If any liability of the Organizer to a Team remains, it is limited in aggregate to the greater of (a) the amounts actually paid by that Team to the Organizer for the relevant edition of the Challenge and (b) five thousand United Arab Emirates dirhams (AED 5,000).

21.5 The Team waives, to the maximum extent permitted by law, claims against Released Parties arising from inherent sporting risk, another Team's Robot during a Bout conducted under these rules, or decisions of referees and inspectors made in good faith.

ARTICLE 22

Personal data

22.1 The Organizer processes personal data of Team Leads and Team Members to administer registration, selection, safety, logistics of Official Events, insurance verification, media, and communications. Processing is for the performance of these Terms, the Organizer's legitimate interests in staging the Challenge, and compliance with law, and where required, consent.

22.2 The Team Lead warrants they have permission from Team Members (and guardians of minors) to provide their data. Data may be hosted on systems outside the UAE (including email and website providers). Requests relating to personal data may be sent to the Organizer email in the document control panel.

ARTICLE 23

Compliance with law

23.1 Teams shall comply with all applicable laws, including UAE federal and emirate law, Venue rules, radio and cybercrime rules, and employment or volunteer rules of their own institutions.

23.2 The Team warrants that participation is lawful, and that no Team Member is a prohibited party under applicable sanctions. The Organizer may withdraw a Robot or cancel selection if continued participation would, in its reasonable view, breach law or supplier terms.

ARTICLE 24

Sanctions, disqualification, and withdrawal

24.1 Without limiting other rights, the Organizer may issue warnings, deduct points, suspend use of a Robot, disqualify a Bout or a Team, expel a person or Team from the Challenge, recover costs, and demand immediate return of the Robot.

24.2 A Team may withdraw by written notice from the Team Lead. Withdrawal does not entitle the Team to costs, a replacement slot, or retention of the Robot. The Robot must be returned immediately under Article 10.

24.3 If the Organizer cancels the edition, Selected Teams shall return Robots as instructed. The Organizer has no obligation to compensate for sunk training costs, except as mandatory law requires or as the Organizer may decide ex gratia.

24.4 Expiry, withdrawal, or disqualification does not end Articles 10, 17 to 22, 24, 28, and 29, nor media licences for material already captured, nor confidentiality.

ARTICLE 25

Prizes and recognition

25.1 The intended sporting prize is the title of winner of the 2027 edition and the championship belt, as determined under Article 15. No cash prize is offered unless the Organizer announces one in writing. Taxes, duties, and institutional overheads on any prize are the winner's responsibility.

25.2 The Organizer may withhold delivery of a prize while Robot return, damage invoices, or conduct investigations are outstanding.

ARTICLE 26

Force majeure and changes to the Challenge

26.1 Force Majeure includes events beyond a party's reasonable control, including epidemic, government order, Venue unavailability, failure of a supplier to deliver Robots or parts, transport closure, war, terrorism, utilities failure, fire, and extreme weather.

26.2 The Organizer may postpone, relocate, reformat, or cancel Official Events or the edition, and may change round timing or tournament structure for safety or production reasons. Dates and venues marked to be confirmed are placeholders. Such changes are not a breach.

26.3 Safety-driven instructions take effect immediately on notice, including oral notice at an Official Event.

ARTICLE 27

Notices and communication

27.1 Publication on the Arena971 website, or email to the Team Lead's registered address, is sufficient notice. The Team Lead shall keep that address current. Oral instructions at Official Events bind for safety and schedule.

27.2 Notices to the Organizer shall be sent to the email in the document control panel. Formal legal notices should also request a read confirmation.

ARTICLE 28

Governing law and dispute resolution

28.1 These Terms are governed by the laws of the United Arab Emirates, without regard to conflict-of-law rules.

28.2 The parties shall first attempt in good faith to resolve a dispute for twenty-one (21) days after written notice. Thereafter, the competent courts of the United Arab Emirates have exclusive jurisdiction, preferably those of the emirate in which the relevant Official Event is held or, if none has been held, of the emirate reasonably designated by the Organizer.

28.3 Notwithstanding clause 28.2, the Organizer may seek urgent delivery-up, injunction, or similar relief in any court of competent jurisdiction to recover the Robot or to stop a safety or confidentiality breach.

28.4 These Terms are issued in English. If an official Arabic version is later published by the Organizer, it is a courtesy unless the Organizer states that it is equally authentic. If versions conflict, the English version prevails, except where UAE law requires otherwise.

ARTICLE 29

General provisions

29.1 These Terms, together with any selection or handover letter, the signed acknowledgement of a Selected Team, the permitted-equipment schedule, the bout schedule and scoring sheet, Unitree SDK and end-user terms, and numbered amendments, are the entire agreement for participation by Selected Teams. The registration form is an application record only. These Terms supersede prior website summaries and informal comments.

29.2 If a provision is held unenforceable, it shall be modified to the minimum extent needed to make it enforceable, or severed, and the rest remains in force. A failure to enforce is not a waiver. Waivers must be in writing.

29.3 The Team may not assign these Terms without the Organizer's written consent. The Organizer may assign to an affiliate or successor stager of Arena971. Released Parties may rely on Articles 19 and 21 as third-party beneficiaries to the extent permitted by law.

29.4 A wet-ink or digital signature by a Selected Team's Team Lead on the acknowledgement is valid and forms the binding instrument. The website registration checkbox is confirmation of reading only and is not a counterpart of that instrument. Unitree's licences control Unitree intellectual property and SDK use; these Terms control Challenge participation, Robot custody as between Team and Organizer, and sporting rules. The stricter safety rule applies if both address the same hazard.

ARTICLE 30

Acknowledgement

30.1 By signing the acknowledgement, the Team Lead of a Selected Team acknowledges that they have read and understood this document; have authority to bind the Team; accept that logistics and Training Phase safety are the Team's responsibility; accept that the Robot must be returned; assume the inherent risks of combat robotics; and accept the liability, indemnity, media, and governing-law provisions.

Written acknowledgement for Selected Teams (to be signed when the Organizer requires, typically at selection acceptance or Robot handover):

SCHEDULE A

Schedule A — Prohibited equipment and conduct (summary)

This Schedule summarises prohibitions. The body of the Terms prevails if more specific.

- Blades, spikes, projectiles, explosives, pyrotechnics, hazardous fluids.
- Strike-mass or sharp-surface structural modifications.
- Disabling e-stop or manufacturer safety systems.
- Unlisted external sensing or offboard compute.
- Real-time teleoperation, remote piloting, joystick or similar live control, or other human intervention during a Bout (except an approved e-stop or an official's safety direction).
- Jamming, EMP, or cyber attack on another Team or Official Event systems.
- Public Training Phase operation without exclusion zones and an e-stop operator.
- Removal of the Robot from the United Arab Emirates without written consent.
- Sale, pledge, or third-party hire of the Robot.

SCHEDULE B

Schedule B — Operational calendar (working calendar)

The following remain to be confirmed by the Organizer and, once published, form part of these Terms. The Organizer's current working calendar is:

- Open call for interested Teams: September to November 2026.
- Five Selected Teams chosen and published on the Arena971 website: December 2026.
- Robot delivery, starter kits, documentation, and handover: January 2027.
- Milestone review / project checkpoint, which may include a public demonstration: May 2027.
- Battle / fight night, prize ceremony, and proclamation of the 2027 champion: October 2027, city and Venue to be confirmed.
- Round duration, rest intervals, and tournament structure.
- Protest filing: in writing by the Team Lead; not heard on the day of the Official Event; considered afterwards (see clause 15.2).
- Robot return deadline and return address, if different from Article 10.

SCHEDULE C

Schedule C — Robot handover inventory (to be completed on delivery)

To be attached or completed as a separate form at handover. Minimum fields:

- Team name and Team Lead.
- Robot serial / asset number.
- List of batteries, chargers, cables, cases, spares, and documentation.
- Visible condition and any noted defects.
- Insurance certificate received (yes/no, reference) — To be Confirmed.
- Agreed territory of use and return deadline.
- Signatures and date (Organizer representative and Team Lead).

Acknowledgement of Selected Team

Complete at Robot handover. Website registration remains binding if this block is blank.

TEAM NAME

TEAM LEAD NAME

ORGANISATION

DATE

SIGNATURE OF TEAM LEAD