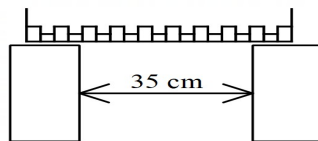


Queensland Bridge Competition 2026

Rules and Conditions

Rules

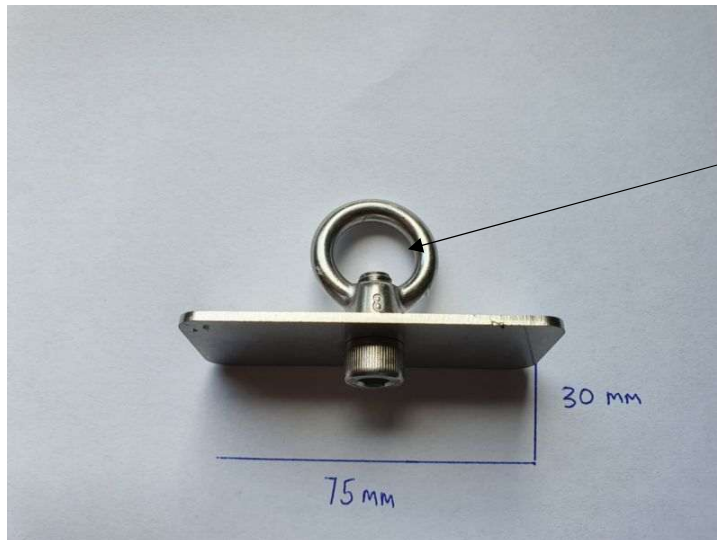
1. The competition is open to school students from Years 5 to 12. Teams consist of up to four students. Only one entry (bridge) per team is permitted. Schools can enter any number of teams.
2. The bridge must be constructed using commercially available spaghetti. Tubular spaghetti, also known as bucatini, is not permitted. Spaghetti is a cylindrical form of pasta with a diameter not greater than 3mm, made from semolina or flour and water. The size of spaghetti is commonly denoted as “No. 4”.
3. The bridge can be constructed using one or a combination of the following glues: PVA/white glue, hot glue, gorilla glue or superglue (cyanoacrylate). Glue should be used to join the spaghetti only; **glue or any other adhesive cannot be used to coat strands of spaghetti**. Two-pack (epoxy) glue or construction-grade glue (eg liquid nails) are **not** permitted.
4. The bridge must include the supplied loading hook as close to the midpoint of the bridge as possible or have a hole where the load hook can be inserted. The loading hook will be posted to the school coordinator after registration. The loading hook does not have to be secured to the bridge but needs to be easily inserted for weighing and testing.
5. The eye of the loading hook (the part to be connected to the testing rig) must be accessible and hang below the deck.
6. **The bridge must have a deck that is a minimum of 3 cm wide** and must be horizontal.
7. The test rig has a 35 cm wide gap, that the bridge must sit over. The bridge can be no longer than 45 cm. The bridge can sit lower than the top of the rig, but testing will be deemed to be completed once the bridge touches any part of the vertical section of the rig.



8. The total mass of the bridge including spaghetti, glue **and** loading hook must not exceed **300 grams**. If the bridge (and load hook) does exceed 300 g, it will be tested but will be deemed ineligible to win a prize.
9. Testing will occur in different locations in Queensland – exact locations and times will be detailed on the competition web page - <https://www.telg.com.au/gldcompetition/>
10. Teams do not have to accompany their bridge to the testing day. If a team cannot attend a testing day, they are to organise with TELG to post or courier the bridge at least 3 days before the nominated testing day. It is the team's responsibility to ensure the bridge is packaged securely. TELG will take all care to safeguard the bridge once it has been received but takes no responsibility if the bridge is damaged in transit or during the testing phase. Photos will be taken of the opening of the packaging when received.

Terms and Conditions

1. Each bridge will be weighed and inspected prior to and after strength testing (where possible). If the bridge exceeds the weight limit or consists of materials not listed in points 2 and 3 in the "Rules", it will be disqualified.
 2. The bridge will not be interfered with while undergoing the strength test.
 3. The bridge will be tested to destruction.
 4. The bridges will be ranked according to the size of the peak load carried during the strength test. In the event of a tie the lighter bridge will be ranked higher.
 5. The prize money will be awarded to the school nominated on the school registration form. The school will determine how the prize is distributed.
 6. If an individual student enters the competition, separate to their school, any prize won will be awarded to their nominated parent/guardian.
5. Prizes:
- First Place - Largest Peak Load (across all testing locations) - \$700
 - Second Place (across all testing locations) - \$400
 - Third Place (across all testing locations) - \$300
 - Local winner - \$100 each¹ - up to 6 prizes awarded
6. By entering the competition each school and/or team agrees to participate in promotional activities. Media release forms will be e-mailed to all participating teams, through the school coordinator prior to the testing day.
 7. The judges' decision is final. The judges have the right to disqualify any bridge that, in their opinion, is in violation of the specifics or spirit of the competition rules. The judges have the right to accept any bridge that in their opinion is in the spirit of the competition rules.



The eye must be on the **underside** of the bridge, as the rig will pull **down** on the bridge.

The load hook weighs approximately 67g.

¹ The highest placed team not finishing in first, second, third in each testing location will be awarded this prize. More than one school must participate in the testing at the location for this prize to be awarded. If the location has only one school entered, then the prize will be \$100.