Girls Hack IT Competition Scoring Criteria

Technical Design		
Middle School	**High School**	**Scoring Criteria**
✔	✔	**Code Will Be Easy to Understand** • The code will be **well-organized**, with similar blocks grouped together logically. • If a block of code is used more than once, it will be made into a **procedure** (a custom block that saves time and keeps code neat). • If a section might be **confusing**, the team will add **comments** to explain what it does.

✔	✔	**Code Will Use a Variety of Features**
		
		The app will include **at least five or more** of the following coding tools, and they will **all work correctly**:
		
		• **If / Then** – runs something only when a condition is true.
		• **If / Then / Else** – does one thing if the condition is true, something else if it's false.
		• **And / Or / Not** – combines or reverses logic rules.
		• **Math functions** – for adding, subtracting, comparing, or calculating values.
		• **Lists** – stores multiple pieces of information (like names, scores, tasks).
		• **Event triggers** – the app responds when something happens, like:
		    ○ When a button is clicked
		    ○ When the screen opens
		    ○ When a value changes
		• **Notifiers** – pop-up messages that show tips, errors, or updates.

✔	✔	**Code Will Have Good Naming** • Variables and screen elements (like buttons or labels) will have names that show what they do. • The names will follow a clear and consistent pattern. • The team won't use default names like "**Label1**" or "**Variable1**." Instead, they will use names that make sense.
✔	✔	**Code Will Have Helpful Comments** • The team will add **comments** to explain parts of the code that might be confusing or hard to understand. • These comments will help other people (like judges or teammates) understand what the code is doing and **why** it's there. • There will be **at least five helpful comments** throughout the code.

Middle School	High School	Scoring Criteria
✔	✔	**Global Variables Will Be Well Made** • All **global variables** will be created **at the start** of the program (in the "initialize" section). • Their **names will be clear**, easy to understand, and will match what they are used for.
✔	✔	**App Will Include Helpful Error Messages** • The app will show **error messages** when something goes wrong. • These messages will help the user understand **what happened** and **how to fix it**.
✔	✔	**The App's Purpose Will Be Clear** • The app will have a **clear purpose** that is easy to understand. • Users will know what the app is for **just by using it** — either from **simple instructions** or **intuitive navigation**.

General Features Checklist

Middle School	High School	Scoring Criteria
✔	✔	**The App's Identity Will Be Clear to Users** • The app will have a **title** that shows what the app does. • The app will also have an **icon** that matches the theme or purpose of the app.
✔	✔	**The Login Screen Will Work as Intended** • The app will only allow users to log in using a **unique username and password**. • Users will not be able to log in unless their information is already saved in the system.
	✔	**Login Info Will Be Stored in the Cloud (Not Global Variables)** • The app will save **usernames and passwords in CloudDB** (or another cloud database). • This way, **multiple users** can use the app from different devices and keep their data.
✔	✔	**The App Will Have a Navigation Menu and Work Well** • There will be a **menu or buttons** that help users move from screen to screen. • The navigation will work properly on **all screens**.

Middle School	High School	Scoring Criteria
✔		**The App Will Have At Least 3 Screens That Are Relevant** • The app will include **at least three screens**, and one of them will be a **login screen**. • All screens will be **important to the purpose** of the app (no random or extra screens). **(Note: Notifications or pop-up alerts do not count as a screen.)**
	✔	**The App Will Have At Least 4 Screens That Are Relevant** • The app will include **at least four screens**, and one of them will be a **login screen**. • All screens will be **important to the purpose** of the app (no random or extra screens). **(Note: Notifications or pop-up alerts do not count as a screen.)**
✔	✔	**The App Will Have Correct Spelling and Grammar** • All text in the app will be **free from spelling and grammar mistakes**. • **Buttons, instructions, labels, and messages** will be clear and correct.

App User Interface UI		
Middle School	**High School**	**Scoring Criteria**
✔	✔	**The Layout of The User Interface (UI) Components Will Match the Purpose of Each Scree** • The layout on each screen will be designed to **fit what that screen is supposed to do**. • UI components like **buttons**, **text boxes**, **images**, **labels**, and **menus** will be placed in a way that's **easy to understand and use**. • Every UI component will have a **clear job** and will help users do something important in the app.
✔	✔	**UI Layout Will Be Logical and Consistent** • The app layout will have a **balanced mix of space, text, and graphics**. • UI elements (like buttons, images, text boxes) will be placed in a way that **makes sense and looks clean**. • Every screen will follow the same **style and organization**, so the app feels smooth and not random.

Middle School	High School	Scoring Criteria
✔	✔	**Colors, Fonts, and Sizes Will Match Across Screens** • The app will use **matching colors, font styles, and font sizes** across all screens. • Text will be **easy to read**, and there will be **good contrast** between text and background. • The app will not use **default backgrounds** (like plain gray) — colors will be **chosen to match the app's theme**.
✔	✔	**Graphics Will Be Relevant and Attractive** • All images or icons will support the app's purpose and won't just be decorative. • Graphics will be **visually appealing**, **memorable**, and **custom-made or carefully chosen**. • They will improve the app instead of distracting from it.
✔	✔	**The App Will Be Easy to Use Without Help** • The app will be easy to use with **no outside help**. • Screens will connect in a **logical order**, and users will always know where they are and what to do. • Users will not feel lost or confused while using the app.
✔	✔	**The App Will Be Visually Pleasing and Well Designed** • The app will look **better than expected**—clean, organized, and fun or professional depending on the goal. • Users will enjoy using it and feel like it was **carefully designed** just for them.

Cumulative Tracker

Middle School	High School	Scoring Criteria

	✔	**The App Will Include a Cumulative Tracker That Works Properly**
		
		• The app will have a **scoreboard, ranking list, progress tracker, achievement board, or status board**.
		• The tracker will:
		    ○ **Show scores or progress clearly**.
		    ○ **Update correctly** when something changes (like a score or level).
		    ○ **Save the score or progress** even after the user logs out and logs back in again.
		• Judges will test the app by:
		    ○ Getting a score/ranking/progress/achievement/status etc.
		    ○ Logging out.
		    ○ Logging back in to check that your score was saved.

Overall Originality and Creativity of the App.		
Middle School	**High School**	**Scoring Criteria**
✔	✔	**The App Will Follow the Theme: "Tech for Good"** • The app will have a clear **purpose** that connects to **helping others, solving problems**, or **improving life** at home, school, or in the community. • It will **make a positive impact** using technology in a meaningful way.
✔	✔	**The App Will Leave a Strong Overall Impression** • The app will be **easy to use**, with no confusion, bugs, or unnecessary steps. • It will feel **complete and polished**, not rushed or unfinished. • Reviewers will feel like the app is **designed for real users** and is something they'd actually want to use.
✔	✔	**The App Will Be Original and Creative** • The app will show a **clever idea or unique approach**. • It won't just copy popular apps — it will stand out with **new features or cool designs**. • The creativity will make it **fun, exciting**, or **thought-provoking**.
✔	✔	**The App Will Have Correct Spelling and Grammar** • All text in the app will be **free from spelling and grammar mistakes**. • **Buttons, instructions, labels, and messages** will be clear and correct.