

MY-HACK2026 Judging Rubric

Judge Name:

Category: High School / College

Team Name:

Table #:

Criteria	Score Guide	Guiding Questions	Final Score
Working Demonstration	• No Credit (0 pts): Nothing functions live — the team can only describe what it would do. • Developing (10 pts): Some features work live, but major pieces are missing, broken, or skipped over. • Effective (20 pts): Most core features function and are shown clearly during the demo. • Excellent (30 pts): Fully functional live demo — main features work and are shown clearly, nothing critical faked or skipped.	• Does it work live, not just described? • Are the main features shown clearly?	
Innovation	• No Credit (0 pts): Existing solution, no meaningful changes. • Developing (10 pts): Small twist on an established approach. • Effective (20 pts): Genuinely new angle or fresh combination of ideas. • Excellent (30 pts): Stands out as original.	• What's genuinely new here? • Is this a fresh angle, or basically an existing solution?	
Impact & Relevance	• No Credit (0 pts): No clear connection to a real community need. • Developing (9 pts): Vague or small-scale benefit. • Effective (17 pts): Clearly helps a specific group. • Excellent (25 pts): Clear, substantial benefit to a specific community.	• Who specifically benefits, and how would they use it? • Is the benefit clearly explained, or vague?	
Pitch Clarity	• No Credit (0 pts): Unclear problem or solution. • Developing (5 pts): Hard to follow. • Effective (10 pts): Defines problem, solution, users, and technical details but lacks clarity. • Excellent (15 pts): Clearly explains problem, solution, users, and technical details.	• Could you explain this project to someone else after the pitch? • Was the target user and business model clear without slides?	
Optional – AI Usage	• No Credit (0 pts): No real value added. • Developing (2 pts): Feels tacked on. • Effective (4 pts): Adds genuine value. • Excellent (5 pts): Central to why the project works.	• Does the AI meaningfully improve the experience? • Or does it feel added just to check a box?	

TOTAL SCORE: _____

Notes/Feedback: