

MADMUN XV

The Hunger Games Council

Chairs: Reid Landay and Vivienne Metcalf

Sims: Olivya Lang and Andrew Barger



Letter from the Staff

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to this year's MADMUN, and to the Hunger Games Committee! We as the chairs are excited to see you all in Monona this November, and for the lively debate. In this committee, you will be exploring the themes of power and retribution as they apply to the state of Panem, which lies in suspense after the rebellion disintegrated the authoritarian rule that held Panem captive for decades. As a delegate, you will embody the spirit of your character. No character chosen for a position has a neutral stance on any of the topics you grapple with in this committee, as those issues are deeply important to the future of not only their livelihood but the livelihood of all of Panem. Your main duty as a delegate is to simply try. Participation is essential to the function of this committee, but experience is not. We encourage newcomers to strive to involve themselves in the flow of the committee and come in prepared to discuss the topics we have presented to you in this guide.

The objective of this committee is not to amplify the voice of your character above all else but to reach a conclusion. MUN promotes teamwork and compromise to reach solutions that improve our world. We hope to instill this value into our committee and encourage delegates to seek to overcome their differences and come together to create a solution that is effective for all. It is our hope that all delegates come to the committee with not only knowledge but an open mind.

Your main duty as a delegate is to simply try. Participation is essential to the function of this committee, experience is not. We encourage newcomers to strive to involve themselves in the flow of the committee, and come in prepared to discuss the topics we have presented to you in this guide. The objective of this committee is not to amplify the voice of your character above all else, but to reach a conclusion. Unlike traditional debate, MUN promotes teamwork and compromise to foster peace and a solution that is applicable to a broad spectrum of people. We hope to instill this value into our committee and encourage delegates to seek to overcome their differences and come together to create a solution that is effective for all. It is our hope that all delegates come to committee with not only knowledge, but an open mind.

This committee should be an interesting one, and hopefully, a fun one; with everyone getting as immersed in the simulation as possible. Due to the nature of the committee we invite you to *moderately* push the bounds of western business attire and get into character as much as you wish, this is by no means required or necessarily suggested, but feel free to have fun with conferences in this way. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the chairs. We look forward to meeting you all and may the odds be ever in your favor.

Sincerely,

Your Crisis Staff

Committee Overview

In a time hundreds of years after ours, the world is wrought by ecological disasters caused by climate change. Drought, storms, and rising sea levels led to severe resource shortages and then a massive global war which caused the near extinction of the human population. Panem was established in what would have been America and presented as the saving grace of humanity.

In Panem, there are 13 districts. Each district specializes in a resource that is then sent to the Capital, the center of society. In total, there is an estimated population in Panem of about 22 million. Over time, tension grew as Panem's leadership became more and more authoritarian. Not only was there a police presence called "Peace Keepers" sent out to the districts, but this force heavily used corporal punishment and execution to keep the districts in line. A rebellion was started throughout the districts in response by District 13, the district with the most weapon access. While warfare in the districts utilized guerilla tactics, there was mass destruction from the technology of the Capital and 13 combined.

A year into the rebellion, a siege was laid on the capital, leading to starvation, cannibalism, and death. When the siege broke, the Capital managed to bomb a large portion of the rebels and take back power. District 13 strategically retreated from their allies and prepared to nuke the capital, however, to ensure there was no Mutually Assured Destruction, the Capital made a secret deal with 13. This deal stated that 13 could live on, as long as they allowed the Capital to claim decimation. With that, the residents of District 13 moved underground and the Capital bombed the surface until 13 was wiped from public memory. As a treaty was signed, the Hunger Games were put in place to pit the districts against each other and remind the populace that the government ultimately controlled the people: Resistance was futile.

When the series starts, the 74th Hunger Games is about to take place. After Katniss volunteers as female tribute for District 12, her presence in the games is full of anger and rebellion, culminating in her and her partner from District 12, Peeta, deciding to poison themselves instead of letting the Capital have a winner. Because this act of rebellion insinuates that the capital lacks control, they decide to instead name both Katniss and Peeta victors. While this move was intended to keep control, the duo's victory started growing unrest throughout the districts, and Peacekeeper presence was increased.

Surprising everyone, the 75th games do not go as planned as growing tension comes to a head. Several tributes band together to both protect Katniss and Peeta, symbols of the revolution, and break the force field around the arena, staging an escape. Katniss, Beetee, and Finnick are extracted from the arena by rebels while Peeta, Johanna, and Enobaria are taken by the Capitol. In retribution, the Capital destroys District 12 in a similar way to how they supposedly destroyed District 13, marking the start of The Second Rebellion.

Tributes on both sides of the conflict are used in propaganda films, however, Peeta proceeds to use these films as an opportunity to warn District 13 of an incoming attack by the Capital, saving everyone there. A month later, District 8 is destroyed by Capital bombs. Much more violence ensues before the end of the war, but the Rebellion comes out on top. Our committee starts at this point, deciding both the immediate and long term futures of Panem. Between tributes and citizens of both the Capital and District 13, there are many opposing viewpoints. May the odds be ever in your favor.

Disclaimer

This committee will take place after the events of the second revolution but before the assassinations of Alma Coin and Coriolanus Snow. Knowledge of the main trilogy (via books and/or movies) is recommended. Other helpful resources we recommend you utilize are SparkNotes and the Hunger Games fandom Wiki. While some characters might not have their actions or personalities during the trilogy fully explored, we hope that you use creative liberty to fully flesh out what may be missing and create intriguing position papers. Feel free to email your chairs/sims with any questions. Additionally, we would like to remind everyone that while this is a simulation, and fun can (and will) be had, we will not tolerate any racism, sexism, homophobia, or any related 'isms' and 'phobias' please be respectful to everyone because it's much less fun for us to have to reprimand delegates for said behavior.

We believe in creative freedoms but there will be no explicit murdering of anyone or doing anything that is illegal in the real world.

Topic A - Weighing the Benefits of a Hunger Games with the Children of the Capitol

Background

Towards the end of The Second Rebellion, the Rebels attacked and took District 2, the military district filled with Capital loyalists, for their own. This significantly weakened the Capitol, and the Rebels proceeded to invade. There proceeded to be a massive urban battle between Rebels and Peacekeepers. During this battle, President Snow took the children of the Capitol and surrounded his mansion with them as a last means of protection.

As the battle progressed to the center of the city, Capitol planes suddenly came and bombed the children. In the shock, a ceasefire was called to rescue survivors. As medics rushed in however a second wave of bombs was dropped. The Capitol and its citizens, now not only weakened but believing the children were killed by their own government, surrendered. As the Rebels began to take power, it was then revealed that they were the ones who bombed the children and they were now the center of Panem's government.

Current Situation

Now that the dust has settled from the second revolution, the new regime has captured hundreds of political prisoners, including President Snow. While the traditional approach would be to publicly execute these prisoners, showing our newfound power as well as ushering in a new age of leadership; there is a second, more creative option. For 75 years the capitol has tortured, demeaned, and murdered hundreds of the children of Panem, for the entertainment of the people of the Capitol. Now that the Rebellion holds the power, they could potentially institute a symbolic Hunger Games using the Capitol children: forcing them through the same brutality that our children have faced for decades.

There are, of course, ethical considerations, such as whether or not forcing such pain on the Capitol children is a just punishment for any crime, even that same behavior. This beckons many philosophical questions on justice, vengeance, and morality that delegates should heavily consider before the conference.

Beyond the purely moral questions, there are also political consequences at play here. Despite the obvious animosity, the Capitol and the districts are again united under one power, and this council must decide how it moves forward. Should Panem try to reconcile the past, and move ahead with a harmonious new state, or should it pursue justice for the countless dead, and decades of suffering? If Panem attempts to move forward, this council will need to decide how the Capitol and the Districts view each other for (hopefully) Centuries to come.

Finally, the Districts have been devastated by the war. Whereas the Capitol and its children have been in the lap of luxury all their lives and watched as children have been mutilated, poisoned, burned, and met all the worst fates the mind of man could invent. The people of Panem are angry and in pain and this body must keep the centuries of trauma in mind in choosing their path.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- 1. How should Capital political prisoners be dealt with?**
- 2. Should the Hunger Games continue?**
- 3. What are the political ramifications of continuing the games?**
- 4. What technology and systems would be used to run a new Hunger Games?**
- 5. What is to be the new relationship between the Capitol and the rest of Panem?**

Topic B - The Election of the Next President of Panem

Background

There have been two known Presidents of Panem, President Ravinstill and President Snow. Each President has a small, chosen cabinet around them to which they can delegate tasks. Some of these Cabinets are the Cabinet of Agriculture, the Cabinet of Communications, and the Cabinet of War, which engineered much of the technology that made the revolutions so deadly. The position of Presidency is currently for life, leading to extreme amounts of power and an ever-present threat of assassination. Both of Panem's past presidents have led with brutality and an iron fist, often using the Peacekeepers to enforce violent and inflated punishments. This, combined with the overtaxing of the Districts to the Capital's benefit, led to both the first and second revolutions.

President Coin of District 13 on the other hand was democratically elected, something that 13 fought for specifically in the first revolution. Though nothing is known about her predecessor, her refusal to arrange reelection, tendency to make brutal decisions, and ruling with another iron fist has led to her having the position for some time. There are questions on if Coin is simply another dictator or if she was making the tough calls that needed to be made during wartime. Despite this controversy, she cared and provided for the citizens of 13 equally and proved to be an adept politician, keeping the people disciplined, effective, safe, and happy at the same time.

Current Situation

While a temporary government structure is set up in the aftermath of the rebellion, a more permanent solution must be proposed. This solution requires actionable plans in a divided society and a guideline that proves it is viable and repeatable with future Panem leadership.

Because Panem has had few examples of what transfers of power look like, it is up in the air what an election for President would entail. While it could be democratic, there are many examples of governmental styles that could be used. Currently, Panem takes a lot of inspiration from ancient Rome, and while governing practices could stem from that tradition, other options can be explored. If the practices of 13 continue and every citizen gets a chance to vote, there are then questions on how the infrastructure would be supported and how vast amounts of illiteracy in Panem would be addressed. Similarly, in an election delegates must be chosen and a campaign must be run to gain

popular support. The delegates who are running against each other must both fight with their pasts and come up with detailed plans for the future of Panem.

The new leadership must consider immediate issues like the refugees of Districts 2, 8, and 12 who have been misplaced by the war, political instability, lack of social cohesion, and the various human rights violations of the past few decades of Panem. Long term issues such as holes in infrastructure, trauma, new education systems, and unused nuclear weapons should also be explored.

All of this is to say: The future of Panem is up for grabs, and an election must be held before Panem falls to anarchy.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- 1. How will voting for a president change?**
- 2. What infrastructure will be put in place to support the electoral process?**
- 3. Who will be up for election?**
- 4. What will the new government look like?**
- 5. Will the duties of the President change or will they be the same?**
- 6. How will the new leadership address short and long term consequences of war?**

Positions

Katniss Everdeen is a former tribute of District 12 and the victor of the 74th Hunger Games. Katniss has survived two Hunger Games in her life, both of which led her to experience a great deal of loss and suffering. Even before the rebellion, Katniss expressed a great deal of disgust with the acts of the Capitol and the existence of the Games. However, Katniss realizes that the death of Prim, her younger sister, was not caused by the Capitol, but by Coin. To avenge her sister, she must gain Coin's trust by displaying her agreement with Coin's wishes. In this committee, Katniss must juggle her fear of a new variant of Hunger Games coming to fruition with her desire for retribution for her sister's death.

Peeta Mellark is a victor of the 74th Hunger Games alongside Katniss Everdeen, and a survivor of the Quarter Quell. Peeta won over the Capitol with charm, kindness, and loyalty to Katniss. When faced with the question of whether there should be a 76th Hunger Games with children of the Capitol, he will have to find a middle ground between recognizing all the pain he has experienced at the hands of the Capitol and his core values of kindness and empathy.

Annie Cresta is the victor of the 70th Hunger Games. Her victory was not a brutal one, as she survived by isolating herself and eventually using her swimming prowess to obtain victory. Her time in the games resulted in mental instability, causing her to have unusual reactions to the world around her. Following her Games, she met Finnick Odair, another former victor of District 4 and they fell in love. Finnick passed during the rebellion, leaving Annie without her support system and suffering at the hands of the capitol again. When deciding, Annie will likely be guided by her gentle nature and carrying Finnick's legacy.

Enobaria is the victor of the 62nd Hunger Games, and a survivor of the Quarter Quell. As a District 2 tribute, she has a positive relationship with the capitol and it was her choice to participate in the games. She became infamous for killing another tribute with only her teeth. After winning her games, she sharpened her teeth to represent her vicious victory. When deciding whether the 76th Hunger Games should be held, Enobaria will have to consider both her loyalty to the capitol as a career, as well as the cruelty she has witnessed at its hands.

Snow's granddaughter is a young girl who has lived under the rule of her grandfather all her life. As capital royalty, she has enjoyed great privilege and before the rebellion, the idea of her participating in the games would have been unthinkable. Now that the capitol is under the control of the rebels and a game using capitol children has been proposed, she is in danger of participating in the 76th Hunger Games. Due to her age and lifestyle, she is unprepared to survive the games and would likely do anything to protect herself from entering the arena.

Gale Hawthorne is Katniss Everdeen's childhood best friend and central to Katniss's life in and out of the games. Katniss and Gale became friends through illegally hunting together, and would frequently discuss their desire to escape the oppressive rule of the capitol. Gale is the oldest son of a large family, and after Gale's father passed, the responsibility to go into the mines and provide for his family fell onto him in his teen years. His torture and suffering at the hands of the capitol coupled with his unforgiving nature will likely prevent him from holding much mercy for the capitol children.

Haymitch Abernathy is the second victor of District 12, and the only living mentor to Katniss and Peeta. Haymitch's victory came during the second Quarter Quell, where there were double the amount of tributes. Haymitch won his games by utilizing a glitch in the arena, and this "defiance" of the Capitol led to the death of his family and endless suffering for Haymitch. Haymitch is very aligned with Katniss, and will likely try to find a consensus between a desire for retribution and a desire for a peaceful Panem.

Alma Coin is the leader of District 13 and the core leader of the rebellion. She proposed the 76th Hunger Games and therefore is in support of the games. She believes that Hunger Games featuring the children of Capitol officials will effectively force those in the capitol to realize the cruel and devastating effect the hunger games have imposed on the districts. This would simultaneously put the Capitol in a place of submission to the districts and allow Coin to consolidate power to a greater degree, whether these are Coin's true intentions.

Effie Trinket is a former escort of the District 12 tributes and in her time as an escort, she grew close with Katniss and Peeta. Effie always desired a higher standing in the capitol, and the only reason for her protection during the rebellion was her close relationship with Katniss. Effie's loyalty

to the Capitol and her fondness for a luxurious lifestyle will likely contrast against her well-meaning nature and sense of humanity when it comes to her time to help decide the future of the games.

Cesar Flickerman is the host of The Hunger Games. His bubbly personality and hilarious interviews made him a Capitol celebrity, and Cesar has shown loyalty to the capitol during his time as a host. Cesar's exact thoughts on the rebellion are unknown as he asks others for their opinions rather than sharing his own. Cesar's helpful and understanding nature, as well as his views on the Games that he formed during his time as host will likely shape his opinions on a new Hunger Games. It is also likely that Cesar will use his cunning nature to influence the ideas of the group.

President Snow is the long-time president of the Capitol. Before the rebellion, he ruled over Panem with an iron thumb. The overthrowing of the Capitol has caused Snow great distress, especially because he did everything to prevent the rebels from prevailing. Despite his cold nature, Snow has always displayed a certain fondness for his granddaughter and is likely appalled by the idea of her being thrown in the arena he co-opted for so long to torture those living in the districts.

Plutarch Heavensbee is a former Capitol game maker and the Head Gamemaker of the Quarter Quell. Plutarch is cunning in seizing his role in the rebellion, fooling even Snow into believing he is loyal to the Capitol. Plutarch's support of the rebellion may point to his support of peace rather than another Hunger Games, however it's important to factor in Plutarch's unpredictable and somewhat callous nature when considering how he will view the idea of a new Hunger Games.

Johanna Mason is the victor of the 71st Hunger Games and a tribute in the Quarter Quell. Johanna won her games by acting timid and weak until the end of her games, where she then picked off the other tributes leaving herself as the victor. Johanna's stubborn and bold nature paints her as an interesting character who would likely have strong opinions on both of the topics at hand.

Egeria is the Capitol's Minister of Interior and as a cabinet member of Snow. During her time serving the Capitol, Egeria displayed some hesitancy towards the violence that was used against the districts but ultimately disagreed with Snow's actions which could be dangerous. Overall, she prioritized staying in Snow's good graces.

Castor is an ex-capital member who bought his brother's way to freedom before escaping to District 13. He worked alongside Coin and Katniss as a cameraman for the rebellion. He recorded many of Katniss's messages which went out to the districts and capitol.