

Present:

Board members: Amy McGovern, Kenneth Nowak, Saied Vaghefi, Andrea Manrique Sunen, David Wallerstein, Sebastian Lerch, David Wallerstein

ECWME: Frederic Vitart, Olga Loegel, Joshua Talib, Jörn Hoffmann

Board Meeting #3 Agenda:

1. Registrations to the Quest & registrants' makeup
2. Models' makeup
3. Engagement and outreach
4. Upcoming JJA Testing Period
5. Results visualisation
6. Any other business

Discussion points

Board Members commented on different aspects of the proposed approach, and suggested amendments.

Item #1: Registration to the Quest and registrants' makeup

- The discussion explored how to encourage participation from major technology companies (e.g., Microsoft, Google, Nvidia, IBM).
- One company has expressed interest but has not yet confirmed which team or individuals will be involved. Organisers reminded the Board that the team leader has the flexibility to edit team composition after registration.
- A request was made to ensure that each team member receives appropriate recognition for their individual contributions to model development. Board members were invited to suggest additional companies and organisations that should be targeted in outreach efforts.
- It was clarified that there has been no registration deadline so far, as participants could join at any time. However, it was agreed to introduce a registration deadline for the first competition period, to ensure inclusion in the overall year results showcase.

Item #2: Models' makeup

- The Board requested clarification on how to report the number of CPUs and GPUs used for model development and execution, noting that some GPU configurations may also include integrated CPUs.

Item #3: Engagement and outreach

- Board members were invited to suggest additional promotional channels that could be leveraged to broaden the initiative's visibility.
- One Board member will confirm shortly regarding the proposal to publish a social media post featuring the Advisory Board. All other members present agreed in principle to being featured in a dedicated ECMWF LinkedIn post, using the pictures, bios, and affiliations displayed on the AI Weather Quest website.
- It was suggested that a dedicated AI Weather Quest social media channel may be worth considering once the competition is fully underway.

Item #4: Upcoming JJA Testing Period

- A question was raised about the potential for hosting webinars in a hybrid format, both online and in person, to foster more dynamic exchanges, including live Q&A and informal interactions. Some Board members cautioned that in-person attendance could be financially challenging for academic participants and may risk excluding others if not clearly framed as optional. Organisers confirmed that, given time constraints, the upcoming launch webinars will remain fully virtual. Nonetheless, the possibility of in-person side events alongside major conferences or workshops will be considered for the future.

Item #5: Results visualisation

- It was clarified that teams must submit forecasts for every week within a given period in order to be included in the aggregated RPSS calculation for that period.

Item #6: Any other business

- The American Meteorological Society (AMS) Annual Meeting, held in January 2026, was suggested as a potential opportunity to organise an in-person AI Weather Quest social reception. It could serve as a side event to connect participants.
- The European Meteorological Society (EMS) Annual Meeting, held in September, was also mentioned as a potentially relevant venue for a future in-person gathering or side event.

Next steps

- Ensure each team member get proper recognition for their respective efforts in model development.
OL – An optional field has been included in the [model methodology questionnaire](#) where teams can list who has contributed to their models and their specific role. This information will be made available on the teams' profile pages once periodic awards have been granted.

- Share an updated overview of outreach efforts, indicating which target organisations have already been contacted and where contact points are still missing. This will help coordinate further outreach with the Advisory Board and identify potential contact points through their networks.
OL – *Consolidated and attached to this summary of results.*
- Add a registration deadline on the website to provide greater clarity for potential late joiners.
OL – *The [website](#) and the [Forum](#) have been updated to clarify that registering by the deadline for the first forecasting period (August 1st) is required for inclusion in the overall year results showcase. Registration will remain open for later forecasting periods, but 1 August is the only chance to join from the start and compete across the full cycle.*
- Investigate the timeline for the AMS 2026.
OL – *To follow up.*