## **Equal-Op**



## A game wherein players have an equal opportunity to talk

A counterpoint to lectures.

The goal: Learning to express conflicting viewpoints constructively.

The game features are:

A predictable duration.

2. Equal talking time allocation.

Transparent timekeeping.
Means to remember ideas.

5. Means to avoid the need to interrupt speakers.

Here is a setup for two, three, or four players:



Ensemble.jpg



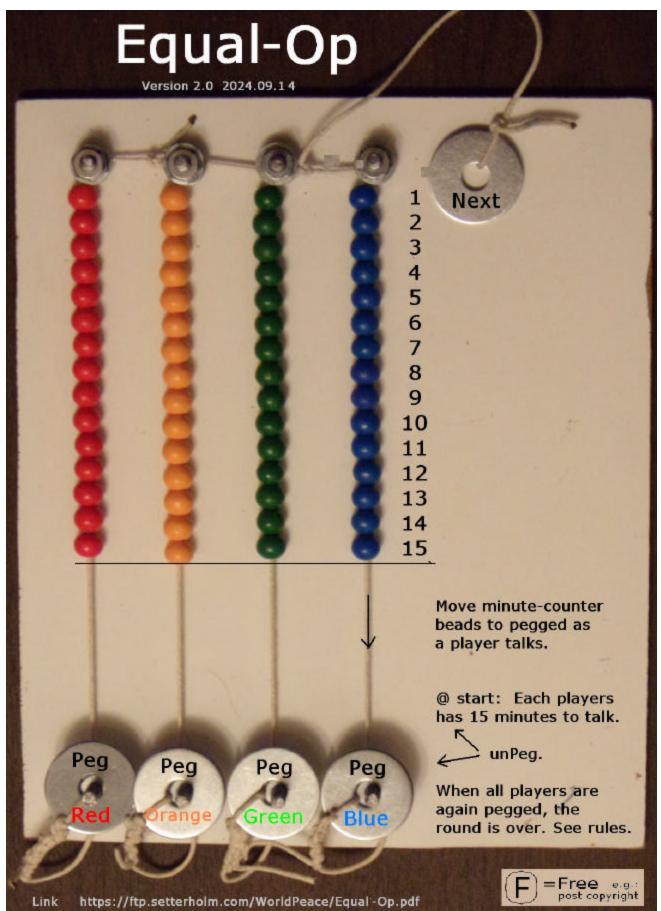
Gane Board. jpg

Players start with an identifying color: red, orange, green, or blue. Each player receives a dry-erase pen & a white board writing surface for their color - to aid in remembering their ideas and avoiding interrupting other people's talks. Each player also has a round "Token" by the pegs at the bottom of the board which signifies their game participation status.

"Beads" count minutes. "Pegs" are the string-attach posts at the bottom of the board. Each player has 15 minutes to talk; moving a bead from unused down to the Peg decreases a player's talking time by one minute.

A cell phone stopwatch timer runs continuously during the game. The person keeping track of player talking time and updating the minute beads is "the Keep". Having the Keep be a non-player works well because the players can be less distracted by the timekeeping details.

Author: Jeff Setterholm Page 1 of 4 Link: <a href="https://ftp.setterholm.com/WorldPeace/Equal-Op.pdf">https://ftp.setterholm.com/WorldPeace/Equal-Op.pdf</a> vsn, 2.1 2024.09.24



GaneBoard.jpg

## **Equal - Op: Rules of the game:** Versi on 2.0, 2024.09.14



- 1. Designate the Keep and the player colors. Distribute the white boards & dry-erase pens. Reset the talking minute beads. Unpeg the player tokens.
- 2. When no one else is talking, a player declares "**I'm In.**" to start their talking minutes & becomes "**the Talker**". The first "I'm In" launches a "**Round**" and turns on the round timer.
- 3. The keep "**Logs**" the player, & time.
- 4. As each 60 seconds of accumulated talking elapse the Keep slides one of the Talker's beads from unused minutes to pegged minutes.
- 5. The Talker stops being timed by saying "**Over**" and ceasing To talk. The Keep Logs the elapsed time of each talk.
- 6. When a Talker is talking the other players are "**Listeners**", Being quiet is the only requirement of listening; concurrent white-board use is encouraged, particularly to remember ideas for later recall, which aids in resisting the urge to interrupt the Talker. Extraneous cell phone use is discouraged.
- 7. If & when a player has expended all their talking minutes they Are "**Pegged**" and return their round token to their Peg at the bottom of the board.
- 8. A player places the "**Next**" token above their unused minutes to have priority in talking next. Player with less used minutes have priority over players with more used minutes. The Keep Logs a minimum of one minute of player time when Next is used.
- 9. When 15 minutes times the number of players have elapsed, the round is over. E.g.: 4 players = 1 hour. Quiet time subtracts from overall talking time available during a round.
- 10. Players can elect to "**Voluntarily Peg**" their Token at any time. For a Voluntary Peg the unused minutes of that player are subtracted From the total round time available to the other players.
- 11. Being Pegged ends a player's right to be "In".
- 12. When all player Tokens are Pegged and/or the round times out, the Round ends. If any players have unused minutes, and if all players consent: then voluntary Pegs may be unpegged & the round time extends one time by the sum of all unpegged, unused minutes.

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