

IOI Regulations

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September 2005 — Approved by GA, IOI 2005

Statutes

S1 Preamble

S1.1

The **International Olympiad in Informatics** (as an ongoing event) is an annual international informatics competition for *individual* contestants from various invited countries, accompanied by social and cultural programmes.

S1.2

The **Statutes**, **Explications** and the **Appendices** together form the **Regulations** of the International Olympiad in Informatics. Details of responsibilities can be found in the Explications; details of procedures can be found in the Appendices.

S1.3

Throughout these regulations all words and phrases shall have meanings as defined in the section where they appear in **bold**.

S1.4

In the Regulations the following abbreviations are used:

3.9	BP	Board of Patrons
3.8	ED	Executive Director
3.1	GA	General Assembly
3.4	IC	International Committee
1.1	IOI	International Olympiad in Informatics
	IOI n	IOI held in the year n
	IOI $n-i$	IOI preceding IOI n by i year(s)
	IOI $n+i$	IOI following IOI n by i year(s)
3.10	ISC	IOI Scientific Committee
3.17	ITWG	IOI Technical Working Group
3.8	OED	Office of the Executive Director
3.15	SC	Scientific Committee
	($\times i$)	i people only

S1.5

The official working language of the IOI is English.

S1.6

In the scope of the IOI the concept **Informatics** means the domain that is also known as computer science, computing science and information technology, but not the domain computer engineering.

S1.7

The main objectives to be accomplished by the IOI are:

- To discover, encourage, bring together, challenge, and give recognition to young people who are exceptionally talented in the field of informatics.
- To foster friendly international relationships among computer scientists and informatics educators.
- To bring the discipline of informatics to the attention of young people.
- To promote the organisation of informatics competitions for students at schools for secondary education.
- To encourage countries to organise a future IOI in their country.

S1.8

The assets and liabilities of the IOI shall vest and be registered in the name of the organisation.

S1.9

All claims against the IOI shall be limited to its assets, and there shall be no personal liability against participants of the IOI.

S2 Participants

S2.1

For the IOI, a **Country** is a state that has an officially recognised relationship with the United Nations, UNESCO, or which has already taken part in one or more past IOIs.

S2.2

The organisation of the IOI in year n is the responsibility of the **Host Country** for IOI' n . A Host Country consists of the responsible Ministry(ies), Institution(s), and/or Corporation(s) in that Country.

S2.3

Each participating Country is represented by a **National Delegation**; all members of a National Delegation represent one Country. A National Delegation is headed by a **Delegation Leader**, includes a team of one to four Contestants and a Deputy Leader.

S2.4

The **Deputy Leader** can act as a replacement for the Delegation Leader in all situations and may assist their Delegation Leader in all their duties.

S2.5

A **Contestant** is a student who was enrolled at a school for secondary education, in the Country they are representing, during the period September to December in the year before IOI' n , and is not older than twenty years on the 1st of July of the year of IOI' n .

S2.6

An **Invited Observer** is a representative of:

- A Country that has not previously participated at the IOI and is bringing no contestants ($\times 1$)
- Future Host of IOI' $n+1$ ($\times 2$)

A Country can only have Invited Observer status, as a new Country, for one year. Exceptions may be considered for countries which have not participated in IOI' $n-1$, IOI' $n-2$ and IOI' $n-3$.

S2.7

The other invited participants, whose cost is covered by a Host Country:

- IC Members
- ISC Members
- **Invited Guests:** UNESCO ($\times 1$), IFIP ($\times 1$) and the BP

S2.8

Additional participants, whose cost is not expected to be covered by a Host Country:

- **External Contestant:** Any contestant who is an unclassified participant in the contest
- **Adjunct to the Team:** A person who has a duty adjunct to the team (e.g. nurse, chaperon or translator)
- **Observer:** Any observer who is not classified as an Invited Observer and is appointed by a Country itself, rather than the Host Country
- **Adjunct to the IC / ISC / OED:** Invited by the IC / ISC / OED based on need
- **Visitors:** Participants who have no duty and participate on the basis of entertainment / sightseeing (e.g. family members)

S2.9

The Host Country may invite additional participants, such as:

- **Local Committee Members**
- **Press**
- **Guides**

S3 Committees, Office Bearers and Duties

S3.1

The **General Assembly** is a temporary, short-term committee during IOI'n, which is composed of the Delegation Leaders and the Deputy Leaders of all Participating Countries. The GA is the owner of the IOI.

S3.2

The GA must hold at least six meetings at IOI'n, including:

- Before the first Competition period and before Delegation Leaders are segregated from their Contestants, to include the discussion of Competition Rules and Judging Procedures.
- Before the first Competition period and after Delegation Leaders are segregated from their Contestants, to include the presentation and translation of the first Competition Tasks.
- After the first Competition period and after Delegation Leaders have had the opportunity for communication with contestants, to include matters arising from the first Competition period and evaluation.
- Before the second Competition period and after Delegation Leaders are segregated from their Contestants, to include the presentation and translation of the second Competition Tasks.
- After the second Competition period and after Delegation Leaders have had the opportunity for communication with contestants, to include matters arising from the second Competition period and evaluation.
- Before the Awards Ceremony and after all evaluation is complete, to include the confirming of awards.

S3.3

GA meetings are chaired by the **Chair of GA**. The Chair of GA is an independent individual, selected by the Host Country in co-operation with the IC, with extensive experience in chairing meetings.

S3.4

The **International Committee** is a long-term standing committee. It consists of eleven voting members, all from different Participating Countries, plus a non-voting Executive Director:

- **The President of IOI** (elected)
- Three immediate *Past Host representatives* of IOI'n-3, IOI'n-2, and IOI'n-1
- One *Present Host representative* of IOI'n
- Three immediate *Future or Candidate Host representatives* of IOI'n+1, IOI'n+2, and IOI'n+3
- Three other *elected representatives*
- Executive Director (Non-voting)

S3.5

The elected members of the IC are elected by the GA, for a period of three years. Elected IC members are individuals and not representatives of specific countries.

S3.6

The IC is chaired by the **President of IOI**. The President of IOI is an independent individual, chosen to give continuity and leadership to the IOI, able to promote the development of IOI and be a recognized ambassador of the organization.

S3.7

The IC is obliged to meet during each IOI and approximately six months prior to each IOI.

S3.8

The **Office of the Executive Director** is headed by the **Executive Director** of the IOI, who is an ongoing non-voting member of the IC. The OED is dedicated to servicing the administrative and developmental needs of the IOI. The ED is appointed by the IC for a minimum period of three years.

S3.9

The **Board of Patrons** is a permanent body, constituted by the IC from respected members of the world of informatics and business.

S3.10

The **IOI Scientific Committee**, a long-term standing committee, works with the SC of each Host Country to ensure continuity and quality control for IOI competitions. Members of the ISC may not be members of a National Delegation. The ISC consists of nine voting members, all of them computer specialists with a background in Olympiad task creation:

- 1 member is selected by the Host Country for IOI' $n-1$
- 3 members are selected by the Host Country for IOI' n
- 1 member is selected by the Host Country for IOI' $n+1$
- 3 members are elected by the GA
- The Chair of ITWG

S3.11

The elected representatives on the ISC are elected by the GA, for a period of three years. Elected ISC members are individuals and not representatives of specific countries.

S3.12

The **Chair of ISC** is elected from and by the committee members. The Chair of ISC reports directly to the IC.

S3.13

The ISC is obliged to meet during each IOI and approximately 2–3 months prior to each IOI.

S3.14

The **Organizing Committee** for IOI' n is the committee appointed by the Present Host (i.e. the Host Country for IOI' n), and which acts on its behalf. Members of the Organizing Committee may not be members of a National Delegation. The Organizing Committee includes as members:

- The person who holds the Chair of the Organizing Committee, who is also the **Chair of IOI' n** .
- The person who holds the Chair of the SC during IOI' n
- The IC member who will remain on the IC after the Closing Ceremony for IOI' n

The tasks of the Present Host and Organizing Committee are detailed in section 5.

S3.15

The **Scientific Committee** of IOI' n is a temporary committee, which is appointed by the Present Host, and is composed of experts in informatics and/or informatics education from the Host Country. The **Chair of the SC** is a member of the Organizing Committee. Members of the SC may not be members of a National Delegation.

S3.16

The Chair of the SC, or an SC member, is required to attend IOI' $n-1$ as an observer.

S3.17

The ISC oversees the **IOI Technical Working Group**. The **Chair of ITWG** is proposed by the IC for GA approval. This position is held for a period of three years.

S4 Host Nomination and Selection

S4.1

An official representative of a Country that is capable and willing to organise an IOI in a particular year, must submit a **Letter of Intent** to the ED. The ED will acknowledge the Letter of Intent and supply rules applicable to the situation. The Country becomes a **Potential Host**.

S4.2

The IC performs a selection procedure and nominates a single candidate from the Potential Hosts for hosting the IOI in a specific year. This decision must be ratified by the GA. After ratification, the ED will issue a formal written **Invitation** at which point the Country becomes the **Candidate Host** for year x .

S4.3

A Candidate Host receives the status of **Future Host** when the Invitation is accepted by the national organisation(s) involved, and *confirmed in writing* to the ED. The IC informs the GA at the first GA meeting after this confirmation.

S4.4

The Future Host becomes the **Present Host** in the year in which it hosts the IOI.

S5 Responsibilities of Present Host

S5.1

The Present Host for IOI' n is obliged to organise and implement IOI' n in accordance with the Regulations.

S5.2

The Present Host is obliged to establish:

- An Organizing Committee that acts on its behalf.
- A Scientific Committee.

S5.3

The Present Host is obliged to prepare:

- Guidelines for the organisation of IOI' n , which may be written in the language of the Present Host's Country; an English summary must however be presented to the IC.
- Competition Procedures and Judging Procedures, both in English.

S5.4

The Present Host is obliged to organise a meeting of the IC in the Present Host's Country, approximately six months before IOI' n .

S5.5

The Present Host is obliged to organise a meeting of the ISC in the Present Host's Country, approximately 2–3 months before IOI' n .

S5.6

The Present Host is obliged to empower the IC to invite to IOI' n :

- National Delegations
- Members of the IC and ISC
- Observers from new Countries that applied for invitation and have been approved
- Guests from the BP, UNESCO ($\times 1$) and IFIP ($\times 1$)
- Observers from the Future Hosts of IOI' $n+1$ and IOI' $n+2$

- Additional participants at the discretion of the Present Host

The Present Host can and should communicate its own wishes concerning the invitation of the Participants to the IC.

S5.7

The Present Host is obliged to send information to all invitees, at least four months before IOI'*n*, about:

- Schedule and Programme
- Competition Procedures
- Judging Procedures
- Location
- Registration
- Present Host

S5.8

The Present Host may have a second, non-ranked, team at IOI'*n*.

S5.9

The travel costs to and from the location where the IC has its meeting, the ISC meets, or where IOI'*n* is located, are at the expense of all Participants. Costs for board and lodging during the IC meeting, ISC meeting, or during IOI'*n* are at the expense of the Present Host for:

- Delegation Leaders, Deputy Leaders and Contestants
- Invited Observers as per S2.6
- Invited Participants as per S2.7

All other Participants have to pay a reasonable fee which is fixed by the Present Host.

An additional **Registration Fee** may be payable, by Participants or Delegations, during IOI'*n*.

S5.10

The Present Host is obliged, by the end of IOI'*n*, to:

- Issue attendance certificates for all participants
- Issue awarding certificates for medal winning contestants
- Post the final scores of the medal winning contestants, a list of all participants and another list of all scores which contains no name/country information
- Hold an **Awards Ceremony** for the presentation of medals

S5.11

The Present Host is obliged to hold a **Closing Ceremony** at the end of IOI'*n*. It is expected that this will be combined with the Awards Ceremony.

S5.12

The Host Country for IOI'*n* is obliged to produce a report of IOI'*n*.

- A draft report should be sent to the members of IC no later than three months after IOI'*n*
- The full report should be sent to the Delegation Leaders of Observing and Participating Countries, members of IC, ISC and BP, no later than IOI'*n*+1

S5.13

The Present Host becomes a **Past Host** at the end of IOI'*n*.

S5.14

The national flag of the Host Country for IOI'*n* may be used in connection with IOI'*n*. No other national flags or symbols may be used in connection with the IOI.

S6 Competition, Judging and Awards

S6.1

The **Competition** will take place during two **Competition Days** both of which are directly preceded and followed by a non-Competition Day.

S6.2

The Present Host should give the Contestants the opportunity to practise on the competition equipment and technical environment, or comparable equipment, prior to the Competition Days.

S6.3

The SC must present printed Competition Procedures, Judging Procedures and Competition Tasks at appropriate meetings of the GA for approval. The Delegation Leaders may translate the approved Competition Procedures and Competition Tasks into their national languages, without giving any additional information. Translations should remain faithful to the original text. All translated tasks must be made available for scrutiny, during the competition days, by all Delegations during IOI'*n*.

S6.4

The Contestants are required to solve the Competition Tasks given to them, together with any translations and materials permitted by the Competition Procedures. There should be no communication or information, other than that permitted by the Competition Procedures.

S6.5

During the Competition each Contestant must work independently on a desk with an appropriate computer, access to the Competition Procedures (translated if required), writing instrument and paper.

S6.6

During the Competition, Contestants must obey the **Competition Procedures**.

S6.7

The Present Host must ensure that GA members do *not* meet and/or come into any form of contact with Contestants, from the time the Competition Tasks are made known until after the corresponding Competition. No communication is to take place between the Delegates and Contestants during this time.

S6.8

Delegation Leaders must be present for at least the first hour of the Competition on each Competition Day, to translate into English any questions put by the Contestants about the Competition Tasks. The questions are to be answered by the SC, and if required the GA, with YES, NO, or NO COMMENT.

S6.9

Evaluation is to be carried out directly after the Competition in accordance with the **Judging Procedures**.

S6.10

If the Delegation Leader does not agree with the evaluation of a task element, the disagreements are to be submitted according to the Judging Procedures.

S6.11

The number of points achieved by the Contestants must *not* be made public before the Awards Ceremony.

S6.12

After the second Competition Day and before the IOI Awards Ceremony the SC must make a proposal to the GA regarding the awarding of medals to the contestants on the basis of the number of points they achieved. The GA must confirm the scores and the awards of the Contestants. No more than half of the Contestants are to receive medals on the basis that:

- About one twelfth of all Contestants receive a gold medal
- About one sixth of all Contestants receive a silver medal
- About one quarter of all Contests receive a bronze medal

S6.13

In the event of unethical behaviour, including behaviour outside the contest, the IC is empowered to disqualify IOI'n participants. Unethical behaviour includes any conduct that brings individuals, countries or the IOI into disrepute.

S7 Revision of the Regulations

S7.1

Revisions of the Regulations are prepared and proposed by the IC and adopted if approved by the GA.

S7.2

Adoption of revisions to the Statutes requires a 2/3 majority vote by the GA. Adoption of revisions to the Explications or Appendices requires a simple majority vote by the GA.

S7.3

Revisions to the Regulations, adopted during IOI'n, become binding at the end of IOI'n.

S7.4

Experimental Regulations (or changes) may be implemented, provided there is IC approval. The GA requires at least one months notification.

N3.8.1

The OED's responsibilities include those previously obliged to the International Secretariat.

N3.8.2

In the process of organising IOIs since 1989 all kind of materials about past IOIs are collected. This information can be found at: <http://olympiads.win.tue.nl/ioi/>

N3.10

This structure is intended to ensure that the committee has both long-term and experienced members along with representatives of present, past and future organisers.

N3.14

The main reasons for the distinction between the three main positions are:

- The Chair of IOI'*n* should have the authority on the national level to achieve the task of the Host
- The Chair of the IC should have the authority on the international level to achieve the objectives of the IC
- The Chair of the SC should have the skills to develop Competition Tasks according to the current scientific state of the informatics discipline.

N4 Host Nomination and Selection

N4.2

The status of Candidate Host is *not* given until after the formal written invitation.

N4.3

The IC expects to receive written confirmation as early as possible and would usually expect it at least three years before the IOI.

N5 Responsibilities of Present Host

N5.3

The Guidelines for the organisation of IOI'*n* is a plan which is necessary for the preparation, production, organisation, timescales, and distribution of information of IOI'*n*. The plan should be suited for the local situation in the Country offering IOI'*n*.

N6.11

Contestants and their Delegation Leader should be told their points, so that appropriate appeals can be made (see S6.10). A contestant's points should not be available to the members of other delegations before the Awards Ceremony.

N6 Competition, Judging and Awards

N6.3

Translations are provided to make the competition accessible to all students. Translations should remain faithful so that descriptions are consistent for all contestants.