

ESTATUTOS DAS OLIMPIADAS INTERNACIONAIS

Adopted in Sigtuna, Sweden, June, 1984;
Changes: Bad Ischl, Austria, June 1988;
Warsaw, Poland, July 1989;
Groningen, The Netherlands, 1990;
Havana, Cuba, July 1991;
Helsinki, Finland, July 1992;
Williamsburg, Virginia – USA, July 1993

STATUTES

§ 1

In recognition of the growing significance of physics in all fields of science and technology, and in the general education of young people, and with the aim of enhancing the development of international contacts in the field of school education in physics, a competition has been organized for secondary school students; the competition is called the «International Physics Olympiad» and is a competition between individuals.

§ 2

The competition is organized by the Education Ministry or another appropriate institution of one of the participating countries on whose territory the competition is to be conducted. Hereunder, the term «Education Ministry» is used in the above meaning. The organizing country is obliged to ensure equal participation of all the delegations, and to invite all the participants of any of the last three competitions. Additionally, it has the right to invite other countries.

Within five years of its entry in the competition a country should declare its intention to be the host for a future Olympiad. This declaration should propose a timetable so that a provisional list of the

order of countries willing to arrange Olympiads can be compiled.

A country which refuses to organize the competition may be barred from participation, even if delegation from that country has taken part in previous competitions.

§ 3

The Education Ministries of the participating countries, as a rule, assign the organization, preparation and execution of the competition to a physics society or another institution in the organizing country. The Education Ministry of the organizing country notifies the Education Ministries of the participating countries of the name and address of the institution assigned to the organization of the competition.

§ 4

Each participating country sends a team consisting of students of general or technical secondary schools, i.e. schools which cannot be considered technical colleges. Also students who finished their school examination in the year of the competition can be members of a team as long as they do not start the university studies. The age of the participants should not exceed twenty on June 30th of the

year of the competition. Each team should normally have 5 members.

In addition to the students, two accompanying persons are invited from each country, one of whom is designated delegation head (responsible for the whole delegation), and the other — pedagogical leader (responsible for the students). The accompanying persons become members of the International Board, where they have equal rights.

The delegation head and pedagogical leader must be selected from specialists in physics or physics teachers, capable of solving the problems of the competition competently. Normally each of them should be able to speak English.

The delegation head of each participating team should, on arrival, hand over to the organizers a list containing personal data on the contestants (surname, name, date of birth, home address, type and address of the school attended).

§ 5

The working language of the International Physics Olympiad is English. The competition problems should be prepared in English, Russian, German, French and Spanish. The solutions to them should be prepared in English; the organizers, however, may prepare those documents in other languages as well.

§ 6

The financial principles of the organization of the competition are as follows:

* The Ministry which sends the students to the competition covers the return travel costs of the students and the accompanying persons to the place at which the competition is held.

* All other costs from the moment of arrival until the moment of departure are covered by the Ministry of the organizing country. In particular, this concerns the costs for board and lodging for the students and the accompanying persons, the cost of excursions, awards for the winners, etc.

§ 7

The competition is conducted on two days, one for the theoretical competition and one for the experimental competition. There should be at least one day of rest between these two days. The time allotted for solving the

problems should normally be five hours. The number of theoretical problems should be three and the number of experimental problems one or two.

When solving the problems the contestants may make use of tables of logarithms, tables of physical constants, slide-rules, non-programmable pocket calculators and drawing material. These aids will be brought by the students themselves. Collections of formulae from mathematics or physics are not allowed.

The theoretical problems should involve at least four areas of physics taught at secondary school level (see Appendix). Secondary-school students should be able to solve the competition problems with standard high school mathematics and without extensive numerical calculation.

The host country has to prepare one spare problem which will be presented to the International Board if one of the first three theoretical problems is rejected by two thirds of members of the International Board. The rejected problem cannot be considered again.

§ 8

The competition tasks are chosen and prepared by the host country.

§ 9

The marks available for each problem are defined by the organizer of the competition, but the total number of points for the theoretical problems should be 30 and for the experimental 20. The laboratory problems should consist of theoretical analysis (plan and discussion) and experimental execution.

The winners will receive diplomas or honourable mentions in accordance with the number of points accumulated as follows:

The mean number of points accumulated by the three best participants is considered as 100%.

The contestants who accumulate more than 90% of points receive first prize (diploma).

The contestants who accumulate more than 78% up to 89% receive second prize (diploma).

The contestants who accumulate more than 65% up to 77% receive third prize (diploma).

The contestants who accumulate more than 50% up to 64% receive an honourable mention.

The contestants who accumulate less than 50% of points receive certificates of participation in the competition.

The mentioned marks corresponding to 90%, 78%, 65% and 50% should be calculated by rounding off to the nearest lower integers.

The participant who obtains the highest score will receive a special prize and diploma.

Special prizes can be awarded.

Formal recognition in the form of certificate can be given to the secondary school teachers of the International Physics Olympiad students. The list of the teachers (one per each student) to be recognized should be given to the organizers by the team leaders not later than on the arrival of the team.

§ 10

The obligations of the organizer:

a) The organizer is obliged to ensure that the competition is conducted in accordance with the Statutes.

b) The organizer should produce a set of «Organization Rules», based on the Statutes, and send them to the participating countries in good time. These Organization Rules shall give details of the Olympiad not covered in the Statutes, and give names and addresses of the institutions and persons responsible for the Olympiad.

c) The organizer establishes a precise program for the competition (schedule for the contestants and the accompanying persons, program for excursions, etc.), which is sent to the participating countries in advance.

d) The organizer should check immediately after the arrival of each delegation whether its contestants meet the conditions of the competitions.

e) The organizer chooses (according to § 7 and the list of physics contents in the Appendix to these Statutes) the problems and ensures their proper formulation in English and in other languages set out in § 5. It is advisable to select problems where the solutions require a certain creative capability and a considerable level of knowledge. Everyone taking part in the preparation of the competition problems is obliged to preserve complete secrecy.

f) The organizer must provide the teams with interpreters.

g) The organizer should provide the delegation leaders with photostat copies of the solutions of the contestants in their delegation before the final classification.

h) The organizer is responsible for the grading of the problem solutions.

i) The organizer drafts a list of participants proposed as winners of the prizes and honourable mentions.

k) The organizer prepares the prizes (diplomas), honourable mentions and awards for the winners of the competition.

§ 11

The scientific part of the competition must be within the competence of the International Board, which includes the delegation heads and pedagogical leaders of all the delegations.

The Board is chaired by a representative of the organizing country. He is responsible for the preparation of the competition and serves on the Board in addition to the accompanying persons of the respective teams.

Decisions are passed by a majority vote. In the case of equal number of votes for and against, the chairman has the casting vote.

§ 12

The delegation leaders are responsible for the proper translation of the problems from English or other languages mentioned in § 5 to the mother tongue of the participants.

§ 13

The International Board has the following responsibilities:

a) to direct the competition and supervise that it is conducted according to the regulations;

b) to ascertain, after the arrival of the competing teams, that all their members meet the requirements of the competition in all aspects. The Board will disqualify those contestants who do not meet the stipulated conditions. The costs incurred by a disqualified contestant are covered by his country;

c) to discuss the Organizers' choice of tasks, their solutions and the suggested evaluation guidelines before each part of the competition. The Board is authorized to change or reject suggested tasks but not to propose new ones. Changes may not affect experimental equipment. There will be a final decision on the formulation of tasks and on the evaluation guidelines. The participants in the meeting of the International Board are bound to preserve secrecy concerning the tasks and to be of no assistance to any of the participants;

d) to ensure correct and just classification of the prize winners; the grading of those contestants who do not receive prizes or honourable mentions is not to be disclosed;

e) to establish the winners of the competition and make a decision concerning presentation of the prizes and honourable mentions. The decision of the International Board is final;

- f) to review the results of the competition.
g) to select the country which will be assigned the organization of the next competition.

Observers may be present at the meetings of the International Board, but not to vote or take part in the discussion.

§ 14

The institution in charge of the Olympiad announces the results and presents the awards and diplomas to the winners at an official gala ceremony. It invites representatives of the organizing Ministry and scientific institutions to the closing ceremony of the competition.

§ 15

The long term work involved in organizing the Olympiads is coordinated by a «Secretariat for the International Physics Olympiads». This Secretariat consists of a Secretary and Vice-Secretary normally form the same country. They are elected by the International Board for a period of five years when the chairs become vacant.

§ 16

The presente Statutes have been drafted on the basis of experience gained during past international competitions.

Changes in these Statutes, the insertion of new paragraphs or exclusion of old ones, can only be made by the International Board and requires qualified majority (2/3 of the votes).

No changes may be made to these Statutes or Syllabus unless each delegation obtained written text of the proposal at least three months in advance.

§ 17

Participation in an International Physics Olympiad signifies acceptance of the present Statutes by the Education Ministry of the participating country.

§ 18

The originals of these Statutes are written in English.

INTERNATIONAL PHYSICS OLYMPIADS

Secretariat: Dr. Waldemar Gorzkowski, Institute of Physics,
Polish Academy of Sciences, Al. Lotników 32/46, (PL) 02-668 Warsaw
Tel. (022) 437001 ext. 373 or (022) 433212, fax (022)430926, telex 812468 if pan pl, cable = IPPAN = Warszawa,
bitnet: gorskoplanif61.bitnet; internet: gorskogamma1.ifpan.edu.pl

ENCONTRO OLÍMPICO LUSO-ESPANHOL DE FÍSICA

Realizou-se de 10 a 12 de Setembro de 1993 o Encontro Olímpico Luso-Espanhol de Física, no qual participaram os primeiros cinco classificados do escalão B das provas teórico-experimentais das Olimpíadas Nacionais de Física e os vencedores das Olimpíadas Espanholas de Física de 1993. A Delegação espanhola integrava os Profs. Angelita Calvo (Salamanca) e José Maria Pastor (Madrid).

Neste Encontro não houve propriamente uma «competição» entre os alunos participantes. Os estudantes espanhóis foram convidados a realizar as provas da Olimpíada portuguesa e os portugueses as provas da Olimpíada espanhola, o que tornou possível a ambas delegações aferirem o desempenho dos seus estudantes.

No âmbito do Encontro realizou-se também uma reunião dos líderes das duas delegações, reunião essa que contou com a presença do Secretário-Geral da SPF. Estiveram também presentes alguns professores acompanhantes dos alunos portugueses. Na reunião trocaram-se informações sobre a experiência de organização das Olimpíadas nos dois países. A Espanha participa na IPhO desde 1990 o que permitiu obter informações muito importantes com vista à futura participação de Portugal nas Olimpíadas Internacionais.

No âmbito das Olimpíadas Nacionais de Física e do Encontro Olímpico Luso-Espanhol, efectuou-se uma visita ao Museu de Ciência da Universidade de Lisboa.

O Encontro teve o apoio da Secretaria de Estado da Ciência e Tecnologia.