

List of suggestions for IOC of the IYPT

by the Slovak Organizing Committee of YPT.

- Preparatory seminar

Organizing the Preparatory Seminar in October every year is connected with many problems and drawbacks. It is expensive for all the countries to send a member of IOC to this seminar, when he/she will be sent to the same place again in a half of a year for the competition itself. A logical solution of this problem would be to move the seminar forward in time and make it just after the end of the IYPT competition, in the same place. This would bring following advantages:

1. Saving money, since only one air ticket would be needed instead of two.
2. The just finished competition could be evaluated very carefully, with all the impressions and information having fresh in mind.
3. Problems would be selected earlier. Students that participated in the IYPT are often very motivated to work on the problems also next year. Giving them the problems just a week or two after the competition could cause a much quicker start at least with the experimental preparation for the problems.

So we strongly support the idea of joining the preparatory seminar and the competition itself.

- International Organizing Committee (IOC) members

Now it is not very clear neither who the members of IOC are, nor how it is possible to become a member. The organization looks more like a group of friends than as an official board of state representatives. Thus we suggest specifying a transparent procedure for nominating and appointing the members of IOC, with these key rules:

1. Every state participating in the tournament has the right to nominate one member of IOC. This nomination is made together with the registration of the team for the competition.
2. The function as a member of IOC is honorary, without any right for rewards.
3. IOC board can call in other personalities (with a possible limit per state), who have no voting rights.

- Legal aspect

Also the relations between IOC and the president of IOC, Secretary General of IOC, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) are unclear. We suggest fixing them as follows:

1. IOC is the highest representative board of IYPT and has all rights for doing personal, financial and organizational decisions.
2. The president of IOC is voted among the members of IOC for a period of three years (two, four...). He/she represents the IOC.
3. Secretary General is voted among the members of IOC for a period of three years (two, four...). He/she is responsible for fulfillment of IOC decisions and verdicts during the year. He/she organizes the activity of IOC.
4. LOC is nominated by the country, which organizes the actual IYPT. It takes the full responsibility for the competition and for respecting the regulations of IYPT and principles of fair play. During the competition, LOC always has to respect the decisions of IOC.

- Jury and competition

Chaos during the competition in Uppsala according to the selection of teams into the Selective fights (SFs), as well as the problems with jury members and jury composition must not be repeated. Therefore, following rules should be respected:

1. A fair and definitive organization chart for selecting the teams into the SFs must be known before drawing lots by the teams. If there are selective fights with three and four teams during the competition, the appearance of teams in fights with four teams must be balanced (thus, if one team participates in k SFs with four teams, any other team must not participate in more than $k+1$ SFs with four teams).
2. Every team must nominate one of their team leaders to be a jury member (dependent jury member). The total number of jurors in every group must be the same and must not change during the competition. To guarantee this, some of the independent jury members may be omitted in some rounds.
3. A general rule for jury composition must be known before drawing lots. Only small changes are allowed afterwards to prevent an independent jury member from judging a team from his own country.