

# Annual regulations of the Benelux Mathematical Olympiad



## 1. General

- (a) Participation in the BxMO is by invitation only. The official countries are Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. A Host Country may invite additional teams to participate in the BxMO. Such additional teams have a non-official status.
- (b) Each invited country is entitled to send a team consisting of up to ten Contestants, a Leader and two Deputy Leaders to be known collectively as the Participants.
- (c) Contestants must not have formally enrolled at a university or any other equivalent postsecondary institution, and they must be at most 19 years old at the contest day.
- (d) Each invited country wishing to participate in the BxMO must confirm participation by email. This will also confirm that the Leader agrees to abide by the Annual regulations for the BxMO.
- (e) The host country will cover all official expenses for Participants, including accommodation, meals, the excursion, as well as other necessary transport between the accommodation site and other venues on the Official Programme for all the Participants.
- (f) All Participants are responsible for obtaining full accident, health and travel insurance. It is the Leader's responsibility to confirm that this condition has been met for all Participants of his or her team.
- (g) In all situations not covered by the regulations, the organisation of the BxMO decides.

## 2. Contest Regulations

- (a) The contest element of the BxMO (the "Contest") will start on Saturday morning and last for four and a half hours. The examination paper will consist of four problems.
- (b) Each Contestant must work independently and may submit solutions in his/her own language. The solutions must be written on answer forms provided by the organisation. Contestants must write on only one side of each answer form.
- (c) The only instruments permitted in the Contest will be writing and drawing instruments, such as rulers and compasses. In particular, books, papers, tables, calculators, protractors, computers and communication devices will not be allowed into the examination room.
- (d) The Leaders will consider written questions raised by Contestants during the first half hour of the Contest and decide on replies.
- (e) The organisation of the BxMO will decide the medal cuts, using the following guidelines. In unexpected cases an exception can be made.
  - The total number of prizes will be approximately half the total number of Contestants.
  - The numbers of first, second and third prizes should be approximately in the ratio 1:2:3.

These calculations are made on the basis of the performances of members of official teams. Prizes are awarded to participants of non-official teams on the basis of these boundaries.

- (f) The prize winners will not be announced until the award ceremony.

- (g) Each Contestant who has not received a first, second or third prize will receive a Certificate of Honourable Mention if he/she has received seven points for the solution of at least one problem.

### **3. Coordination**

- (a) For each problem each Contestant will receive an integer score out of a maximum of seven points.
- (b) Prior to coordination, Contestants' solutions will be assessed by Leaders and Deputy Leaders in accordance with the marking schemes. For each country the Leader and both of the Deputy Leaders are expected to participate in the marking and coordination.
- (c) Each coordination session will involve two Coordinators provided by the organization and two or three (Deputy) Leaders of the relevant country.
- (d) The Leader and the designated Coordinators should agree on the scores for each Contestant. These scores will be recorded on official forms and signed by the Leader and the Coordinators. If the Leader and the Coordinators fail to agree on a score for a Contestant, the matter will first be referred to the Chief Coordinator. If the Leader and Chief Coordinator fail to agree on a score, the Chief Coordinator will report the matter to the other Leaders with a recommendation as to what the score should be, who will together determine the score.