



International Organizing Committee
Young Physicists' Tournament



IOC meeting

Minutes

July 30th 2011, Safavi Hotel, Esfahan, Iran

Agenda

The agenda was sent to all IOC members via email on June 28th.

1. Opening and control of presence
2. Suggestions for changes in the agenda
3. Short presentation of pre-selection procedure, division to groups
4. Work in groups – reviewing of problems
5. Plenary discussion about problems
6. Final selection of problems, rephrasing
7. Report from the EC meeting, Tehran 2010
8. IYPT 2012 – hosting country selection
9. Confirmation of Chinese Taipei as organizing country for IYPT 2013
10. Report of the treasurer, bank account details
11. Discussion and possible adoption of changes in statutes and regulations
12. Web page
13. IYPT Archive
14. IYPT Journal
15. Various issues

1. Opening and control of presence

The meeting starts at 8:36, Martin Plesch (MP) welcomes the IOC members and asks Dina Izadi (DI) how much time there will be: We have 3hs and 25 mins (instead of the planned 2 days).

Present IOCs:

Austria:	Thomas Lindner (TL)
Belarus:	Ivan Antsipau (IA)
Brazil:	Victor Ando
Bulgaria:	Assen Kyuldjiev (AK)
China:	Feng Song
Chinese Taipei:	Hsien-Chung Kao (HCK)

Croatia: Kreso Zadro (KZ)
Czech Republic: Stanislav Panoš
Georgia: George Laskhishvili
Germany: Rudolf Lehn (RL)
Iran: Dina Izadi (DI)
Korea: Hong Jung (substitute for Myeung Hoi Kwon)
Poland: Andrzej Nadolny
Russia: Valentin Lobyshev (VL)
Slovakia: František Kundracik
Sweden: Mattias Andersson
Switzerland: Samuel Byland (SB)
Thailand: Prapun Manyum
Ukraine: Valery Koleboshyn (VK)

Absent IOCs:

Kenya: Francisco Swaminathan
Mexico: Carmen del Pilar Suarez Rodriguez Suarez Rodriguez (visitor only)
Singapore: Theresa Poh Sin Thor

Present ECs:

Martin Plesch (MP)
Georg Hofferek (GH)
Timotheus Hell (TH)
Dina Izadi

Absent ECs:

Alan Allinson (AA)
Li Chuan Yong
John Balcombe (JB)

Visitors:

Ilya Martchenko (IM)

2. Suggestions for changes in the agenda

We started work on the problems in groups already during the bus tour from Tehran to Isfahan yesterday. There are results from 3 groups, the rest is being finalized right now, GH is entering the results in an Excel sheet.

MP suggests adapting the agenda, since due to some organizational shortcomings we have only very little time left. No one disagrees.

MP asks RL to start his presentation on Bad Saulgau as a host for IYPT 2012 while the results of the groups are being finalized and while RL is preparing, explains why we have to find a new host. Czech Republic was approved as a host for 2012 before, but due to very tragic circumstances will not be able to host: Our friend Zdenek Kluiber (former IOC member from Czech Republic) passed away in November 2010. We commemorate his death with a minute of silence.

8. IYPT 2012 – Hosting Country Selection

RL starts his presentation about Bad Saulgau as a host for IYPT 2012 at 8:47 [Presentation is attached as 110712IYPT2012Application.pdf]

After the presentation RL replies to a few questions about IYPT 2012: There will be no increase in the fees for teams or visitors. Friedrichshafen Airport is closest but small; Stuttgart Airport is the closest larger airport (about 2h from Bad Saulgau). The IOC meeting might take place at Stuttgart Airport.

At 9:05 the IOC votes for Bad Saulgau by acclamation. DI passes the IYPT Flag to RL.

MP continues with a few words about the IYPT 2011, expressing the difficulties DI had to face with the university administration and thanking her. He gives one of the two Amirkabir Statues he had received to DI as a sign of our appreciation. DI explains her problems once more and expresses her hope for a better IYPT next year.

9. Confirmation of Chinese Taipei as organizing country for IYPT 2013

At 9:13 HCK is asked by MP to give an update on the planning of IYPT 2013.

Some information about the hosting university is being distributed on paper to the IOC and EC members. [The presentation given by HCK is attached as Progress_report_of_IYPT_2013.pdf]

There are a few questions after the presentation: Accommodation and fights are not planned to be on the same campus, but it would be possible to use the dormitories on the campus. The hotel is 20min (5min by bus) away. MP assures that the EC will check the accommodation.

There will be an official letter stating clearly the fact that IYPT is strictly an academic activity, not in any way political.

Hosting 2013 in Taipei is accepted by acclamation.

Thailand is interested in hosting in 2014 or 2015.

All countries are asked to think about applying. If someone is interested, a proposal should be made so we can have a vote at one of the next IOC meetings.

10. Report of the treasurer, bank account details

As JB is not here, MP gives the report he has prepared.

There are no financial flows because the fiscal year starts in November and ends in October. The fee from China was paid before that, Austria paid later.

[The files shown by MP are attached as balance sheet 2009-10.pdf, statement 01.01.10 - 31.01.10.pdf, statement 01.11.09 - 31.12.09.pdf, statement 01.11.09 - 31.12.09.pdf]

At 9:35 there is the vote on approval: all in favor.

12. Web page

TH gives a very brief introduction to the new iypt.org website. SB asks for the EC-Decisions updates to be sent to all IOC members via email. MP starts a discussion on email addresses and asks everyone for a working email address. RL asks for the IOC members to be listed on the website. This will be done, however email addresses will only be at the respective IOC member's request, due to privacy concerns.

VL and SB ask for listing national IYPT websites, a list of former hosts is already available, even mirrors of old websites. A list of participating countries with links will be added.

13. IYPT Archive

IM gives a presentation on the IYPT archive [The slides presented are attached as IM_IYPT_Archive_overview_July_30_2011.pdf]

TL asks whether reports should be transmitted to the archive. SB wants to know whether presentations can be submitted without further changes. All material can be sent to IM.

VK mentions that he was responsible for the cup and would like to see some information about this added.

14. IYPT Journal

MP introduces the idea of an IYPT Journal. Solutions should be collected and published. The initiative comes from Prof. Chia Chih-Ta from Taipei. It's a great investment for the students. There will be money for successful submissions (e.g. 100€). There will be reviewers (IYPT related persons, IOC members are asked to submit names of possible referees, e.g. 30€ could be paid to reviewers). The goal is to have 3 to 4 issues with about 10 solutions per year. There are no rules on the number of pages per solution yet. Submissions in Latex and MS Word should be possible. It was not possible for Prof. Chia Chih-Ta to transmit further information to Iran (internet connection too slow, website blocked, and address to send USB Flash drive to unknown as the hotel wasn't fixed a few days before going to Isfahan).

There should be open access via internet (iyptmag.phy.ntnu.edu.tw) but the journal is also going to be printed.

IM asks if submission is only possible for participants, MP answers that there are no restrictions other than the submission being about a (recent) IYPT problem. IA asks about contact information, MP informs that there will be an editor and further information will be available at a later time.

AK asks about the availability as a free download – there will be free access and some printed copies are going to be sent to IOC members – which may be helpful if shown to local sponsors etc.

VL proposes that the reviewers names should be published (since there will be mistakes in the solution). MP agrees that it's important not to publish wrong solutions. Suggestion will be passed to Chia Chih-Ta. IM asks for a proper online call for submissions, as this would work better than just some emails.

The first issue should be published this year (submission deadline sometime in October)

At 10:25 we have a 5 min break. After that the last group that is still preparing their ranking has to finish.

5. Plenary discussion about problems

At 10:42 the discussion about the problems for 2012 starts.

We will only discuss which problems we choose and the physics – not language (JB and AA are asked to help with what was planned on the agenda as “6. Final selection of problems, rephrasing”). The resulting selection and the problems’ phrasing are attached as Problems2012_Preliminary.xls.

GH shows the results of the groups on the projector. We will go through the problems, starting with the one that has the most points from the groups. Suggestions from the IOC members are added to the phrasing of the problems. There is a vivid discussion (that cannot be described here in detail).

At 12:24 we have a vote on the set of problems (that will be corrected for language later): All in favor.

11. Discussion and Possible Adoption of Changes in Statutes and Regulations

There is almost no time left – but this is necessary because RL would like to have the changes made before the IYPT2012, to enable more teams to come to Bad Saulgau.

GH introduces the proposed changes to the Statutes. The files have already been sent to all IOC members.

GH proposes to vote on the English version and to have it translated (as IYPT is based in France).

VL criticizes the new proposal as it will not fix every problem, and all problems concerning this are different anyway.

GH however explains that this postpones the problem so that the IOC can eventually decide.

MP explains that currently we do not have a formal process for accepting new countries, so we cannot get a team from e.g. Italy even if e.g. GH trains them. Several examples from the last years show that this is a problem that comes up very often.

KZ asks about the conditions for a new IMO, as it is fairly easy to register a new organization.

MP reads the proposed statutes and adds that it has the support of the EC.

At 13:02 we have a vote on the new statutes and regulations: Of the 19 IOC members present, 18 are in favor, VL abstains.

15. Various issues

We are informed that the busses will leave at a later time than planned, therefore there is now some more time for various issues.

DI gives presents to the winners of this year's poster session:

- 1) Sweden
- 2) Georgia
- 3) South Korea
- 4) Austria
- 5) Belarus

There is a vote on closing the meeting now (13:06), but the majority wants to continue as long as possible.

AK proposes a change in the tournament regulations: The Opponent has the right to summarize the report only at beginning. But the Opponent would also like to say some words at the end.

Several ideas are discussed. GH proposes an "opponence summary" of 1 minute added and to shorten the 5 minutes the Opponent has at the beginning of the discussion to 4. We agree on this new ruling. 18 in favor, no one against (DI is absent during this vote).

Another proposal by AK is to add 5min for clarification question of jurors. TH explains that this is exactly what the 5min for "Questions of the jurors" should be used for, TL proposes to clarify that the 5min for jury questions are for clarification in the regulations.

VL has another issue: The grading is the main problem of this tournament. The change of the scoring guidelines by the EC was not predictable, this situation must be analyzed. He thinks that any team should at least get a 5 at an international tournament.

As now the time for our meeting is really up, MP asks VL to write this as an email to the IOC so that we can have a further discussion.

IM quickly adds that at least one of the new scoring guidelines' goals was achieved: An increase in the spread of points.

MP closes the meeting at 13:22.

Prepared by: Timotheus Hell

Edited and approved by: Martin Plesch