



International Organizing Committee
Young Physicists' Tournament



Annual IOC meeting, Taiwan

Minutes

July 31st, August 1st 2013

1. *Opening and control of presence* (10 minutes)

Delegates from countries present:

Australia/ Austria/ Belarus/ Brazil/ Bulgaria/ Croatia/ Czech Republic/ Germany/
Indonesia/ Iran/ New Zealand (NZ)/ Nigeria/ Poland/ Romania/ Russia/ Singapore/
Slovakia/ Sweden/ Switzerland/ Taiwan/ Thailand/ United Kingdom (UK)/ Korea/
China/ Hungary (25 in total)

Non-voting members:

Alan Allinson (President), Martin Plesch (Secretary General), Ilya Martchenko
(Treasurer), Georg Hofferek, Horst Bittner (LOC 2012), Chia Chih-Ta (LOC 2013)

Guests:

Timotheus Hell

Throughout the text, delegates from countries are referred by country names (or abbreviations as defined) and persons by their initials.

2. *Approval of the agenda* (10 minutes)

Agenda was approved by acclamation.

3. *Vote on IOC rules of procedure* (30 minutes)

Suggested rules were introduced by AA. Poland suggested to precise the procedure for secret ballot. Amended wording agreed by 25 votes.

4. *IYPT 2014 – presentation by the head of LOC* (30 minutes)

Delegate from UK (John Balcombe) presented information about the upcoming IYPT tournament and distributed information brochures.

- MP wants UK to clarify the time for meetings on July 3rd. UK replies it's more likely to be an EC meeting than a juror meeting. UK emphasizes that everything is subject to change, depending on the decision of the IOC.
- TH asks if a 6th round of PF will be possible. AA decides to leave that for further discussion.
- The venue will be in a large campus which is not far-away from the town, where students are free to spend their time on campus, or to walk to town by themselves.

- GH wonders if everyone is going to stay on the campus. UK replies students and most of the team leaders will be staying on the campus, while hotel will only be arranged for the EC/ IOC members, independent jurors and perhaps some team leaders.
- UK emphasizes the high quality of local facilities.
- UK plans to provide students with a variety of sports on site.
- The dining area is newly refurbished, able to accommodate 700-800 people, and the quality of catering is guaranteed.
- Iran is concerned about visa, now that the UK Embassy in Iran has been shut down. UK promises to grant any assistance in their power, but he can't guarantee anything.
- AA asks which airport would be used for arrivals. UK provides a list of options, in which Manchester and Birmingham are the closest (1.5 hr of travelling), while Heathrow (3hr of traveling) is accessible for more countries. Most probably two from these three options shall be provided.
- IOC meeting shall be carried out on site.
- NZ wonders if there will be more screens in the fight rooms. UK says the room will not be as big as the ones in Yuan Ze University (2013 IYPT). It will go into EC meeting for further discussion.
- Nigeria asks about the source of sponsor for UK. The fundraising for UK is undergoing, but they haven't reached to the government. AA agrees not to rely on government funding too much.
- The registration fee will be about 1000 pounds.
- Time for registration: (1) pre: February or March (2) final: May
- IM asks about the 2014 webpage. UK replies there will be a link on the currently-used IYPT UK webpage, directing people to the 2014 webpage.

5. *IYPT 2015 – presentation by the head of LOC (20 minutes)*

MP referred about the e-mail communication with the head of LOC 2015 in Thailand. Preparation of the tournament is proceeding well.

6. *IYPT 2016 – presentation, confirmation of the host (20 minutes)*

IM referred about the current information. MP displayed a copy of a formal application letter from confirming the bid. Russia was confirmed as IYPT 2016 organizer with 25 votes.

7. *IYPT 2017 – presentation of host candidate(s) (20 minutes)*

Singapore presented their bid for organizing IYPT 2017 (presentation attached). Confirmed by 25 votes.

8. *Report from the EC meeting, Taipei 2012 (30 minutes)*

MP reported about the outcomes of the EC meeting 2012 according to its minutes. Bulgaria suggests the IYPT adds sound signal to remind jurors of the time limits.

- TH replies that the sound signal has already been implemented in the system, but the problem lies in the appropriateness of it. Besides, the clock is already serving as a reminder, and the volunteers are also doing a great job in reminding the jurors of the time limit.
- Bulgaria suggests that the software should give a sound 5 seconds before the end of the session. MP agrees that sound signal avoids the trouble of interrupting or waiting for someone for a reminder.
- Russia suggests the sound signal to be used only for the reporter, because chairs are responsible of watching the time themselves.
- GH doubts if the fight rooms will be equipped with adequate speakers.
- Nigeria suggests no warning sound to be used, but a sound at the end of the session is fine.
- NZ thinks the volunteers are doing a good job, and the sounds will only be a distraction.
- Russia thinks the clock that we have for now is clear enough.
- AA decides to leave this problem for the EC meeting.

UK inquires about the copyright of the IYPT logo. IM hasn't got in touch with the designer yet.

9. Presentation of the suggested problems by the Committee for problems selection (60 minutes)

IM presented the report of the Committee.

10. Approval of the set of problems (60 minutes)

A vote about accepting the suggested set of problems: 7 for, 16 against, 2 abstained. After that each problem was discussed about and voted separately, each of the preselected problems was approved, some of them with slight wording changes. Taiwan proposed to exchange problem 11 with one of spare optical problems. This suggestion was not supported as the original set of problems with amended wording was approved by 24 votes. Set of problems is available on the IYPT webpage.

11. Applications for IMO status (15 minutes)

IMOs that have been recognized in 2012 will get their certificates during this IOC meeting, AA reported. He also presented the application by Australia, which was approved by 25 votes.

12. IYPT magazine report (30 minutes)

The editor in chief, Prof. Wen Chin Lin, reported about the status and plan concerning the IYPT magazine. The presentation is attached.

13. Report of the treasurer, bank account details (20 minutes)

IM presented the report about the fiscal year 2011/2012, prepared by former treasurer John Balcombe (UK) and audited by elected auditors. Report was accepted by 24 votes.

IM also reported about the current balance on the IYPT account (9377,70 €) and the initiatives taken to get sponsors support. Brochures about IYPT have been printed and distributed; advertisement video has been produced; now different companies are being contacted.

The promotional video 'Universe of Physics' was produced with a focus on the IYPT as a movement, not a single event, paid by LOC 2016 and coordinated with IM. NZ relayed positive feedback on the video from several viewers.

14. EPS prize (15 minutes)

MP presented the possibility to apply for the European Physical Society prize for the best (or three best) European teams, as the regulations of the EPS call state. After a short discussion this proposal was approved by 15 votes.

15. Discussion and possible adoption of changes in regulations (45 minutes)

Motion 1 (freely selectable problem) was thoroughly discussed. Concerns about the loss of attractiveness of the competition due to decreased amount of tactics were expressed mainly by Switzerland and New Zealand. Several other countries supported the motion. In first vote, 16 countries were in favor, 8 against and 1 abstained. A discussion followed mainly between GH and IM on one side and AA, Croatia and UK on the other side whether this vote was successful, focusing on the definition of a valid vote and whether *abstain* should be counted as a valid vote or not. A new vote was conducted, where 17 countries voted in favor, 7 against and 1 abstained. Thus the motion was supported.

Motion 2 (six physics fights) was after a short discussion supported by 12 countries, 11 against and 2 abstained, thus this motion was not successful.

Motion 2a was withdrawn as motion 1 was successful.

Amended version of regulations is available on the IYPT webpage.

16. Various issues (60 minutes)

MP reported about a possible motion of increasing the number of freely rejectable problems. This motion will be discussed during the EC meeting.

MP also opened the question whether the names of the authors shall be disclosed for the committee report, as the names of the committee members and reviewers are publicly known. This issue will be discussed within the committee and EC meeting and settled down before closing the next call for problems.

Delegate from Iran expressed her concerns about the quality of the jury members. To enhance the quality further, as one of the measures and evaluation system will be prepared for IYPT 2014, as decided repeatedly by the EC in the past.

NZ suggested that measures have to be prepared if a team behaves not accordingly to existing regulations (e.g. using internet during PFs, as it apparently happened

during IYPT 2013). After a short discussion AA concluded, that this issue will be discussed during the EC meeting.

TH suggested reverting the order of reports in the final. This motion will be discussed during the EC meeting.

Prepared by: Martin Plesch

Approved by: Alan Allinson

Annexes:

1. Singapore IYPT 2017 presentation
2. IYPT magazine presentation

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