IMO 2020 (Virtual) Annual Regulations (June 2020)

UTC stands for Coordinated Universal Time, commonly known as GMT in some countries.

1. An official delegation of a participating country of the 61st International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO 2020) consists of no more than six Contestants, the Leader and Deputy Leader, jointly called Participants, as well as accompanying Observers.

2. These (second revised) Annual Regulations for (the virtual) IMO 2020 have been approved by the IMO Board according to paragraph 1.7 of the General Regulations.

3. The Host Country for IMO 2020 is the Russian Federation. IMO 2020 is a purely virtual event because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and regulations relating to events for Participants and Observers physically taking place in the Host Country do not apply. Online activities will replace the excursions and/or cultural trips referred to in paragraph 3.5 of the General Regulations.

4. The Host Organization of IMO 2020 is the Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia (Herzen University).


6. Registration of Leaders, Deputy Leaders, Observers and the number of Contestants must be completed online on the website https://www.imo-official.org no later than 20 August 2020. Each Country may have a maximum of two Observers A to assist their Leader, and a maximum of two Observers C to facilitate child protection. There will be no Observers B at IMO 2020.

7. Proposals for problems must be received by 31 May 2020. Proposals must be submitted via the portal at the IMO official website.

8. Registration of Contestants must be completed online on the website https://www.imo-official.org no later than 31 August 31 2020.

9. There will be no virtual version of routine Jury meetings. Any decisions that should be taken by the Jury (such as approval of problems, approval of translations, approval of marking schemes) will be made by the Jury Chair, taking advice from the IMO Board, on behalf of the Jury, except where stated otherwise. The Jury Chair may call video conference Jury meetings at his or her discretion. Amendments of the General Regulations for future IMOs may
not be made at IMO 2020. Any decisions required to be made about the hosting of future IMOs may be made by the IMO Board on behalf of the Jury, if required to be made before IMO 2021.

10. The elections to the IMO Board that were scheduled to take place at IMO 2020 will instead take place at IMO 2021, with the terms of existing elected members of the IMO Board that were due to end at the end of IMO 2020 being extended until the end of IMO 2021; the terms of members elected at those deferred elections will end at the end of IMO 2024, as they would have if the elections had not been deferred. The terms of other elected members of the IMO Board are unaffected.

11. Exams must take place in national IMO Exam Centres, approved by the Host Organization. Any expenses associated with hiring facilities are the responsibility of participating countries, who are also responsible for ensuring that an Exam Centre is a suitable and safe environment, with all appropriate facilities that are expected at a normal IMO.

12. For each IMO Exam Centre, there will be an IMO Commissioner, appointed by the IMO Board subject to the approval of the Host Organization. A Commissioner will be a trusted individual, and not a citizen of a country using that Exam Centre, and where possible having some familiarity with IMO traditions and procedures. The IMO Commissioner will oversee the conduct of the exams, including reviewing answers provided by the Leader to questions from Contestants. The IMO Commissioner will work with the IMO Ethics Committee as necessary to ensure the exams are conducted properly and that the IMO Ethics Committee is provided with any necessary information. Where a Contestant representing one Country is residing in another Country at the time of the IMO, their participation in the exams may be overseen by the IMO Commissioner for the Country in which they are residing, or by another IMO Commissioner, subject to the approval of the IMO Board. Participating nations are responsible for paying any expenses incurred by the IMO Commissioner (e.g. accommodation for one night, travel inside the country).

13. The Official Programme for Leaders and Observers A begins on 19 September 2020 and ends on 28 September 2020. In the early phase of the competition, there will be testing of communications and clarifications of protocols rather than Jury meetings, and possibly other online activities.


15. There will be an online Opening Ceremony on 20 September 2020.

16. Contest problems will not be released until shortly before the sitting of exams (for translation where necessary). The Contest problems will be selected by the Problem Selection Committee (not the Jury). The Contest problems will be sent to an Official Languages Committee, whose membership has been approved by the IMO Board, on 19 September 2020. The Official Languages Committee must include at least two people fluent in each of the official languages. Solutions will be released to Leaders after the last student has finished sitting the corresponding exam (somewhere in the world, so likely in UTC -5). Leaders must provide their translations of exam papers into other languages, and send
their language versions to IMO2020 using an online process specified by the Host Organization. After each exam, IMO Commissioners will send scans of scripts to the Coordinators. Leaders have 48 hours to provide precise translations into an Official IMO language of each student's script (and any relevant rough work). These translations will be sent to the Coordinators and the IMO Ethics Committee by a procedure to be specified by the Host Organization. Leaders may obtain assistance from colleagues (but not participating students) when making these translations. Note that, even when a student has written in an Official Language, if a student has poor handwriting, Leaders should assist the Coordinators by providing a clear version of the student's script in a format which the Coordinators will find maximally useful.

17. Exam conditions: IMO exams should take place in a sufficiently large room or hall to facilitate social distancing (to the extent required by local authorities and the state of the pandemic). Desks should be widely spaced. It is compulsory that Leaders arrange to use webcams to provide a live feed of pictures of examinations taking place to the Chief Invigilator and IMO Ethics Committee.

18. The Contest days for IMO 2020 will be 21 September and 22 September 2020. All Contestants must have been born on or after 2 July 2000. Contestants will sit the Contest in the country they currently reside in, at a location designated the national IMO Exam Centre by their Leader. In order to participate officially in IMO2020, students must sit the exam at the Exam Centre, in the presence of an IMO Commissioner. On each day, the paper must be sat for a single period of four and a half hours, starting at a time in the interval [07:30, 12:00] UTC and finishing 4 hours 30 minutes later. When the virtual IMO is happening, UTC will be IMO time. For each Country, all Contestants in a Country must sit the Contest at the same time. All persons receiving the problems, including Contestants, must keep them confidential until 23:59 UTC 22 September 2020. In accordance with paragraph 6.6 of the General Regulations, the shortlist for IMO 2019 remains confidential until 23:59 UTC 22 September 2020, and the substitute shortlist for IMO 2020 remains confidential until the end of the Contest for IMO 2021.

19. In a region of the world where the pandemic conditions permit travel, it is possible for more than one Country to use the same IMO Exam Centre. In this case, only one IMO Commissioner is required to be present to oversee the translations and examinations. Such arrangements, where safe, are encouraged, since they will give something of a normal IMO experience to participating students.

20. Electronic equipment of any kind (including timekeeping equipment) may not be brought into IMO exams. This regulation does not apply to internal equipment such as a heart pacemaker or a cochlea implant. Details of externally worn hearing aids or any other electronic equipment worn for medical reasons must be submitted for approval to the IMO Ethics Committee the day before the first IMO exam.

21. Contestants are allowed to ask written questions in the first half hour of the Contest. Questions do not need to be considered by the Jury. The Leader may give a written answer to a question, supervised by the IMO Commissioner, provided that it is a question sufficiently similar to one of those on a list of likely
questions (and answers) which will be provided by the IMO 2020 Official Languages Committee. If there is an unexpected question, leaders must contact the specialist Question and Answer Committee by video conference, before providing a written answer to a student. Records of all questions and answers must be supplied to the Chief Invigilator and IMO Ethics Committee by a procedure to be specified by the Host Organization.

22. Coordination will be very similar to normal coordination, except that it will be conducted by scheduled video conference. It is possible that some coordination will happen on 23 September, but the main coordination days will be 24, 25, 26 September. There will be problem captains and a Chief Coordinator as usual. Final appeal to the Jury will not be possible at this virtual competition. Instead, in the event that a final appeal is necessary, it will be to a joint committee of the Jury Chair, the elected members of the IMO Board and the Ethics Committee.

23. The Medal Boundaries and other awards will be decided by a joint committee of the Jury Chair, the elected members of the IMO Board and the Ethics Committee. They will use exactly the same protocols as at a normal IMO. There will be a video conference Jury meeting on 27 September to resolve any outstanding issues and to announce the Medal Boundaries and awards. Results will be published immediately according to normal practice.

24. Medals and Certificates will be posted to Leaders, and it is hoped that, when health conditions permit, national presentation ceremonies will be arranged.

25. There will be an online closing ceremony on 28 September 2020.

26. Leaders must ensure that all child protection measures which are legally enforced in their country of origin are correctly observed.

27. Online registration at https://www.imo-official.org implies the consent of the Participants and Observers in the processing and storage for 1 year at a Host Organization of their personal data, including surname, name, gender, nationality, date of birth, place of birth, passport data, address of residence, place of study, work, phone, photos, in the manner established by the Federal law of the Russian Federation of 27.07.2006 No152-ФЗ "On personal data". Consent to the processing of personal data can be revoked by sending a request from the Leader.

28. Online registration at https://www.imo-official.org implies the consent of Participants and Observers to take photos and videos during any online activities of IMO 2020, with the right of the Host Organization to publish images and videos including images and videos of Participants and Observers, according to article 152.1 of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation in the Internet, mass media, reports and other official documents of the Organizing Committee IMO 2020.

29. The Host Organization, with the approval of the IMO Board, may vary protocols concerning the conduct of the virtual IMO 2020 as and when necessary. This contest is unrehearsed, so some flexibility may be required to make matters run as smoothly as possible.

30. Separate detailed documents will be published explaining procedures, technical details and protocols concerning the various aspects of IMO 2020.
This will happen on or before 20 August 2020. These Annual Regulations only provide an outline.

**Amendments**

1. Normally there will be one national Exam Centre per Country. However, in the case of geographically large countries where travel is unsafe or not permitted, Leaders should seek permission from the IMO Board to have multiple Exam Centres. Please do this only when strictly necessary. Write to: imocommission@gmail.com with 'country name' in the subject line.

2. Video conference coordination meetings will be recorded, and will be retained for 12 months before being destroyed. The IMO Ethics Committee and the IMO Board will have access to these recordings, in the event that any questions of irregularity arise. The storage of these recordings will not be connected to the internet.

3. There are no Observer Fees at IMO 2020.