

CSU Mathematics Tournament Rules

Thirty-Fifth Annual Columbus State University Invitational Math Tournament February 28, 2009

Eligibility:

All invited schools will be eligible to participate upon submission of a proper registration form accompanied by the required fee. Any student enrolled in a participating school in grades 9-12 is eligible to compete.

School Categories:

Provided that at least five eligible schools register for each category, awards and ranking of individuals and schools will be divided into two categories. Category I schools are those which are designated AAAA or AAA by the GHSA, or, in the case of non-Georgia schools, those whose ADA is 550 or more. All other schools are Category II schools. A school eligible for Category II may compete for awards in Category I by expressing that intention on the registration form. In that case, individuals representing that school will compete only in that category.

Individual Written Examination:

The written examination will consist of 50 items, each with 5 possible answer selections. The examination will be scored on the basis of +12 for each correct answer, -3 for each incorrect selection, and 0 for each omitted item. Each student will work independently and will be given an initial score of 200 so that no student receives a negative final score. Items for which more than one selection is made will be counted as incorrectly answered. Students are permitted to use calculators on the written examination; however, calculators with symbolic algebra capabilities (such as the TI-92, TI-89 Casio ALGFX2.0, and HP49g) are **NOT** permitted. The tournament committee will not furnish calculators and students will not be permitted to share calculators during the exam.

Challenge Policy: The members of the Mathematics Tournament Committee of CSU have worked diligently to present questions which are unambiguous and which have exactly one correct solution. If a student should want to challenge a question or an answer, the sponsor for that student must complete an official Challenge Form and return it to the Challenge Committee by 12:00 noon on the day of the competition for a ruling. A copy of the Challenge Form will be in each sponsor's package (given on the day of the tournament). Challenges will be accepted only from the sponsors.

NO CHALLENGES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 12:00

Group Problem Solving Examination:

The event will be held concurrently with the Individual Written Examination and will utilize the same written examination as described above. Students will work together in groups of three to five members and submit one examination answer sheet for the group. Schools may have more than one group competing in the event. Group members will be allowed to talk during the examination time, but only within their assigned group. Students are permitted to use calculators on the written examination; however, calculators with symbolic algebra capabilities (such as the TI-92, TI-89 Casio ALGFX2.0, and HP49g) are NOT permitted. The tournament committee will not furnish calculators and students will not be permitted to share calculators during the exam. The scoring of the exam will count toward the Group Problem Solving Event only and will not be included in the calculation of School Ranking. Students competing in the Group Problem Solving Examination cannot compete in the Individual Written Examination.

Ciphering Competition:

The ciphering competition will be conducted in two rounds. Each school may enter as many pairs (2 participants) as it wishes (providing space exists) in the ciphering competition, but **must** enter at least one pair in each round. Each sponsor will be assigned a block of numbers for the purpose of assigning numbers to their competing pairs. School sponsors will assign pair number designations on the day of the tournament. Each pair will participate in only one round of the competition; all even numbered pairs will participate in the first round, all odd numbered pairs will participate in the second round.

Each round consists of 8 items, with one answer accepted from each pair on each item. Correct answers submitted during the first time period will score 100 points. Correct answers submitted during the second time period will score 50 points.

Students are not allowed to use calculators during the ciphering competition.

Individual Rankings:

The individual rankings will be based solely on the scores in the written examination. Ties will be broken only to determine the awarding of prizes; please see also the rules regarding ties. Rankings will be by category. If there is an award of value for the over-all winner, that winner will be determined without consideration of category.

School Rankings:

Each school will receive a tournament score, computed by summing the school individual score and the school ciphering score. The school individual score will be the sum of the four highest scores attained by students representing the school on the written test. The school ciphering score will be the sum of their ciphering round scores. The ciphering round score for each school will be the top score attained by a pair representing that school in that round.

Ties:

Ties will be broken only to determine the awarding of prizes. When it is necessary to break ties for individual or group problem solving awards, competitors will be eliminated in an obvious fashion based on correct answers to five ordered, tie-breaking questions designated on the written examination by asterisks. In the event that ties remain, the contestants will share the applicable awards.

Ties for school trophies will be broken on the basis of the written exam, first looking at total school score, then (if necessary) the sum of the top 3, then top 2, and then top 1.