

August 31, 2006

Dear Colleague:

This letter constitutes a formal announcement of the Forty-Third Annual Olympiad High School Prize Competition in Mathematics. The enclosures include an announcement notice, contest rules, a registration form, and a purchase order form. Once again we were most gratified by the enthusiasm with which last year's contest was received.

The problems on this contest are purposely of an original and challenging nature. It is suggested that advisors screen their students carefully, allowing only those capable of handling this type of test to participate. This would avoid placing students in an uncomfortable situation. Others could be exposed to the exam unofficially at a later date.

The following procedures will be followed this year:

- (1) Calculators are permitted on the Level 1 and 2 exams. Calculators allowed on the College Boards are permitted EXCEPT FOR GRAPHING CALCULATORS THAT DO SYMBOLIC ALGEBRA, such as the TI-89 or the HP-48 or HP-49 graphing calculators. Compasses, rulers, and graph paper are permitted on both the level 1 and 2 exams.
- (2) The use of an English to foreign language dictionary is also permitted on either exam.
- (3) On or before the September 27, 2006 deadline, order from the Contest Coordinator the number of examinations needed. There is a school registration fee of \$25 . Individual examinations are purchased in bundles of 10 at a cost of \$10 per bundle. Any school registering after the September 27, 2006 deadline will be assessed an additional \$25 late fee. The registration envelope with all requested information should be sent directly to the Contest Coordinator in order to ensure the delivery of the tests by the contest date.
SEE #10 FOR A SPECIAL OFFER FOR SCHOOLS WHO HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED RECENTLY.

- (4) Each school will provide its own proctor for the competition.
- (5) The examination must be started on the examination day, Tuesday, October 24, 2006, no earlier than 7:30 A.M. and no later than 9:30 A.M.
- (6) We are asking the proctors to assemble on the examination day the names of the actual examinees and have them typed or printed on the coded list of Examinees form which will accompany the examinations. Thereafter, this code number along with the school's code number will identify each participant's examination. A copy of the Coded List of Examinees should be kept by the school to identify students when the results are returned.
- (7) The Level I examination consists of 30 multiple choice questions. The answer sheets will be machine scored using the following system: 30 points plus 4 points for each correct response minus 1 point for each incorrect response. No points are gained or lost for an unanswered question. The maximum possible score is 150 points.
- (8) We would like as many schools as possible to compete in the Olympiad, and therefore we have set aside a limited amount of money so that the registration fee may be waived in cases of extreme need. Contact the Contest Coordinator if you are in this situation.
- (9) On the registration form enclosed, please provide us with your e-mail address as well as the name and e-mail address of your principal, as future mailings will be done electronically.

(10) Please note the special offer to schools who have not participated in the past 2 years - ten complimentary exams and the Level 1 book of questions with solutions will be provided if the school pays the registration fee. Additional exams may be ordered at the usual price.

Copies of the First Level Examination, the Coded List of Examinees form, and a set of instructions to the proctor will be mailed to each participating school for delivery to the proctor prior to the day of the examination..

We sincerely hope that your school will be able to participate in this year's contest, and that you and your students will find this year's competition to be a challenging, yet rewarding and enjoyable event.

With kind regards,

William Noeth
Contest Coordinator

Sheryl Cabral
Contest Director