



Dear Colleagues,

We are only 20 days before the beginning of the 43rd International Physics Olympiad in Estonia. It is our pleasure to inform you about the progress regarding the preparation and necessary information for your teams.

Registration

The online registration is about to complete, the following 86 teams have confirmed their participation in the 43rd IPhO:

1. Albania
2. Armenia
3. Azerbaijan
4. Australia
5. Austria
6. Bangladesh
7. Belarus
8. Belgium
9. Bolivia
10. Bosnia & Herzegovina
11. Brazil
12. Bulgaria
13. Canada
14. Colombia
15. Croatia
16. Czech Republic
17. Cuba
18. Cyprus
19. Denmark
20. Ecuador
21. El Salvador
22. Estonia
23. Finland
24. France
25. Georgia
26. Ghana
27. Germany
28. Greece
29. Hong Kong
30. Hungary
31. Iceland
32. India
33. Indonesia
34. Ireland

35. Islamic Republic of Iran
36. Israel
37. Italy
38. Japan
39. Kazakhstan
40. Kuwait
41. Kyrgyzstan
42. Latvia
43. Liechtenstein
44. Lithuania
45. Macao, China
46. Macedonia
47. Malaysia
48. Mexico
49. Moldova
50. Mongolia
51. Montenegro
52. Nepal
53. Netherlands
54. Nigeria
55. Norway
56. Pakistan
57. People`s Republic of China
58. Poland
59. Portugal
60. Puerto Rico
61. Qatar
62. Republic of Korea
63. Republic of Singapore
64. Romania
65. Russia
66. Saudi Arabia
67. Serbia
68. Slovakia
69. Slovenia
70. South Africa
71. Spain
72. Sri Lanka
73. Suriname
74. Sweden
75. Switzerland
76. Syria Arab Republic
77. Taiwan

- 78. Tajikistan
- 79. Thailand
- 80. Turkey
- 81. Turkmenistan
- 82. Ukraine
- 83. United Kingdom
- 84. United States of America
- 85. Uzbekistan
- 86. Vietnam

Fees and payment

All participating teams (5 students + 2 leaders) are encouraged to contribute with a voluntary fee of EUR 3,500. The fee will cover: meals, accommodation and official social events during the official period of the Olympiad. Observers and visitors are welcome, and they are expected to cover their expenses, visitors EUR 1,100 and observers EUR 1,200.

Observers may attend all Olympiad meetings, including the meetings of the International Board. However, they can not vote or take part in discussions. Visitors do not attend the meetings of the International Board.

If the participating team from Your country is smaller than 5 people, then the participation fee is 500 euros per person and the total amount of the invoice will depend on the number of people.

We kindly ask you to pay the invoice before arrival to Estonia, within 10 days upon receiving it by e-mail. In case you wish to pay the fee on site, please inform the organizing committee well in advance (ipho2012@eitsa.ee)

Transportation

IPhO 2012 will start and end in Tallinn. Please make all your travel arrangements with arrival and departure at Tallinn Airport (<http://www.tallinn-airport.ee/eng>) (<http://www.tallinn-airport.ee/eng>)

For teams travelling via Helsinki (Finland), sea transportation from Helsinki to Tallinn could be the alternative (http://www.portofhelsinki.fi/passengers/departure_times_and_terminals).

Transportation from the airport and the seaport to the hotels and vice versa will be provided by the Organizing Committee at no additional cost.

Please insert your delegation travel plans into IPhO 2012 registration environment by June 29

Accommodation

In Tallinn students will stay at Sokos Hotel Viru. In Tartu students will stay at the following hotels: Hotel Dorpat, Tartu Hotel, Hotel Pallas and Hotel London.

Leaders, visitors and observers will be accommodated in Radisson Blu Hotel Olümpia. All hotels are situated in the very heart of Tallinn and Tartu. Two persons will share a room.



If leaders, visitors and observers would like to stay in single rooms, please let us know when you register for 43rd IPhO; there is an additional charge of EUR 400 for 9 nights during the official period of the Olympiad.

If you plan to arrive in Estonia earlier than July 15, 2012 or leave Tallinn later than July 24, 2012, please let us know well in advance (by noting it in the online registration and by sending us an e-mail, indicating the number of persons and type of the room) so that we can arrange your accommodation well in advance, because July is the tourism high season in Estonia and the hotels need to be booked as early as possible. The extra charge per night and per person in twin rooms in Tallinn is EUR 35 for the students' hotel and EUR 37,50 for the leaders' hotel. Breakfast is included.

Between 16th and 19th July, there will be no phones in the student's hotel rooms. Because of that it is recommended that the students take along their own alarm clocks.

Computing facilities for team leaders

Computing facilities, including laptop and printers, will be available in the International Board Meeting Room.

You can bring your own laptop/notebook. Standard power supply in Estonia is 220V/50 Hz.

Calculators

Notice regarding the calculators which can be brought into the examination room.

According to the Statutes of the IPhO, the only tools which can be brought into the examination room by competitors are drawing instruments and a non-programmable pocket calculator. [§5] In order to provide clear guidelines about which calculators are allowed, the Academic Committee of the IPhO 2012 offers the following definition.

A non-programmable calculator is not allowed to have:

- * more than 9 memory slots for recording intermediate data
- * possibility of entering user-defined functions for repetitive calculations
- * pre-stored physical constants
- * possibility of plotting graphs

The calculator needs to be a commercial product, complete with an English manual (printed or downloadable); it is allowed to have standard mathematical functions (trigonometric, hyperbolic etc.) and standard statistical functions (mean, standard deviation, etc.).

All the calculators of the contestants will be checked prior to the competition and the allowed ones will be labeled. Limited amount of replacement calculators will be available from the organizers.

Clothing and weather

During the opening and closing ceremonies and the farewell party it is required that the boys wear long trousers (please do not wear shorts unless these are part of the national costume).

Please take comfortable clothing and shoes for the excursions (there will be some walking and climbing).

There will be a football tournament for the students on the 22nd of July. Participating students need to have sports clothing with them.

Temperatures in the summer vary from +15 to +25 Celsius. The weather is changeable, shiny and rainy days are intermittent so it is advisable to prepare for both. Please bring your umbrella or raincoat. You can find more information about the Estonian weather here: <http://www.weather.ee/> (<http://emhi.ee/>).

The International Chemistry Olympiad in the United States of America

Some IPhO students are taking part in the International Chemistry Olympiad in the USA. Countries that need separate transportation for their student(s) to the airport, please let us know by writing to ipho2012@eitsa.ee

Information leak during the competition

The organizers of IPhO 2012 has taken some measures to minimize the possibility that information about the problems will leak. We hope for your understanding and count on your co-operation to execute the following measures:

- The students are not allowed to possess electronic equipment that has the possibility to communicate with the outer world until after the last test (July 19th). The equipment has to be delivered to the organization of IPhO 2012 in Tallinn and will be stored in special boxes.
- From July 16th at 08:00 am till July 19th at 08:00 pm the students are not allowed to use internet facilities or phones at the hotel, nor are they allowed to use such facilities outside the hotel.
- All communication between the students and their leaders, parents etc. during the above indicated period has to go via the guides.
- Leaders and observers are not allowed to communicate with the outer world from the start of the International Board meetings where the discussions of the problems take place up to the beginning of the respective examination (in the case of the experimental round, up to the beginning of the second shift of the experimental competition). In case of emergency the communication needs to go via the IPhO2012 office.



All violations against what is stated above will be regarded as cheating as mentioned in the IPhO Regulations §7 and appropriate measures will be taken accordingly.

Here we quote the Regulations associated with the Statute of the International Physics Olympiads:
If it is found that leaders, observers or students from a country have been in collusion to cheat in one of the International Olympiad examinations, the students concerned should be disqualified from that Olympiad. In addition, the leaders, observers and students involved should not be allowed to return to any future Olympiad. Appropriate decisions are taken by the International Board.

43rd IPhO Website and Contacts

The circulars and all information regarding the 43rd IPhO can be found at our website

<http://www.ipho2012.ee> which will be updated regularly.

The Academic and Organizing Committee of the 43rd International Physics Olympiad looks forward to welcoming all delegates in Estonia.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Jaak Kilas".

Prof Jaak Kilas
Head of the Academic Committee

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Viire Sepp".

Dr Viire Sepp
Academic Secretary of the Steering Committee