

# IMBT

INTERNATIONAL MATH  
BATTLE TOURNAMENT

5 - 11 January, 2026. Bovec, Slovenia



# What is IMBT?

**The International Math Battle Tournament** is a 1-week international team tournament in mathematics for high-school students from around the world.

**At IMBT** teams of young mathematicians face off in high-level, time-pressured problem-solving battles. The tournament brings together students from across the world to celebrate mathematical thinking, strategy, and international collaboration.

**The main aims of IMBT** are to stimulate and foster a love for mathematics, develop advanced problem-solving skills and logical thinking, and introduce students to new mathematical concepts.

**IMBT 2026** is organized by Slovenian students and will be held in Slovenia for the first time.

# What is a Math Battle?

**A Math Battle** (mathboj) is a team-based competition usually held among high-school students and associated with math olympiads.

It's not just about solving problems — it's about thinking fast, explaining clearly, and outsmarting your opponents.

**A Math Battle** includes both **a problem-solving** stage and **a presentation** to the jury stage.

**The problem-solving stage** is a four-hour team effort aiming to solve as many problems as possible.

During **the presentation stage**, two competing teams must explain and defend their solutions, analyze the solutions of the opposing team, point out mistakes and shortcomings of the counterpart.

For solving a problem, a team receives a certain number of points (maximum 12), which can be reduced if there are mistakes or flaws. The problem can be even transferred to the opposing team if they correctly point out the mistakes of the counterpart.

**Scoring** is based on **accuracy and presentation**.

# Math battles procedures and rules

**Preparation:** Teams receive the same set of problems and solve them in their rooms within a set amount of time (usually from after breakfast until lunch).

## The battle itself:

**Captains' Contest:** The captains solve a problem proposed by the jury, and the team whose captain first gives the correct answer earns the right to issue a challenge on one of the unsolved problems.

**Challenge and Report:** One team challenges another on a specific problem. The challenging team provides a presenter, and the challenged team provides an opponent.

## **Round Procedure:**

**Report:** The presenter explains the solution at the board.

**Opposition:** The opponent may ask questions and point out mistakes or “gaps” in the solution to the jury.

**Patching “Gaps”:** If the opponent finds mistakes, their team has the right to “patch” them by offering its own fix for the flaws in the report.

**Role Switch:** Sometimes the teams switch roles, with the presenter becoming the opponent and vice versa.

**Scoring:** After the round, the jury announces how many points each team earned, taking into account the correctness of the solution and the errors found.

**Continuation of the Match:** Teams continue challenging each other on other problems until all are considered or until one team refuses to issue further challenges.

**Results:** At the end of the math battle, all points are tallied, and the team with the highest score is declared the winner.

# Who is eligible for participation?

**High-school students**, usually having experience of participating in the mathematical olympiads, from any country **aged between 15-19 years old**.

Each team consists of 4-6 participants and has **a leader**, who is **of full age** and bears responsibility for his/her team.

**IMBT 2026** expects around 30-40 attendees including the staff.

**IMBT aims to provide** a challenging, creative, and inclusive event for young problem solvers to:

- Compete internationally

- Collaborate across borders

- Grow their skills and confidence in mathematics

- Represent their schools, countries, and cultures with pride

# Who organizes IMBT?

IMBT is organized by a team of olympiad participants, university students and math coaches, who are passionate about making high-level math accessible, fun and exciting. Some of them are:

## Ekaterina Chizhova



student of **gymnasium**  
**Bežigrad, Ljubljana**

**IMO 2025 honourable mention**  
**EGMO 2025 and 2024 silver**  
**medals**

## Hugo Trebše



student at the Faculty of  
Mathematics and Physics,  
**University of Ljubljana**

**IMO honourable mention 2023**  
**IMC silver medal 2025**





Our mission is to foster a **global community of young thinkers** who love solving problems and rising to a challenge.



# Who is IMBT's jury?

**IMBT's jury** and **problem selection committee (PSC)** are math olympiad coaches, who are former participants, medalists and award-winners of International Mathematical Olympiad **IMO**.

All the **Slovenian members** are students/coaches at the **Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana**, and the **DMFA** Society of Mathematicians, Physicists and Astronomers of Slovenia.

Loard Bejko	Vladimir Bragin	Patrik Cvetek	Katarina Grilj	Luka Horjak	Patricia Király	Žiga Oštir	Kaja Rajter
							
IMO HONOURABLE mention BMO HONOURABLE mention EMC BRONZE Medal IMC HONOURABLE mention  IMBT PSC	IMO GOLD medal  IMO Russian team Deputy leader in 2020 and 2021  IMBT PSC	IMO HONOURABLE mention  MEMO GOLD medal	IMO HONOURABLE mention  IMC BRONZE medal  EGMO SILVER medal	IMO GOLD medal IMO SILVER medals IMO BRONZE medal  IMO Slovenian team Deputy leader 2022-2025  IMBT PSC	IMO BRONZE medal  EGMO SILVER medal	IMO BRONZE medal	IMO HONOURABLE mention IMC HONOURABLE mention EGMO HONOURABLE mention

# Schedule of IMBT 2026

## January 5<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026:

January, 5<sup>th</sup> – arrivals and opening ceremony

January, 6<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> day of math battles

January, 7<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> day of math battles

January, 8<sup>th</sup> – hike to the Triglav mountains area and Soča river

January, 9<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> day of math battles

January, 10<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> day of math battles and closing ceremony

January, 11<sup>th</sup> - departures



# Where will IMBT 2026 take place?

**IMBT 2026** will take place in Bovec, a town in northwestern Slovenia's Julian Alps, famous as the "adventure capital" for activities like rafting, kayaking, and hiking on the emerald-green Soča River and within the nearby Triglav National Park.

**4\* Hotel Mangart** is based in the heart of Triglav national park and provides great possibilities for the math tournament, including comfortable accommodation, 3x meals per day and amazing views.



# Participation cost and sponsors

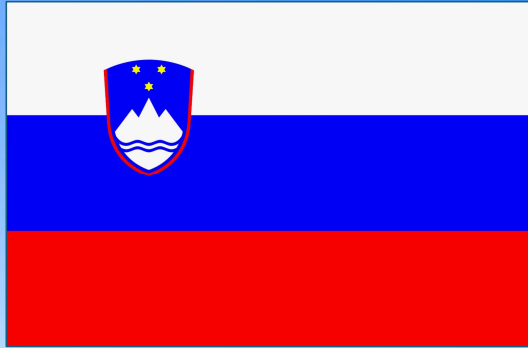
Since this is **the first edition** of the competition, there are currently no sponsors.

**The participation package per person** for the period 5 - 11 January 2026 amounts to **EUR 300**.

**The participation package** includes transfer from/to Ljubljana airport or Ljubljana central train station to/from Bovec, accommodation at 4\* Mangart hotel, 3 meals/day, hiking tour, evening and entertainment activities.

The **reservation deposit** in the amount of **EUR 50** is to be paid **by 30 November 2025**.





See you at IMBT!

