

The 5th Annual Golden Circle 9th Grade Math Championships

You are invited to bring several of your 9th graders who are interested in math to participate in a math contest. The intent of this contest is to provide an extracurricular means of meeting the needs of students who are, or could be, turned on by math yet would be overwhelmed in a competition against older high school students. In short, let's help enrich students' love of math as they *begin* secondary studies! This contest should be challenging and fun to the students, and it should raise many points of interest that they can discuss with teachers and students at their school.

NEW THIS YEAR!!!! Online registration only. Register at goldencircle.academycommunity.com

DATE: March 3, 2009

TIME: 5:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

PLACE: Central Academy, 1800 Grand Avenue, Des Moines

DEADLINE: Tuesday, February 27, 2009

(Your school must be registered online by that date at WEB ADDRESS. Any substitutions after that time are to be made at the registration table.)

SCHEDULE:	Register	5:30-6:15	1 st Floor Auditorium
	Individual	6:25-7:10	Individual Test in assigned rooms
	Team	7:20-8:00	Team Test in assigned rooms
	Presentation	8:10-8:30	1 st Floor Auditorium
	Sudoku Event	8:30-8:50	1 st Floor Auditorium
	Awards	8:50-9:10	1 st Floor Auditorium

COST: \$4 per student (Please pay AT REGISTRATION with a check made payable to GT Education)

WHO: *Only 9th grade students from your school.
*Up to 15 students from your school may compete at the **Apprentice** level.
Similarly, up to 15 students from your school may compete at the **Wizard** level.
***Apprentices** must be currently enrolled in algebra 1 or a prerequisite course.
Wizards must have completed algebra 1.

AWARDS: *An All-Academic Team will be selected from the top individual scorers at each level.
*School awards will be given at each level to the top scoring schools (calculated by adding the school's five highest individual scores and their team test score).
*Awards will be given based on school size.

ADULTS: You must provide 1 adult to help grade or proctor. If you have > 15 students, you must provide an additional grader (an adult or an excellent, older student).

Whom do I contact with questions?

Contact Mike Marcketti at Central Academy
Email: michael.marcketti@dmps.k12.ia.us
Phone: 515-242-7846 (school)

HOW DOES ALL THIS WORK?

Who takes the "Team Test"

Every student from your school who is competing at that level works together on the Team Test. For example, *Acme* High School may have 12 Apprentices and 7 Wizards. In that case, *Acme* would have 12 students work together to find solutions to the Apprentice Team Test while only 7 students would work together on the Wizard Team Test.

Why do you count only 5 individual test scores?

The biggest reason is to relieve pressure on some of the students who you might want to bring just to give exposure to this environment. This gives you the chance to not only select the students who jump up and down about math every day, but perhaps nurture some who are more reticent to get enthused about math despite your efforts. Additionally, it evens the playing field somewhat for smaller schools.

What are the tests like?

The tests are designed to challenge the best math students in the Golden Circle region. So, please prepare your students for the fact that getting 50% right at a math contest is often a prestigious accomplishment. The questions will range from traditional to creative, and some web sites that might illuminate the less traditional types of questions include:

www.unl.edu/amc

www.mathleague.com

www.mathcounts.org

INDIVIDUAL TEST: A 45-minute, multiple-choice test with 25 questions. Each correct answer earns 1 point. (There is no penalty for a wrong answer)

TEAM TEST: A 40-minute test with approximately 20 questions. Everyone from a school at one level will work together to compile the answers. All answers must be **exact, complete, fully simplified, and legible**. Each correct answer earns 5 points.

Can my team practice for this event?

We hope so! The educational benefit of a math contest is exponentially increased by practicing beforehand and discussing interesting questions afterwards.

Can we enter a team at one, not both levels?

Yes. You may enter a team for the Apprentice level, the Wizard level, or both levels.

Can we enter a level with less than 5 students?

Yes. The students you do enter would still be eligible for individual awards, and would still be able to take the Team Test.

Are calculators allowed?

Absolutely! STUDENTS WITHOUT CALCULATORS WILL BE AT A DISADVANTAGE. Any calculator approved for use on the PSAT, SAT, ACT, or AP exams is allowed.

When is the money due?

Do NOT mail it to us. Please bring it to the registration table at the contest.

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