

September 1, 2013

Dear Mathematics Director,

The Stanford University Mathematics Organization is pleased to invite your school to the 16th annual **Stanford Math Tournament**, to be held on **Saturday, February 15, 2014** on the Stanford University campus. This contest brings together students from around the country, and even across the world, for a day of challenging problems and mathematical fellowship. The tournament is run by Stanford students in collaboration with Rice University, Johns Hopkins University, and Columbia University.

The contest consists of an individual contest and a team contest for teams of up to eight students. Students will participate in two subject tests in the areas of algebra, geometry, calculus, and advanced topics. Alternatively, less experienced students may participate in a single, longer general test. In addition to the individual tests, teams take a team test with short answer questions and a power round with a multi-part proof-oriented question.

In addition to the contest, the tournament features a talk by a faculty member of the Stanford Mathematics Department on an accessible math-related topic of interest. Additional activities are planned for the students during the afternoon before the awards ceremony. The tournament will run all day from 8am until 6pm.

The registration deadline is **January 21, 2014**, and the payment deadline is **January 23**. Registration must be submitted online by the registration deadline *and* payment must be postmarked by the payment deadline. Registration *may* still be possible after the deadline, but will be subject to availability and a late fee. Registration is available online at our website, <http://sumo.stanford.edu/smt>. Checks should be made payable to the Stanford University Mathematical Organization and mailed to:

Stanford University Mathematical Organization
P.O. Box 20141
Stanford, CA 94309

Additional contest information can also be found in the following pages and on our website.

Sincerely,

SMT Coordinators

stanford.math.tournament@gmail.com
<http://sumo.stanford.edu/smt>

Stanford Math Tournament Test Details

Team Portion

The **Team Test** is a 50-minute exam consisting of 15 short answer questions, testing material from all areas of high school mathematics.

The **Power Round** is a 90-minute, multi-part, proof-oriented test. It focuses on a single topic that will be revealed and introduced at the beginning of the test.

Individual Portion

The **Subject Area Tests** are 50-minute individual exams consisting of 10 short answer questions. The subjects offered are Advanced Topics, Algebra, Calculus, and Geometry. The Advanced Topics test covers probability, number theory, and combinatorics. Students may choose any two of the subjects.

The **General Test** is a 110-minute test that is designed for students with less mathematical background. It is held at the same time as the subject area tests and contains 25 short answer questions.

Changes new to SMT 2014

- The scoring scheme for team scores has been changed.

For more details on the rules, see our website: <http://sumo.stanford.edu/smt>.

Schedule

8:00 – 8:45	Check-In
9:00 – 11:05	Individual Tests (Two 50-minute subject tests or the 110-minute general test)
11:20 – 1:00	Power Round (90 minutes)
1:00 – 2:10	Lunch
2:20 – 3:20	Team Test (50 minutes)
3:50 – 4:55	Speaker and Tiebreakers
5:00 – 5:30	Break
5:30 – 6:00	Awards

Frequently Asked Questions

Registration

Q: How many students can be on a team?

A: A team may consist of one to eight students.

Q: What should I do if I do not have enough people to form a complete team?

A: If you are interested in joining with other incomplete teams, you can indicate this on the registration form. You can also choose to compete as an incomplete team. However, teams of fewer than eight students will be at a disadvantage.

Q: Can I compete as an individual?

A: Yes. You can compete in the individual tests and/or the team tests as a one-person team. You can also join with other incomplete teams.

Q: Can students who are not yet in the 9th grade compete?

A: Yes. Any student who feels ready to compete is welcome to participate.

Q: Can I participate in SMT remotely?

A: No. All participants in SMT must compete at Stanford on the day of the contest. If you cannot compete at Stanford, you may view the problems and solutions online shortly after the conclusion of the contest.

Q: Do students on the same team have to be from the same school?

A: No. Traditionally, the majority of SMT teams have been comprised of students from the same school, but this is not required.

Q: How many teams can my school bring to SMT?

A: There is no limit on how many teams a school can bring to SMT.

Q: Do we need to have a teacher or coach attend SMT in person?

A: No, you are not required to have a teacher or coach at the tournament.

Q: Can international teams come to SMT?

A: Yes. If you need visas to enter the United States, we can provide official invitation letters upon request.

Testing

Q: Are calculators allowed?

A: No calculators are allowed on any portion of the tests.

Q: Can I take only the individual tests?

A: Yes, you may; just indicate so on the registration form. However, your team will not receive any points for the tests it does not take.

Q: How hard are the tests? What topics may appear on the tests? Which tests should I take?

A: Looking at the SMT 2013 and 2012 tests is the best way to get a sense of the typical style and difficulty of the SMT tests. Keep in mind that our tests may be very different from the tests from SMT 2011 and earlier. See the mathematical expectations document at <http://sumo.stanford.edu/pdfs/mathematical-expectations.pdf> for guidelines on the topics that may appear on each test.

Q: My team is new to math contests. What should we know about participating in SMT?

A: If you do not have math contest experience, we strongly recommend that you take the general test. Looking at past problems will be very helpful for getting a sense of what the tests are like. Be warned that contest math is very different from what you see in math classes.

Logistics

Q: Can we purchase SMT shirts?

A: You can order SMT shirts in the registration form. Note that all shirt orders must be received by the registration deadline.

Q: Will food be provided?

A: For lunch, you can order pizzas and drinks in the registration form. Alternatively, you can eat lunch at various locations on campus, including Tresidder Union. We will provide snacks in the morning and afternoon.

Q: How do I get to the tournament location?

A: The tournament will be located mainly in the Math Building (Building 380 in the Main Quad), and the awards ceremony will be in Hewlett Teaching Center (just west of the Math Building). As the tournament date approaches, we will send an email with campus maps and directions to all registered teams. See Stanford's visitor information at <http://www>.

stanford.edu/dept/visitorinfo/plan/ for maps and information on parking, transit, and lodging.

Q: My team needs to travel to reach Stanford and has to arrive the day before and/or leave the day after the tournament. What accommodations are available near Stanford?

A: If you require accommodations, contact us at stanford.math.tournament@gmail.com and we can discuss arrangements with our hotel sponsor. Additionally, you can see more information on lodging options at <http://www.stanford.edu/dept/visitorinfo/plan/stay.html> along with a list of nearby places to stay.

Q: Can travel to Stanford be subsidized?

A: Unfortunately, we cannot subsidize travel to Stanford.

If your question is not answered here, please feel free to email the tournament staff at stanford.math.tournament@gmail.com.