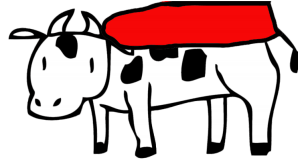


TJHSST Senior Computer Team

September 27, 2013



Introduction

Welcome to the TJHSST Senior Computer Team, widely regarded as one of the most awesome high school computer teams in the United States! We meet weekly to practice and enhance problem-solving skills involving programming. Our focus is on the USA Computing Olympiad (USACO), but we also compete in several other programming contests. Over the year, we hope that you will all remain with us as we learn and compete together.

Contact

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Join our mailing list by entering your email address at <https://lists.tjhsst.edu/listinfo/scteam> or by emailing Sreenath. We'll use the mailing list to notify you about computer team events and contest opportunities.

Schedule

Senior Computer Team meets every Friday B block. Most meetings will consist of one or more lectures pertaining to USACO topics. If you'd like to give a guest lecture, email the officers with your topic. We will hold regular (roughly bimonthly) in-house contests which start during a Friday meeting and end after school.

Freshmen should also join the freshman computer team, Sophomores and Juniors should also join the intermediate computer team. They meet Friday A blocks, and focus on a different style of contests (primarily the American Computer Science League).

Contests

Online

USACO The USA Computing Olympiad, or USACO, consists of 6 monthly contests held over a weekend each month from November to April. There are three divisions with distinct problems (Bronze, Silver, and Gold), with new competitors starting in the easiest division, Bronze. Each contest, high scorers are promoted to the next division. At the end of the year, top competitors in the Gold division are chosen to attend the invitational camp. USACO allows **C, C++, Java, Pascal, and Python**.

Register an account at <http://usaco.org/> if you don't have one already, and be sure to try the training pages!

Codeforces Codeforces is a very popular online competition that has a rating system similar to the Elo system used in chess. A Codeforces contest consists of five problems with varying point values to be attempted in two hours. The points awarded for solving a problem decrease over time (solutions earlier in the contest will get more points). Previous problems are available on their website for practice (this is a great resource!). <http://codeforces.com/>.

Topcoder Topcoder has a rating and scoring system similar to that of Codeforces. Contests consist of a 75 minute coding phase to solve 3 problems of varying difficulty, followed by a 15 minute "challenge phase" in which you attempt to find test cases that break any incorrect submissions you see. Instructions on how to participate can be found at <http://bit.ly/16DxeoP>.

Travel

We plan to send teams to 4 or 5 contests this year. Team placement will be determined by a combination of performance on USACO, Codeforces, Topcoder, and SCT contests.

Lettering

Lettering will be determined by performance and participation in SCT events and the online competitions listed above. We will announce the exact requirements within the next month.

Good Luck and Have Fun!