



Fairness and Examination Integrity Policy

The International Mathematics Competition for University Students is committed to ensuring that every participant competes under fair and equal conditions. All participants are expected to observe both the letter and the spirit of this policy.

1. Fundamental Principle of Fairness

No person may do anything that gives, or is intended to give, an unfair advantage to one participant over another.

Participants must complete the examinations entirely through their own unaided work, except for assistance expressly permitted by the IMC.

Giving unauthorized assistance to another participant is considered as serious as receiving or attempting to receive such assistance.

2. Mobile Phones

All mobile phones brought to the examination venue must be:

- completely switched off;
- clearly identified with the owner's name or participant number; and
- left in the designated area at the front of the examination room before the examination begins.

A mobile phone may not be kept on or near a participant during the examination, even if it is switched off.

3. Electronic and Communication Devices

No electronic, communication, recording, computing or AI-enabled device may be brought into or used in the examination room.

Prohibited devices include, but are not limited to:

- computers, tablets and calculators;
- smartwatches and other wearable electronic devices;
- earphones, earbuds and electronic hearing or communication devices;
- smart glasses, including Meta and other camera-, display-, communication- or AI-enabled glasses;
- electronic or AI-enabled pens and writing devices;
- cameras, scanners and recording devices; and
- any device capable of storing, transmitting, receiving, displaying, recording or processing information.

IMC may use appropriate screening and detection equipment and may inspect items where necessary to enforce these rules.

Necessary medical or accessibility devices must be declared to and approved by the organisers in advance.

4. Written Materials

Only ordinary language dictionaries may be brought into the examination room.

No mathematical dictionaries, textbooks, notes, formula sheets, printed material, handwritten material or other reference material may be brought into or used in the examination room.

All paper used for mathematical work during the examination must be supplied or expressly approved by the IMC.

5. Toilet Breaks

Only one participant from an examination room may normally be absent on a toilet break at any one time.

A participant taking a toilet break:

- must obtain permission from an examination monitor;
- must leave all examination papers, working paper and other materials in the examination room;
- may not take a mobile phone, electronic device, written material or other unauthorized item; and
- will be accompanied to and from the toilet area by an examination monitor.

Participants may not communicate with any other person during a toilet break.

6. Verification of a Participant's Work

Following either examination day, a participant may be required to appear before an IMC examination panel to discuss and explain any part of their submitted solutions.

The panel may ask the participant to:

- explain the reasoning used in a solution;
- clarify particular steps, notation or calculations;
- reproduce or develop an argument contained in the submitted work; or
- answer related mathematical questions reasonably designed to establish the participant's understanding of the submitted solution.

A participant must cooperate with such a review.

Where, after giving the participant a reasonable opportunity to explain their work, the panel concludes that a submitted solution was not the participant's own unaided work, or that this Policy has otherwise been seriously breached, the IMC may annul the relevant solution, annul the participant's examination results, or disqualify the participant from the Competition.

7. Attempts, Assistance and Circumvention

It is a breach of this Policy to attempt to circumvent an examination-security measure, whether or not the attempt succeeds.

It is also a breach to assist, encourage or knowingly enable another person to obtain an unfair advantage.

The use of artificial intelligence, remote assistance, electronic communication, impersonation or any other unauthorized means of obtaining or providing assistance is in breach of this Policy.

8. Duty to Follow Examination Instructions

Participants must comply promptly with reasonable instructions given by IMC organisers, invigilators and examination monitors for the purpose of maintaining the fairness, security and integrity of the Competition.

Refusal to comply with a reasonable security instruction may itself be treated as a breach of this Policy.

The guiding principle is simple: every solution submitted at the IMC must represent the participant's own mathematical work, produced under the same fair examination conditions as every other participant.