

# Deciding assembly meeting

## 21/06/2020

15:02 Meeting starts. Sebastian Fava mentions problem of not everyone receiving email.

15:05 Taking list of presence:

Russia (Stanislav), Australia (Andrew), France (Arnaud), Switzerland (Alberto/Evgenii), Iran (Amirreza), UK (Anastasiia), Ukraine (Oleksiy), Germany (Simon), India (Suvendu), Sweden (Åke), Croatia (N.Poljak), Brazil (Leandro), Denmark (Peter), Colombia (Maria), Slovenia (Simon), Italy (Valeria), Poland (Piotr).

Greece (Gina) not present.

15:15 Introduction of new Execom members (Sebastian, Daniel, Maria)

15:19 Introduction of new IOC members (Åke, Nikoleta, Simon)

15:21 Sebastian: Hold/postpone IPT 2020. Keeping an eye on the evolving situation, and holding off on decision. Comment from LOC?

Magda: Discussions with Krystoff has lead to conclusion that IPT is possible in September 2020, however, they prefer to postpone until 2021. Poland cannot guarantee security for September, and it depends on the increasing infection rate.

15:24 Sebastian: Agree. Seeing improvements, but cannot take responsibility. IOC opinion?

Alberto: Teams are demotivated. Exams have been postponed, therefore best to postpone until 2021.

Suvendu: Uncertainties with COVID leads to teams displaying demotivation. Teams do not/cannot work on problems.

France and Slovenia agree to postpone.

15:27 Leandro: Universities in Brazil have stopped everything until 31/12/20. Out of question for Brazil to participate. It's a really bad situation, with no help from the government.

Andrew: No university for the past 4 months, and borders are closed until next year un Australia.

Oleksiy: Could you repeat? You cannot travel to Europe?

Andrew: Yes. No unnecessary travel outside Australia (New Zealand excluded) until possibly Spring of 2021.

Peter: It's a fluid situation dependent on infection rates in Denmark. Partial re-opening of travel, but in the end, we must adhere to university guidelines. Have to guess at infection levels.

Sebastian: It's a problem from sponsor side to organize tournament, and then cancel.

Oleksiy: Everyone wishes to participate, but travel is limited. It is critical to conduct tournament soon. We have courses for new tournament, which must start soon, otherwise it will be a failure for the Ukrainian national tournament. Cannot wait for new tournament. Must hold an online tournament soon!

15:33 Sebastian: Yes, but that is the next point in the agenda.

Oleksiy: Need for issuing new list of problems before hosting 2020 tournament.

Nikolai: Online tournament is the best choice, as we cannot know the situation in 2021. The pandemic can still be a problem in April. The tournament is a community. But, we should not have 2 simultaneous lists of problems. This will lower the quality of the solutions. It's possible to hold an online tournament. We should not wait to hold offline tournament. Suggestion to have an offline tournament with online participants as well.

15:37 Sebastian: We need to guarantee continuity. If we hold a tournament in end-August, then 2 lists of problems will be available for a short overlap. This does not seem to be a big issue in my opinion.

Oleksiy: 1<sup>st</sup> of September is OK for releasing new list. But not October. That is too late for local tournament.

Simon: If we hold tournament in fall, we should postpone all future tournaments to fall as well.

Nikolay: No. Tournament cycle must be the same. This has worked for all countries, we cannot change this.

Simon: Yes, but for Germany the current cycle is bad.

Discussion ensues about why it's bad/good for Germany vs. Russia.

15:41 Vladimir: Agree with both sides, but it is not a problem if the problem list deadline is in September.

Sebastian: Let us take a vote on whether to hold September offline tournament?

15:45 Greece joins discussion. Exams are moved in Greece, causing a confusion situation.

15:47 Voting begins for holding offline tournament in September.

Sebastian: We've already discussed this. Let's move onto next vote.

15:47 Voting begins for holding online tournament in September or postponing until 2021.

Germany and Switzerland cannot vote in poll. Vote to postpone:

Hold in September: 3/19

Postpone: 16/19

15:50 Decision to postpone tournament to 2021.

Sebastian: We previously offered option of remote (online) tournament on zoom. No one previously wanted this option (1/10 people maybe). Has this opinion changed?

Åke: It's a good option, but the Swedish team will not participate in online tournament.

Piotr: I'm confused. Didn't we just vote to postpone?

Amireza: It's hard to work on problems. Postponing to next year seems good, but an option of online tournament in September similar to APT is good. They omitted the role of reviewer, and used YouTube videos.

Leandro: Brazil cannot do team work. Online solution is inappropriate for teams that cannot meet up this year. The motivation for participating in IPT is to physically meet up and talk to new people. Brazil cannot participate in online version 2020.

Colombia agrees with Brazil in chat.

Sebastian: Maybe we should see how many want the online option?

Stanislav: Wants online version.

16:04 Amirreza: If we do online, let's not do something competitive. Suggest to just do presentation of problems. Not competition. Teams can publish solutions together.

Suwendu: Agree to Arnauds point. It's a good strategy for publicity. Active online community creates opportunities for collaboration.

16:06 Simon: Agree. IPT is not well-known. Online we could be free to make a live-stream. Social media campaign. Science podcast. This could include 2-3 teams discussing one problem.

16:09 Oleksiy: Reformulated conference spirit, gives a chance for reform in the competition.

16:10 Kristof (Greece): This could get new universities interested. There 5 physics universities in Greece, but only 3 showed interest in IPT this year. This online forum can create environment for physics where everyone can participate.

16:12 Vladimir: Project course for IPT. Online version misses point of competition, and it hard to grade. Students are less motivated to join. Must give points for best solution.

Oleksiy: We cannot know if IPT 2021 is suddenly postpones to 2022 due to pandemic.

16:16 Alberto: Wants conference in September.

Vladimir: With prizes in conference style.

16:17 Nikolai: Participants wants to fight! It will demotivate students by removing the option to fight. We should conduct the tournament as close to usual.

Alberto: The teams are not motivated by the tournament as much as they are motivated by the physics of the problems themselves. Many teams are not able to work on the problems enough to compete this year.

16:19 Simon: We can still vote for most interesting discussion, or best solution, etc.

Oleksiy: Let's do both. Everyone can participate. 2 types of tournament, but make sure they are equally prestigious.

16:22 David: Can we make a hybrid of both online versions. So we don't need to pick one over the other?

16.24 Sebastian: Concerned about splitting tournament into 2, due to lowering participation.

Åke: Suggest 1 week IPT competition followed by 1 week of conference style.

Sebastian: Let's do a poll

16:26 Oleksiy: We need to keep in mind promoting the competition.

Vladimir: It can be a demotivation factor for some not to do a competition, but not all Russians are as aggressive as Nikolai.

16:30 Poll starts. (Multiple choice)

Totals:

Online tournament: 11/19

Online conference: 15/19

No online version: 2/19

Written Venn diagram:

Online tournament & online conference: 8/19

Online tournament & no online version: 1/19

No online version & online conference: 0/19

Only online tournament: 3/19

Only online conference: 6/19

Only no online version: 1/19

16:38 Alberto: Should we make a poll on conference or mixed?

Sebastian: Important to keep your teams in mind as your are voting. Will your team want to do conference style or competition?

Nikolai: If there are too few teams in competition, we could allow second place teams from Ukraine and Russia to join. This will keep the spirit of the competition.

Sebastian: No. Second teams are not allowed in competition any longer, after last year where France had 2 teams in final.

16:42 Poll starts.

Conference: 6/17

Mixed: 8/17

Abstain 3/17

16:45 Sebastian: Clarification: 2-sub tournaments, where 8 teams participate in competition, and 16 teams participate in conference.

16:48 Oleksiy: And independent teams can participate in the conference.

Alberto: as well as 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams in the conference.

16:49 Simon: The teams can organize the competition. They can invite people from the chat in conference.

Sebastian: The competition is as close to usual, while the conference is for everyone.

Oleksiy: With small prizes?

Sebastian: The only limit is that only students (Bachelor and Master) can compete.

16:52 Evgenii: We can stream this to YouTube! Make a committee to figure out how to carry out everything?

Oleksiy: Suggests holding final after conference. Discussion of excluding final problems in conference, then have mini-conference after final to present those 3 problems.

16:55 Sebastian: If you have ideas for organization, reach out and we will discuss.

Amirreza: We can use procedure from AYPT, with YouTube videos.

16:57 Discussion of finding out the 8 teams who want to compete. Decision not to name them now.

17:00 Sebastian: We need to find host for 2021.

Magda: Poland can host for 2021.

Sebastian: Need to find host suggestions for 2022.

Peter: Denmark can possibly host.

Simon: Germany as well. FAU Erlangen Nürnberg.

17:05 Sebastian shares screen to open browser: iptnet.info -> login -> private section -> IOC experiences. This page provides more info for those interested in hosting. If any more members are interested in hosting, they should reach out.

17:09 Sebastian: Need to discuss 2021 problem list set. New problems has been collected.

Vladimir: Only 10-20 new problems has been suggested. This is a low number. We need more problem suggestions. Send them via form on [iptnet.info](http://iptnet.info). The selection procedure is as normal. International vote in August.

Sebastian shows where to upload problem suggestions on browser.

Jürgen: It's a problem to find students because problems are uploaded in August. There is a vacation in Germany following this, so students only have 6 weeks to solve problems for local selection.

17:13 Sebastian: We cannot rush releasing the problems, as this will lower the standard.

17:15 Sebastian: We need to decide on a date for holding online tournaments.

Weekday vs. weekend is suggested.

Discussion of possibility of uploading problems at end of tournament ensues.

New list for 2021 requires more advertising. Then we can create a long to short list once there is enough problems. This will lead to a new list in August.

Clarification of long to short to final list ensues, with discussing by Vladimir.

17:19 Sebastian: IPT software discussion point. IPT\_connect is big and complicated, but we have worked to make it more accessible. It is now built to be more adjustable. If new needs and desires pop up, reach out to the execom software team and Nikolai in particular, and the changes can be added. One such change, is for example a version of IPT\_connect without the reviewer role.

17:22 There is for this reason a new IPT software development team.

17:24 Nikolai joins discussion again. Brings up point that France can now use IPT\_connect for local tournament.

Discussion ensues between Nikolai, France, and Germany, where Sebastians original points are repeated. Contact IPT software team for changes to IPT\_connect.

17:30 Sebastian: Legal recognition of IPT. Shares screen

17:33 Sebastian has battery issues. :P

17:34 Sebastian: IPT basic organization: It's an apolitical, international, non-profit organization, that will be registered in Mulhouse, France (Seat of EPS). Composed of both active and passive members.

Any member who pays a subscription fee for this year is an active member. Passive members have paid subscription fees for previous years,

and can become active members again, by paying the yearly subscription fee.

17:37 Sebastian: There are 2 groups in the deciding assembly (DA): the directing committee (DC, previously known as IOC), and the executive committee. The DC can vote in decisions, and are the guiding body for the organization. The executive committee does not have the right to vote, but instead carries out the tasks set by the DC, along with other tasks, such as recording and uploading minutes of assembly.

The deciding assembly must, among other things, vote for new president and secretary. The president can call for assembly as needed. We must vote for treasurer once the organization is recognized.

Current status: the main secretary of EPS was endorsing IPT, but then stopped responding. Probably due to end of term. The new president got in touch via twitter. Might want a new collaboration. DA will found the new IPT association. If anyone has legal knowledge, please reach out to execom. It is easier to apply changes before officially forming the association and before it is legally recognized.

17:43 Sebastian: Does anyone have questions?

Suvendu: Does institution need to be in the country?

Sebastian: Everyone can join, regardless of the country they are in. However, only Bachelor and Master students can compete.

17:46 Physique L3-cou...: Could you please send an email? And a summation of the meeting?

Oleksiy: What is this subscription fee?

Sebastian: 15 euro / person / year.

Oleksiy: Who can participate? Whoever pays?

Sebastian: The DA can decide, in case some sketchy person online pays, but in principle there is no upper limit to members.

Physique L3-cou...: Can each country have several organizations that join?

Oleksiy: Is this 15 euro per person?

Sebastian: No, organizations are not really members, only individual people.

Clarification ensues about the prior 1100 euro fee, where 1000 euro went to LOC and 100 euro to execom. Now it's 1000 euro to LOC per team, and 15 euro per person to execom.

17:51 Sebastian: Open discussion to IOC.

Vladimir: Make a forum to accept feedback?

Sebastian: We use email, which seems to work well for communication with IOC.

Simon: What about Slack or Rocket chat? Jitsi too?

Suvendu: The IPT clock software is clunky.

Discussion ensues, where it becomes clear India has downloaded old version.

Nikolai: Java script could be a possibility instead of python. We need students or volunteers.

Discussion of how students in Russia have useless coursework in coding, but possibly this might be better in India. India agrees that students would love to do it, regardless of it being coursework.

17:58 Sebastian: Other comment or questions?

Oleksiy: Condition to change membership to new person, as the national selection might change participants.

Sebastian: DC can grant free membership, and would in this case grant it.

18:00 Meeting finishes.