



International Young Physicists' Tournament



EC Meeting November 2020

2020-11-24, via zoom

Participants of the EC:

President	Martin Plesch	MP	plesch@savba.sk
Secretary General	Timotheus Hell	TH	timhell@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ilya Martchenko	IM	ilya.martchenko@iypt.org
EC Member	Samuel Byland	SB	samuel.byland@iypt.org
EC Member	John Balcombe	JB	john@kber.co.uk

0. Review of the agenda

MP opens the meeting. The agenda is accepted.

IYPT 2021

1. IYPT 2021

Pre-registration is supposed to start in a few weeks. Currently the plan is that the 34th IYPT will be held in Lahore, Pakistan, 23 – 30 July 2021. However, given the current rapidly changes concerning the COVID-19 pandemic, EC will discuss alternative options.

SB reports on the idea of a small regional competition for those IMOs who have decided not to participate at an IYPT in Pakistan. As we're not sure if this is the case for many IMOs, we will have to ask IOC.

IM has a strong feeling, that any competition in Europe would allow a higher number of teams to participate than an IYPT in Pakistan. He thinks that it would be possible to find someone to host if we agree to a more minimalistic tournament.

MP suggests the possibility to organize the IYPT similarly to a conference, so that only the fights need to be organized, leaving accommodation up to the teams. IM agrees that this would be preferable to not having an IYPT.

IM thinks that Georgia would be a better option for most teams. JB is impressed by the enthusiasm shown by the organizers in Georgia in 2020. TH questions whether it's indeed a better option given the recent war in the neighboring countries.

MP thinks that we need to have another serious discussion on an online competition as this is suggested by many IOC members. We all agree however, that even a skeleton competition is better than a virtual or no competition.

We will ask the IOC to give feedback on the following questions:

- Yes/No: In 2018 the IOC accepted Pakistan's bid to host the IYPT in 2021, therefore as of now, the plan is that the 34th IYPT will be held in Lahore, Pakistan, in July 2021. Do you plan to attend?
 - Text: Please share your considerations.
- Text: If it isn't possible to host a tournament in 2021, do you have preferences regarding virtual alternatives to an IYPT?
- Yes/No: Would you prefer a virtual tournament to having no competition?
 - Text: Please share your considerations.

IOC will be asked to answer the questions via google form, or, if that's not possible, via E-Mail to Barbora. MP will ask Barbora to send the E-Mail. Deadline for IOC members will be set to 25th of November.

MP discusses some of the issues with a virtual competition: Given the experience we gained in 2020. It's close to impossible to ensure that the rules are adhered to. There are still often major technical issues. New participants seemed to like the experience; more experienced participants don't think it's anything like the IYPT.

MP suggests that we come up with a plan to organize a virtual IYPT headed by the EC as a 'backup' should other plans not work out.

IM suggest we rather focus on a real IYPT, not spending all our resources on organizing an online backup.

For MP it's too early to discuss options on the IOC meeting. SB asks about EC members who will be in Pakistan. A majority of the EC members plan to, but it's likely that only 2 will be able to attend. IM remarks that if there is an IOC meeting separate to the IYPT, many IOC members might not be able to attend.

Further EC meetings

2. Further EC meetings

MP proposes to have recurring EC meetings. IM proposes to organize them on short notice. MP suggests to already plan a meeting for December, as that's when a decision on the pre-registration must be made. We agree on a next EC meeting via zoom on November 30th 2 PM CET.

IYPT finances

3. IYPT finances

Given the enormous uncertainties IM thinks it will not be possible to make good decisions right now. The current year's budget has not been accepted by the IOC, so the EC can still make suggestions for changes. We have both problems with predicting expenditures and even more so with predicting income. There is now 7 years of data on how close to the deadline fees are paid. We have a total income of 0 Euros for 2019/20 as there was no IYPT and total expenditures of about 2k Euros, related mostly to travel to the EC meeting in Romania. The reserves are still >50k Euros. It is likely that we will continue to lose money if there are few(er) teams at the next IYPT(s). IM therefore suggests increasing fees to 600 Euros (in 2016 and 2017 they were 700 Euros), setting the total team fee to 1700 Euros. IM forecasts 31 +6 teams for 2021/22 based on previous data. IM stresses that this forecast is optimistic in his opinion. Given the ongoing pandemic, numbers will likely be (much) lower.

TH suggests not increasing fees for teams during this crisis and postpone trying to increase reserves in a year or two from now. Using the reserves during times of crises is why we have them. MP is more cautious, as there might be continued spending without much income. JB, IM and SB agree with TH, there is no urgency to increase the fees right now.

Motion by IM:

Accept the budget 2020/21 as presented, including the increase of the fee to the teams to 1700 Euros.

Motion to change the Motion by MP:

Change the budget 2020/21 to follow the budget rules, changing the presidential fund to 2620 Euros.

Vote on the Motion by MP – for: JB, MP, SB; against: IM, abstain: TH – **The motion passes.**

Motion by IM and changed by MP:

Accept the budget 2020/21 as presented, including the increase of the fee to the teams to 1700 Euros, and change the budget 2020/21 to follow the budget rules, changing the presidential fund to 2620 Euros.

Vote on the Motion by IM changed by MP – for: IM, MP, JB; against: TH, SB – **The motion passes.**

The budget 2020/21 is therefore accepted with the adaptations as per the motion.

Motion by IM:

Accept the budget 2021/22 as presented.

Motion to change the Motion by MP:

Change the budget 2021/22 to follow the budget rules, changing the presidential fund to 2430 Euros.

Vote on the Motion by MP – for: MP, JB, SB; against: IM; abstain: TH – **The motion passes.**

Motion by IM and changed by MP:

Accept the budget 2021/22 as presented and change the budget 2021/22 to follow the budget rules, changing the presidential fund to 2430 Euros.

Vote on the Motion by IM changed by MP – for: IM, MP, JB, SB; abstain: TH – **The motion passes.**

The budget 2021/22 is therefore accepted with the adaptations as per the motion.

Other topics

4. Other topics

IM suggests we should discuss with all possible hosts in Europe, so we can have the best possible backup plan.

MP: Yes, once we have heard from the IOC.

IM will send the updated budgets to EC.

The next EC meeting will be via zoom on November 30th 2 PM CET.

TH shares the minutes he wrote; some changes are discussed.

Motion by TH:

Accept the minutes.

Vote on the motion by TH: All in favor, **the motion passes.**

MP closes the meeting at 12:10