

## **Procedure for Holding the Open Belarusian Physics Olympiad for School Students in 2022**

The Procedure for holding the Open Belarusian Physics Olympiad for School Students in 2022 (hereinafter referred to as the Olympiad) was developed in accordance with:

Instructions on the Procedure for holding Olympiads in academic subjects, approved by the Resolution of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus of November 20, 2003, № 73;

Order of the Minister of Education of the Republic of Belarus of September 16, 2022, № 578 “On organizing and conducting the Open Belarusian Physics Olympiad for School Students”;

Regulations on conducting the Open Belarusian Physics Olympiad for School Students.

### **Time and Venue of the Olympiad**

The Olympiad shall be conducted using remote technologies from November 20 to November 26, 2022, at the state educational institution “Lyceum of the Belarusian State University” in Minsk.

The arrival and accommodation of the Belarusian team shall take place on November 20, 2022, before 13:00.

The Opening Ceremony shall take place on November 20, 2022, at 15:00.

The Closing and Awards Ceremony shall take place on November 26, 2022, at 14:00.

The departure of the Belarusian team shall take place on November 26, 2022.

### **Participants of the Olympiad**

One team from each participating country shall take part in the Olympiad, including the Belarusian team.

The team of a participating country shall include 10 participants from two age groups:

Junior group - 5 participants from 13 to 15 years old (as of November 20, 2022);

Senior group - 5 participants from 16 to 18 years old (as of November 20, 2022).

### **Number of Rounds, their Format and Duration**

The Olympiad shall be held in two rounds:

Round 1 (theoretical) – November 21, 2022;

Round 2 (experimental) – November 23, 2022.

Each round shall be held in writing, with separate Olympiad tasks for each of the age groups.

Each round shall last for 5 hours.

The theoretical round includes a set of problems. These may include information from natural sciences related to physics: astronomy, chemistry, biology, geography, technology. The solutions can be obtained based on the knowledge of physical principles and laws. Some of the questions can be presented in the test form.

The content of tasks for the two age groups shall be posted on the official website of the Olympiad [belpho.by](http://belpho.by).

To participate in the experimental round, the organizers do not need to prepare special equipment. The participants of the Olympiad must be provided with drawing and measurement instruments (millimeter-scale measurement ruler, protractor, compasses).

Tasks shall be submitted in one of the two official languages of the Olympiad (Russian or English).

### **Coordination of the Organization and Conducting of the Olympiad**

The general coordination of the Olympiad shall be performed by the authorized representatives of the Organizing Committee – the Chief Specialist of the Department of General Secondary Education of the Main Department of General secondary, Preschool and Specialized Education of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus N.G. Ivanova together with the local Organizing Committee of the Olympiad as approved by the Order of the Head Teacher of the state educational institution “Lyceum of the Belarusian State University” of September 26, 2022, № 143.

### **Local Organizing Committee of the Olympics shall:**

- make proposals regarding the program of the Olympiad;
- provide catering and medical care for members of the Belarusian team;
- provide the venue for the Olympiad;
- create conditions for the storage of the Olympiad tasks, and completed tasks submitted by the participants;
- provide rooms for the work of the Jury members, authorized representatives, Team Leaders, and observers;
- supply all participants of the Olympiad with stationery;
- develop a scheme for arranging technical equipment in classrooms and determine the requirements for such equipment;
- provide participants with answer sheets and A4 format worksheets designed in accordance with the tasks of the Olympiad;

be responsible for communication with the observers from the participating teams and send out electronic copies of the Olympiad tasks, answer sheets, and worksheets no earlier than 2 hours before the start of the Olympiad;

appoint those responsible for technical support of the Olympiad, checking the connection of the participating teams, video surveillance of the Olympiad rounds, scanning the Olympiad tasks submitted by the participants and handing them to the Jury (for the Belarusian team) upon completion of each round, communicating with the observers from the participating teams for the purposes of obtaining scanned works received from all other participants;

submit printed versions of the tasks submitted by the participants to the jury of the Olympiad;

ensure the maintenance of the Olympiad participant database.

The Local Organizing Committee shall include specialists from among the teaching staff responsible for running the rounds of the Olympiad as well as those responsible for registering and maintaining the Olympiad participant database.

### **Conducting the Olympiad**

Observers arrange the seating for the members of the Belarusian team and check the connection of the participants doing the Olympiad tasks using remote technologies.

Before the start of each round of the Olympiad, each in-person participant shall receive an individual set, including all the necessary stationery, answer sheets, and A4 worksheets designed in accordance with the tasks of the Olympiad.

On site, the Observers shall provide each participant with the Olympiad task before the start of the respective round. Olympiad tasks shall be placed on each participant's desk with the printed side down. For remote participants, organizers from the Republic of Belarus shall observe the process of printing and placing the tasks with the printed side down and help the observers of the participating teams to set up working spaces for the participants in accordance with the requirements of the Olympiad.

The time for completing the Olympiad task shall be counted down starting from the moment the start of the tour is announced by the Belarusian organizers.

Upon completion of the respective round of the Olympiad, the participants shall submit the answer sheets and worksheets with their completed Olympiad tasks to the observer from the participating team. The observer shall scan the completed tasks and send the electronic copies to the organizers of the Olympiad via e-mail.

### **The Procedure for Encryption and Decryption of the Completed Tasks Submitted by the Participants**

Encryption of answer sheets and worksheets of participants shall be performed by the organizers prior to the start of the Olympiad. During the encryption, each participant shall be assigned an identification code in ABC-T-B-1 the format, ABC being the country code, T – the tour code, B – the age group code, and the number – the participant code. Answer sheets and worksheets with codes on them shall be given to the participants to complete the tasks. The code-participant correspondence table shall be stored with the Head of the local Organizing Committee.

The observers of the participating countries shall be responsible for ensuring the confidentiality of the participants' identification numbers.

The decryption of the completed tasks submitted by the participants shall be performed by the Local Organizing Committee upon completion of the rounds of the Olympiad and the evaluation of the completed tasks by the jury.

### **The Procedure for Collecting and Presenting to the Jury the Completed Olympiad Tasks Submitted by the Participants**

Upon receiving electronic copies of the completed tasks submitted by the participants of the Olympiad, representatives of the Local Organizing Committee shall pass them on to the Jury.

Upon evaluation by the Jury members, the completed tasks shall be handed over to the representatives of the Local Organizing Committee for safekeeping.

### **Composition and Operation of the Jury**

The Jury shall consist of 20 people. The Chairperson of the Jury shall assign the Jury members to check and evaluate the Olympiad tasks submitted. Evaluation of completed tasks is performed in accordance with the evaluation schemes approved at the Jury meeting.

Jury members shall be held accountable for the quality of examination as well as the results of the evaluation of the completed Olympiad tasks.

The Chairperson of the Jury shall assign the Jury members for examining and evaluating specific completed Olympiad tasks.

The Jury shall examine and evaluate the completed tasks submitted by the participants on the day following the respective round of the Olympiad in the place designated by the Local Organizing Committee.

The evaluation results shall be displayed on the title page of the participant's completed task. Each Jury member shall confirm the results of the assessment with their signature.

Jury members shall be prohibited from:  
entering the rooms where the Olympiad rounds are held,  
making any alterations including notes or clarifications to the completed tasks submitted by the participants besides corrections of the mistakes made by the participants, evaluation results and their signature.

### **The Procedure for Communicating the Results of the Evaluation of the Olympiad Tasks to Team Leaders of the Participating Countries and Processing the Team Leader Appeals Regarding the Evaluation of the Completed Olympiad Tasks**

To ensure maximum objectivity when evaluating the completed tasks after two rounds, coordination of completed tasks shall be performed. The purpose of coordination is to achieve complete mutual understanding between the Team Leaders of the participating countries and the Jury members regarding the evaluation of the completed tasks.

The Chairperson of the Jury and the Local Organizing Committee shall draw up a coordination schedule and specify the coordination timeframe for the participating teams.

Jury members shall perform coordination with Team Leaders in one of the two official languages of the Olympiad.

Team Leader appeals regarding the evaluation of the Olympiad tasks completed by the participants shall be looked into by the Jury members who evaluated them.

Controversies shall be resolved jointly with the Chairperson of the Jury. If necessary, a Jury meeting shall be held, where the final decision shall be made regarding the evaluation of the Olympiad task in question and the work submitted.

### **During the Rounds of the Olympiad, Participants Shall Be Entitled to:**

using a calculator that does not belong to the category of prohibited means of storing, receiving and transmitting information;

leaving the place of the Olympiad task in exceptional cases with the permission of the observer.

### **During the Rounds of the Olympiad, the Participant Shall Be Prohibited from:**

using books, other written or printed materials, with the exception of materials provided by the organizers of the Olympiad;

making notes on the title page and other pages intended for completing the Olympiad tasks;

carrying any kind of communication devices and electronic information media;  
sharing information with other participants and third parties.

### **The Procedure for Voiding the Results of the Completed Olympiad Tasks**

The completed task submitted by the participant of the Olympiad shall not be evaluated in the following cases:

the participant of the Olympiad fails to comply with any of the requirements of this Procedure;

during the round, the observer detects cheating or other facts indicating that the Olympiad task is not performed independently.

### **The Procedure for Maintaining the Olympiad Participant Database**

Prior to decrypting the completed tasks submitted and processing Team Leader appeals on questions the participants have upon evaluation of the completed Olympiad tasks submitted, the participant database shall be filled using participant identification codes.

### **Storage of tasks and works of participants**

During the Olympiad, the completed tasks shall be stored in electronic (scanned) form with the Head of the Local Organizing Committee. After the end of the Olympiad, the evaluated tasks completed by the participants (in scanned form) are stored with the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad.