

# **REGULATIONS**

## **on Conducting the Open Belarusian Physics Olympiad for School Students**

### **CHAPTER 1**

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. These Regulations were developed for the purposes of organizing and conducting Open Belarusian Physics Olympiad for School Students (hereinafter referred to as the Olympiad) and determine the procedure for organizational, methodological and financial support as well as selection of students from general secondary education institutions for participating in the Olympiad, determining and awarding the winners of the Olympiad.

2. The main objectives of the Olympiad are:

strengthening international contacts in the field of teaching physics;

developing students' skills, motivating them to learn and incentivizing interest in scientific research;

strengthening friendly relations among young students as a foundation of future cooperation within the scientific community;

creating a positive image of the Republic of Belarus at the international level.

3. The Olympiad shall be held using remote technologies.

4. General coordination of the organization and conducting of the Olympiad shall be performed by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus.

5. The working languages of the Olympiad shall be English and Russian.

6. Students of two age groups shall take part in the Olympiad:

junior group – from 13 to 15 years;

senior group – from 16 to 18 years.

7. Teams for participation in the Olympiad shall be formed as prescribed by the educational authorities of the participating countries. The team shall consist of no more than 10 participants (five of each age group).

8. The participating country shall notify the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus of its decision to take part in the Olympiad by an official letter within a month of receiving the official invitation.

9. Registration of team members, leaders and observers shall be performed by the Team Leader appointed by the participating country no later than one month prior to the start of the Olympiad. The registration form shall be posted on the official website of the Olympiad.

10. The costs related to organizing and conducting the Olympiad shall be covered from the national budget of the Republic of Belarus, with the exception of the costs incurred by other participating countries while organizing the participation of their teams (travel expenses within the participating country,

accommodation and meals for the Olympiad participants, technical support during participation and other).

11. The organizers of the Olympiad shall be entitled to invite education institutions, organizations providing scientific and methodological support for education, public associations to participate in conducting the Olympiad in the manner prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Belarus.

12. During the rounds of the Olympiad, participating countries shall provide each participant with a separate working space, a personal computer with Internet access, a webcam and a microphone. All working spaces must provide the participants of the Olympiad with equal conditions and comply with the sanitary and epidemiological requirements in force at the time of the Olympiad.

The requirements for the participant working spaces, as well as the layout of the participant working spaces in the room, shall be posted on the website of the Olympiad no later than a month prior to the event.

13. Before the start of the respective round of the Olympiad, organizers in the participating country shall instruct the participants about the procedure for organizing the work during the Olympiad.

Translation of tasks into the local language of the participating country shall be performed by the leaders of the team of the participating country. No discussions of tasks with the Team Leaders or task adjustments shall be allowed prior to the rounds.

14. During the Olympiad, the participants of the Olympiad must:  
comply with the requirements of the organizers of the respective round of the Olympiad;

follow the instructions of the organizers of the Olympiad;

not communicate with each other or third parties during the completion of the Olympiad tasks;

stay within the coverage area of the cameras.

Should any of the participants breach the requirements set forth in these Regulations, observers of the Olympiad shall be entitled to disqualify such participants from further completion of the Olympiad task, drawing up a disqualification report.

15. After the end of the round, Team Leaders shall be entitled to see the completed tasks of their respective teams as well as the results of the evaluation.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **ORGANIZATION OF THE OLYMPIAD**

16. The organization and conduct of the Olympiad shall be coordinated by the Organizing Committee of the Open Belarusian Physics Olympiad for School Students (hereinafter referred to as the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad) under the leadership of the Head of the Organizing Committee.

17. The Organizing Committee of the Olympiad shall:  
determine the dates of the Olympiad and the list of participating teams;  
approve the lineup of the methodological commission and the Jury of the Olympiad;  
determine the number of rounds, their form and duration;  
develop and approve the Regulations and agenda of the Olympiad;  
ensure proper safekeeping of the Olympiad tasks and their confidentiality;  
accept applications for participation in the Olympiad;  
approve the Procedure for conducting the Olympiad, thereby setting forth the procedures for appealing, voiding the results of completing the Olympiad tasks, and communicate it to the participating countries;  
establish winner quotas, which shall make up no more than 50 percent of the total number of the Olympiad participants;  
analyze and summarize the results of the Olympiad;  
prepare information for media coverage of the organization and conduct of the Olympiad.

18. The Organizing Committee of the Olympiad shall include representatives of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus, education institutions implementing general secondary education programs (hereinafter referred to as general secondary education institutions), education institutions implementing higher education programs (hereinafter referred to as higher education institutions), employees of the education system, representatives of stakeholders, other persons (with their consent).

19. The members of the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad shall be approved by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus.

20. Decisions of the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad shall be made at the meetings and documented in the minutes. The Organizing Committee of the Olympiad shall be authorized to adopt a decision if at least 2/3 of the approved members of the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad are present at the meeting.

The Organizing Committee of the Olympiad shall ensure that the Regulations for the Olympiad, the Procedure for Conducting the Olympiad, results, equipment requirements and other relevant information be posted on both the official website of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus and the website of the Olympiad.

21. For the scientific and methodological support of the Olympiad, a methodological commission of no more than 5 people shall be created.

22. The methodological commission shall develop tasks and evaluation criteria for the Olympiad as well as instruct observers on the procedure for completing the tasks no later than two weeks prior to the start of the Olympiad.

23. The methodological commission shall be formed from among the scientific, scientific-pedagogical and pedagogical professionals of general

secondary and higher education institutions of the Republic of Belarus and approved by the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad.

24. For checking the completed Olympiad tasks submitted by the participants, a Jury shall be formed.

25. The Jury of the Olympiad shall:

receive coded (impersonal) Olympiad works of the participants of the Olympiad from the organizers of the participating countries for further evaluation;

check and evaluate the completed Olympiad tasks of the respective round of the Olympiad;

inform the Team Leaders of the participating countries about the results;

process the appeals;

upon completion of all the rounds of the Olympiad, provide the Team Leaders of the participating countries with the answers to the Olympiad tasks as presented by the authors;

determine the winners of the Olympiad;

make proposals to the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad with regard to awarding the winners;

draw up Jury decision ballots.

26. The Jury of the Olympiad shall be formed from among scientific, scientific-pedagogical and pedagogical professionals of higher education institutions of the Republic of Belarus and other highly qualified specialists in the field of education.

27. The members of the Jury of the Olympiad shall be approved by the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad.

28. The Jury of the Olympiad may include members of the methodological commission of the Olympiad.

29. To ensure the best possible performance of the participants and that the Olympiad be conducted in accordance with these Regulations, the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad shall form and approve the lineup of the observer team with at least 1 observer for every five participating countries.

30. For the work of the observers, a separate room shall be allocated and equipped with computers with Internet access according to the number of observers.

31. The main principles of the activities of the Organizing Committee of the Olympiad, the methodological commission of the Olympiad, the Jury, and the observers shall be competence, objectivity and professional ethics.

### **CHAPTER 3 CONDUCTING THE OLYMPIAD**

32. The Olympiad be held in the Republic of Belarus using remote technologies.

33. The venue for the Olympiad in each participating country is determined by the local organizers.

34. The duration of the Olympiad shall not exceed 7 days.

35. The Olympiad shall end no later than November 30 of the current year.

36. The Olympiad shall include two obligatory rounds for all participants: theoretical (problem solving) and experimental (conducting a pseudo-experiment).

The Procedure for Conducting the Olympiad and the Requirements to the participants and Team Leaders shall be formulated every year and posted on the official website of the Olympiad no later than 2 months before the start of the Olympiad.

37. Organizers from the participating country shall:

form the Organizing Committee of the participating country and approve the list of its members;

inform those interested parties about the dates and venue of the Olympiad;

provide participants and Team Leaders as well as observers of the Olympiad with transfer to the local venue of the Olympiad in the participating country, accommodation and meals;

equip the local Olympiad venue in accordance with the requirements of the organizers of the Olympiad;

take measures to ensure the safety of the participants of the Olympiad;

perform coding (impersonalization) of the completed Olympiad tasks submitted by the participants of the Olympiad;

finance the organization and conduct of the Olympiad for the team of the participating country.

## **CHAPTER 4 PARTICIPATION OF THE BELARUSIAN TEAM**

38. The team of the Republic of Belarus shall be formed according to the following principles:

senior age group team shall be formed from among the winners of the final stage of the Republican Olympiad in physics who received more points at the final stage of the Republican Olympiad, provided that the participant is presently in Belarus;

junior age group team shall be formed from among the winners of the regional or Minsk city Olympiads as well as other competitions in physics based on applications from the regions and Minsk city and on-site selection within the time limits established by the Ministry of Education but no later than a month prior to the start of the Olympiad. No more than 3 candidates from each region and Minsk city may be included in the application.

39. The venue of the Olympiad for the Belarusian team of the Republic of

Belarus shall be the state educational institution “Lyceum of the Belarusian State University”.

40. To accompany the members of the joint regional and Minsk city team, the educational authorities shall send accompanying teachers responsible for the life and health of the participants during the journey to the venue and back as well as during the Olympiad, except for the time of the tours.

41. The Ministry of Education shall appoint two Team Leaders of the Belarusian team to provide guidance and scientific support.

42. Accommodation, meals, medical care, and cultural program for the team shall be provided by the scientific and methodological institution “National Institute of Education” of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus.

43. The preparation of venue as well as technical support of the Belarusian team throughout the rounds of the Olympiad shall be performed by the Belarusian State University.

44. Financial support of the Belarusian team shall be provided by the state educational institution “Academy of Postgraduate Education”.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **RESULT OF THE OLYMPIAD**

45. The winners of the Olympiad shall be awarded I, II and III degree diplomas, with III degree being awarded to no more than 50%, II degree – no more than 30%, and I degree – no more than 20% of the participants.

46. The Jury of the Olympiad shall be entitled to make proposals on awarding certain participants with special prizes.

## **CHAPTER 6**

### **FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE OLYMPIAD**

47. The costs related to organizing and holding the Olympiad, with the exception of the costs incurred by other participating countries while organizing the participation of their teams, shall be covered by the Ministry of Education within Republican budget funds allocated for centralized events in the field of education and from other sources that are not prohibited by the legislation of the Republic of Belarus.

The following costs may be covered by the budget: food and accommodation for the members of the Belarusian team throughout the Olympiad, venue rental, procurement of materials, equipment and inventory, including the delivery of kits for the participants of the Olympiad in Belarus when using remote technologies, transfer of the Belarusian team to the venue of the Olympiad in Belarus, transportation costs related to servicing the participants of the Olympiad at the venue in Belarus, postage costs, customs

duties and tax (if necessary), information support, including development and maintenance of the website of the Olympiad conducted in the Republic of Belarus, paying for translation of the Olympiad tasks, preparation of the equipment for the practical tour, organizing the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Olympiad conducted in Belarus, guided tours, preparation of the printed and promotional materials, purchase of prizes, souvenirs, merchandise and symbols of the Republic of Belarus, covering travel and accommodation costs for Jury members from foreign countries, other expenses to ensure the high level of the Olympiad.

48. The Organizing Committee of the Olympiad shall be entitled to attract extra-budgetary sources of funding.

49. The cost estimate shall be approved by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus.