

Minutes of the meetings of the International Jury of the 44th International Chemistry Olympiad

The first meeting of the International Jury (Tuesday July 16th, 10pm)

1. The observing countries were introduced

- Countries observing for the second time: Georgia, Montenegro. It was noted that Liechtenstein were technically observing since they had no students this year.
- Countries observing for the first time: Oman

2. The members of the steering committee were introduced

- Elected members: Alexander Gladilin (Russia, 2010), Peter Wothers (UK, 2010, chair), I-Jy Chang (Chinese Taipei, 2011)*, Carlos Castro-Acuna (Mexico, 2011)*, Duckhwan Lee (Korea, 2012), Gabor Magyarfalvi (Hungary, 2012).
[* means first term ends 2013 but may stand for re-election]
- Organizers: G.Bryan Balazs (USA), Nguyen Van Noi (Vietnam), Vadim Eremin (Russia)
- Past Chair: Duckwan Lee (Korea)
- Coopted members: Manfred Kerschbaumer (Austria), Martin Putala (Slovakia), Savita Ladage (India)

3. Invitations to stand for election to the committee were issued to the jury

- It was noted that two positions would be vacant on the steering committee. Those members marked with one asterisk would be eligible to stand for reelection having only served one two-year term.

4. The chairman of the scientific committee then took over to discuss and vote on the practical tasks.

The third meeting of the International Jury (Sunday July 21st, 9pm)

1. Reports from future hosts of the IChO

- 2014 – Hanoi, Viet Nam (July 20-29)
- 2015 Baku, Azerbaijan.
The Jury voted unanimously to accept the kind invitation of Azerbaijan to host the 47th IChO.
- 2016 – There is no current host for the 48th IChO in 2016.
[Note post July: whilst one country was working towards the possibility of hosting the competition in 2016, this has now proved impossible and so there is no current host.]
- 2017 – Thailand confirmed their intention to host the 49th IChO in Bangkok.
The Jury voted unanimously to accept the kind invitation of Thailand to host the 49th IChO.
- 2018 – Slovakia and the Czech Republic were working towards the possibility of jointly hosting the 2018 competition.

2. Elections for the Steering Committee

- Being the only candidate from the Americas to stand for election, Carlos Castro-Acuna (Mexico) was automatically elected for his second term on the committee.
- In the subsequent election, I-Jy Chang (Chinese Taipei) was elected for her second term.

3. Four changes to the regulations were approved by the International Jury.

§ 2 Organization and invitation

(2) Unless directed otherwise by the International Jury, the organizer is obliged to invite all countries that participated with a team during either of the preceding two IChO competitions. The official invitation to participate in the forthcoming IChO should be sent to countries by the November preceding the competition. The countries invited must confirm their participation in the IChO according to requirements of the organizer.

§ 2 Organization and invitation

(3) Countries not automatically invited to the IChO must apply to the organizer by the end of November preceding the Olympiad. The organizer invites these countries to the Olympiad based on the recommendation of the Steering Committee. Participating countries are expected to select representative teams in an open process.

Newly invited countries must send an observer to two consecutive Olympiads before its pupils can participate in the IChO. The observer participates in Jury meetings and all Olympiad procedures as a non-voting member in order to learn about the content and procedure of the competition

§ 4 Obligations of the Organizer

(2) A meeting of the Steering Committee must be hosted in the organizing country at least 5 months prior to the IChO. The organizing country will provide some travel assistance.

§ 12 Safety

(3) The use of acutely toxic substances (GHS hazard statement H300, H310, H330) is strictly forbidden. The use of toxic substances is not recommended, but may be allowed if special precautions are taken. Substances with GHS hazard statements H340, H350, H360 (proven mutagens, carcinogens, teratogens) must not be used under any circumstances (see Appendix B for definitions of these categories).

(4) Detailed recommendations involving students' safety and the handling and disposal of chemicals can be found in Appendices A 1, A 2, and B.

- a) Appendix A 1: Safety Rules for Students in the laboratory.
- b) Appendix A 2: Safety Rules and Recommendations for the Host Country of the IChO.
- c) Appendix B contains a reference to the hazard symbols and statements of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification of Chemicals (GHS), the use of which is expected in labeling and classifying materials used at the IChO.

APPENDIX B

HAZARD WARNING SYMBOLS AND HAZARD DESIGNATIONS

Chemicals used in the IChO laboratory experiments need to be labeled according to the Globally Harmonized System of Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) standard developed by the United Nations. The organizing country should use the locally legislated GHS system (pictograms, hazard statements, etc.) if it exists. If such rules do not exist, the original GHS directives (http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_welcome_e.html) and the GHS compliant documentation by the chemical providers should be used.

4. IUPAC / Japan Funds

- The distribution of IUPAC / Japan funds for the year 2012-2013 was reported.
- Invitations for the 2013-2014 year were invited to be received by the Vietnamese organizing committee **before** November 30th, 2013.

5. Any other business

- A request was made from one delegation asking that if a country attends an IChO without students, they team (who count as observers rather than mentors) may still have voting rights at the Jury. On voting, the Jury declined to instruct the steering committee to look into this issue and bring a proposal to the next meeting.

The fourth meeting of the International Jury (Monday July 22nd, 8pm)

1. The members of the steering committee were introduced

- Elected members: I-Jy Chang (Chinese Taipei, 2011), Carlos Castro-Acuna (Mexico, 2011), Alexander Gladilin (Russia, 2010), Peter Wothers (UK, 2010), Gabor Magyarfalvi (Hungary, 2012), Duckwan Lee (Korea, 2012).
- Organizers: Vadim Eremin (Russia), Nguyen Van Noi (Vietnam), Igrar Nazarov (Azerbaijan), representative from Thailand to be confirmed.
- Coopted members: Manfred Kerschbaumer (Austria), Martin Putala (Slovakia), Mark Ellison (Australia).

[Subsequently, Peter Wothers was re-elected by the committee to be the Chair.]

2. Anton Sirota

- Anton Sirota (Slovakia) gave a most enjoyable presentation on the history of the Olympiad and announced his retirement. He was thanked most strongly by the International Jury for his outstanding commitment to the IChO since its very beginning.

3. Medals allocation

- The Chair of the Scientific Committee took over the meeting to give a report on arbitration and announce the allocation of the medals.