



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

International Physicists' Tournament

Decision Assembly 2025

Agenda

1. General feedback from the IPT 2025
2. Visas, the IPT2026 in US and last minute withdrawals: we have experienced a team replacement with year with 3 days notice; next year we need a process to mitigate these issues which is still fair. (Related to this: p.11)
3. Feedback on the AI guidance - the original guidance is via the [link here](#)
4. Feedback on two-round preselection
5. External partnerships update: IYPT (report from Kyrlo [here](#) about his trip to IYPT) - not much, EPS - nothing at all, FPS - getting legal address and using their help for budget hosting

In short, we spent half a year trying to open the IPT bank account (following the DA nominating Jeanne and Kyrlo to do it in Zurich), and all the banks in main France are not happy to deal with the association in Alsace, partly because the way of registering works differently in Alsace and in main France (for example, there is no common book of records for all associations registrations, where banks can verify that we are actual association).

We suggest the following way forward: we dissolve the current IPT Association in Alsace (at the EPS headquarters), and found a new one in Paris. We approached the French Physics Society to let us use their headquarters (in Paris!) as the new IPT association legal address. They don't mind, their Bureau meeting approved our petition in Feb 2025, and the agreements between the IPT and SFP are here - [about the address](#) and [about the budget](#).

For dissolving, we need $\frac{2}{3}$ in favour (original IPT Statute, article 16, text [in French](#) and [in English](#)). We need to approve a new draft of the [Statute](#) (two mere changes - the governing law name for non-profits in France and the address)



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

6. Grading discussion - summary of the previous discussions are on the grading document prepared by Aakash [here](#)
With the amount of inputs is growing, we need to set up a permanent working group for this, we are open for volunteers. At the moment, the most calling actions are
 - more anchoring - which grade means what
 - students want coherence between jurors: and they may apply some statistics to check it
 - Are we actually able to host mock fights
 - Internet access during the fights - thoughts
7. From the IYPT ([recap from Kyrlo's report](#)): introduce 1 min recap from the Moderator at the end of the general discussion, and then 2 min recap from the Reporter; remove 1 min recap from the Reporter. Discussion of this proposition and vote
8. Another thing from the IYPT ([specific location in Kyrlo's report again](#)): they collect from the teams all the presentations from all the reports heard at the PF, right after the PF. It helps resolve plagiarism issues. Shall we do the same? Discussion and vote
9. Another proposal is to introduce half grades, like in the French tournament, it helps to achieve fine-tuning grading of average reports because most of the reports are average. From the IPT 2024 feedback form, the responses are: in favour - 11, against - 23. Discussion and vote
10. Organization changes to the roles (can be found more [here](#)):
 - a. Add more separation to the roles on the tournament and organization part;
 - b. Limit terms of the elected execom members (president, secretary) ;
 - c. Add possibility to dismiss and resign;
 - d. Add minor decision power to the execom elected members;
 - e. Add vice-president;
11. [Late withdrawal penalty policy](#) (applies only in cases of abusive conduct) to encourage timely reporting and contingency planning. Possible strategy: Inscription fees are refunded if withdrawn at least one month before the tournament; no refund is provided otherwise; A 2k penalty applies for one-week advance cancellations, and a 4k fee is charged for less than one week's notice.
12. How we can make giving feedback less dramatic: don't show grades, show lowest and highest only (US does this way). Pawel as written in the [grading report](#) proposes an explicit guidance for jurors what to say in their feedback. Discuss and vote
13. President election and secretary election - need candidates!
14. Twitter - do we get reputational harm by staying there now?



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

International Physicists' Tournament

Decision Assembly 2025

Minutes

Present:

Execom: Anastasiia Vasylychenkova (president + UK rep), Alberto Rolandi (secretary + Austria rep), Matheus Pessoa (+ Canada rep), Matheu Suter (+ Swiss rep), Aakash Bhat (+ Germany rep), Christos Andrikopoulos (+ Greece retiring rep), Maja Milas (+ Croatia delegate), Jeanne Bernard (+ France rep), Nikolay Lysenko, Alisa Miloglyadova.

IOC: Peter Christian Kjærgaard Vesborg (Denmark), Åke Andersson (Sweden), Javier García Fernández (Spain - delegate), Ana Isabel Fernández-Tresguerres Mata (Spain - delegate), Daniel Grumiller (Austria - delegate), Livia Gomes (Brazil - delegate), Anton Lutsenko (Finland), Maria Giga (Greece - elect, 2nd session only), Floriana Morabito (Italy - delegate), Krzysztof Turzyński (Poland),

Present online: Vladimir Vanovsky (Russia rep), Rosty Martinez Duque (US rep), Kyrylo Gerashchenko (treasurer), Igor Khanonkin (Israel).

Absent: China, Colombia, India, Iran, Mexico, the Netherlands, Ukraine

Minute taker: Aakash Bhat.

Session one: 9 April 2025

Place: European Centre for Geological Education, Chęciny, Poland

1.1 Round of introductions



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

1.2 Visas for IPT 2026 in the US

USA is the host next year, and we will have some issues with visas. The USA IOC has been quite helpful, but it is going to be difficult. USA wants to help politically. We could also help increase the total time.

Mathieu: Check in with IOCs about going to the US.

Denmark has no issue with money. Spain has no problem. Finland also doesn't have a problem on the financial side, but the team is a bit international so he would need to check in. Mostly Europeans though. Sweden has no issue.

Croatia: They have money to register but no money for travel.

Austria: Visa not a problem, but money is a problem.

Germany: Visa not a problem, but money may be.

France: Visa not a problem. Just a problem with the FPT, which is in February. Might need to push it back.

Canada: Diverse composition, but with two nationalities. Money is cheaper for them. McGill is short on cash but USA might not be so difficult.

UK: Around half the team will be difficult to get.

Ukraine: Biggest challenge will be visas. Anastasiia is sceptical (>50% prob).

Poland: No problem.

Switzerland: No problem.

Greece: No problem for visa. Money an issue.

Brazil: Money is always an issue but will be cheaper. Visas might add a bit to the cost.

Israel: Not any real problems with the visa. No problem with money either.

Team IPT: Probability high for problems.

Teams left: China, Iran, India, Mexico, etc.

Anton asks if we have other places. We say not really.

Rosty: Regarding the timing, they need time especially to get money. They have a pipeline set up for money. Same with visas. But need to know. Will try to get more teams so that everyone can apply. They are trying to talk to the senator to help. The uni is very interested. Maybe they might get extra money, as a travelling fund. They could try for 27 teams. They have some people as LOC. Vice-Provost and Dean are head. Rosty is the middle man.



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

Jeanne and Alberto agree about having a strong opinion against the USA.

Poland disagrees. Because don't consider the university as a representative of the USA. We already crossed the border when we invited team IPT from Russia.

Sweden says we can also say we reduce the number of preselection by increasing the number of entries. Greece agrees.

Croatia: No private company will give money on a probability.

Rosty: Tournament later. A bit more time. Likes Matheus idea for getting people from different countries together in the USA.

Poland: Current political situation, maybe we get an online way to allow everyone to compete.

Maja: But then this year it would be chaos.

Poland: Yes but they didn't check for this.

1.3 Long-term host planning and IYPT collaboration

Alberto: There is a deeper problem. Only 1 candidate for hosting. We need a lot more hosts and people to come forward. We should consider places where the IPT is established and see if they can be recurring hosts.

Alisa: How does the IYPT work?

Poland: They actually failed to provide money.

Anastasiia: We don't seem to move forward with the IYPT. Not very collaborative. IYPT president since 9 years. Inertial stuff, different way of working.

Kyrylo: They have a lot of money for school students from schools.

Poland: Europe and not-centered thinking. IYPT is not so good at getting funding outside of Europe.

Mathieu: Finding a country is always difficult. Recurrent host is not really possible. We need someone who hosts two years in advanced.

Maja: How would Poland do it again next year. How would It be?

Poland: This event will break even because of a sponsor. So we need a recurring sponsor and organize out of the universities.



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

Quite a bit of discussion on recurrence and money. Austria suggests Simons Foundation.

Austria suggests Abu Dabhi as a host. They have a lot of infrastructure and money.

Poland: Question of price. If Krystoff had a guarantee of 40k euros then he would commit to host every two years.

Maja: Change funding to execom and not to the IOC.

Mathieu: 70k came from private foundations for IPT 2024.

K: IYPT orgs are more professors, whereas we are younger and have less access to funds. IYPT was in Pakistan and a lot of countries didn't come.

Alisa: Isn't it possible to reach out to the sponsors for this year to ask for a future contract.

Alberto: Beneficial to be active to ask sponsors.

Sweden: Registration fee is 1100 Euro. Maybe we can change this, at least with inflation. Proportional registration fee. Krystof says this is impossible.

1.4 EPS collaboration and legal status of the IPT

Anastasiia: EPS thing is kinda weird. We are just an association and have a legal status. But we would like to be registered in Paris. We establish an association, with a different address. France has a different law for this.

Jeanne: Banks in France are not obligated to open a bank account for non-profit organizations.

1.5 Feedback on rule changes and the current edition

1. Didn't encounter AI. Maja said they stated openly that the formulas were derived from AI. Nikolay says it was stated outright. The amount we saw is okay.
 - a. Poland: At one point France was the only country which had high-speed camera. This was a technological advantage. We might have the same issue with paid subscriptions.
 - b. Alberto: Solution was to make sure the problems don't get an advantage with a high-speed camera. AI doesn't have this.
 - c. Anton: Maybe the free AI will already be very strong soon and it won't be a money issue.



International Physicists' Tournament

6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

- d. Chris: We are in a transition phase. Think of Google vs library.
 - e. Maja: Technology is so powerful that we won't be able to judge this.
 - f. Poland: "Each year the IPT has 18 problems. The 18th problem is money, and this is a problem for me."
 - g. Ake: IPT doesn't really have a problem with AI.
 - h. Denmark: Only oral exams at the uni, after embracing AI.
 - i. K: The main problem is pre-selection with AI. What about using chat GPT during the fight.
 - j. M: No one should be using chat GPT.
 - k. Poland: Three people can collect info and make something for the next DA. Ake says he volunteers. Ake and Kyrylo will do something about it.
2. Anastasiia: Feedback to students. How can we make feedback better, and set up a working group.
- a. Maja: Showing the grades is a big part of calibration of the jurors.
 - b. Mathieu: He liked the non-showing grades for PF4.
 - c. Anton: Pre-self calibration for TLs. I think it is better to show mock fights and that it would help new jurors with it.
 - d. Poland: this year it was special with the local jurors, in that they had experience previously.
 - e. France: Jurors are allowed to change the grades from round 1 to round 3.
 - f. Denmark: It is a highlight of the fight to show the grades. We should keep it.
 - g. Canada: A self-feedback from other teams to replace the lowest grades.
 - h. Greece: Separate two things: Jury and experience.
 - i. Poland: Experience from last year. Bad job as a juror because the FPT was good grades.
 - j. Poland: This is a communication problem. Tell your students to talk to Ake!

Session two: 11 April 2025

Place: European Centre for Geological Education, Chęciny, Poland

2.1 Hosting 2026:

Anastasiia brings up the hosting issue from 2026, the USA is politically controversial and assess is limited by visas and funding. We start by listening to the proposals.

Finland begins. They come up with prepared slides. Talked about accommodation, funding etc. Questions were raised but were not relatively negative.



Peter says he could raise the money. But needs the university to back him up. Until then he can't commit.

Italy expresses interest but not for the next year, they had a fruitful conversation with Alberto and Mathieu.

2.2 Feedback for the current edition

1. Daniel suggests a time limit to the jury questions and feedback.
 - a. Alberto counters by saying the jury feedback is important.
 - b. Ake says perhaps we limit it to 1 question per jury.
2. Mathieu says he loved that we didn't have to leave the building. Most people think the same.
 - a. Krystoff says he felt disconnected from his team but seems to have heard less complaints about jurying.
 - b. Alberto thinks may be because we have less jurors.
 - c. Maya brings up an idea about assigning first time jurors to chair??
 - d. Krystoff thinks this is fine as long as it is not a bad situation which needs experience.
 - e. Jeanne agrees with Krystoff. Daniel says first chairing would not be comfortable.
3. Alberto brings up that many people have been saying that some people are saying that this is an experimental tournament- He disagrees.
4. Matheus thinks jurors are rewarding good presentations with fancy plots. Alberto disagrees and gives an example.
5. Anastasiia brings up that the jury guideline includes reproducibility.
6. Krystoff: Perception of the team Krystoff mentors that local/new jurors are the source of variance and noise. Says he spent hours looking for judges who reduced this noise to the minimum.
7. Peter: This is why 5-7 people are there to balance this.
8. Krystoff: Tension between safe space for students vs real world experience.
9. Anastasiia: Complaints on Moderator role being a little vague.
 - a. Some complaints about jurors not penalizing opponents bringing up their own solutions.
 - b. Krzysztof's reflections on semi final: There is nowhere in the rules: "I disagree with you, but would you like to know why based on my solution"



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

10. Maybe we properly define/re-define the rule of opponent bringing up their solutions. Krystoff suggests we need to work on the jury guidelines.
11. Maja says do you think higher grades are due to jury sheet? Hmmm
12. Mathieu: Implemented half-integers in FPT, and seems to have been wildly popular.
13. Anton: Scoresheet: The problem is solved should be there.
 - a. Krystoff doesn't understand the point here. Won't affect anything.

2.3 Grading criteria

1. Better anchoring of grading.
2. More coherence from jurors?
3. Mock fights to new and all jurors. Execom should keep trying more.
4. Internet access for fights.
 - a. Does anyone resonate with the idea of limiting the access - Anastasiia
 - b. Matheus shows interest in leading/composing the group.
 - c. Anastasiia wants a permanent working group.
 - i. Krystoff thinks the last year discussion on discord was very productive.
 - ii. Anastasiia wants actionable points.
5. Anton: Is there any way to increase consistency in the jurors feedback? We find out that it is actually about preselection!!!
 - a. Alberto explains the process of the two round review process.
 - b. Alberto says that the second round actually made no difference. It just increased the workload.
 - i. Maja says only do the second round with two teams.
 - ii. Ake says lets do the boring one round review. People agree.

2.4 Proposals from the IYPT

Recap time for the moderator, collect presentations after. Did not get enough interest in the room.

2.5 Voting session



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

Italy, Sweden, Spain, Finland, Switzerland, Germany, Croatia, France, Denmark, Austria, Brazil, Team IPT, Greece, Poland, and the UK have voting rights.

1. To add to the rules that the grade go from 1 to 10 with 0.5 grade.
 - a. All in favour: 8 in favor, 8 against. Anastasiia has the tie breaker. She votes against.
2. Dissolve the IPT Association based in Mulhouse. Nominate Anastasiia to process the dissolution. Found an identical association at the legal address of the French physical society. Reelect Anastasiia and Alberto as president and secretary for the new association, respectively, with their mandate ending on 15th of August 2025. Nominate Jeanne Bernard to open the bank account for the IPT as a member of execom and as per the original decision at the last IPT decision assembly: Unanimous vote. 16 in favour.

Note: the dissociation can be valid only if approved by $\frac{2}{3}$ of the quorum or $\frac{1}{2}$ of all potential voters even if they are absent. The decision is valid by both criteria.

2.6 Number of terms limitation for the elected roles in execom

We talk about power stuff. Term limits. Ake says we don't need them. Kyrlo thinks IYPT has something like a president for 18 years. Doesn't want that.

2.7 Withdrawal deadline for the teams, issue with last-minute withdrawal of team IPT

Anastasiia: Withdrawal deadlines for teams who might not come. K: Policy about withdrawals. Against this is Alberto, Matheus, and I.

Maja: Invite the local host to bring a second country. But maybe not for those without national selections.

K: His proposition is about them communicating three weeks before the due date of the visa let's say.

Krystoff: Reasonable but does not appear practical. They were really surprised with the visa decision.

Aakash: If we go to the USA this might not be reasonable anyway.



International Physicists' Tournament
6 Rue des Frères Lumière
68350 Mulhouse, France

<https://iptnet.info/>

2.8 Hosting in the US for 2026 - alternative hosts

Aakash brings up Finland as IAPS as an association. We are kind of going back and forth with what to do. Finally we land:

1. We are voting on whether we will have a vote on the subject of hosting the IPT in the USA after this.
2. If we don't vote yes, then basically with stay with the US.
3. People in favour to vote: 7 in favour. 9 against.

2.9 The statement about Ukraine, Russia, Gaza and Israel at the bottom of the website

Things are written on the website. Alberto and Anastasiia worked on it. Alberto and Anastasiia helped put it in context. Alberto was responsible for the statement till now.

Proposal from Ake:

Vote: Should the IPT remove the statement at the bottom of the website?

12 vote for. 2 against. 2 abstain.

2.10 President/secretary election

Mathieu brings up the issue. No one applied for the position yet because of much of rush. IOC doesn't respond usually, so Mathieu tells them they really need to vote for the president/secretary vote.

Anastasiia: We need deadlines.

Alberto: Early June deadlines will be reasonable.

Mathieu: Vote on 1st June proposal.

Krystoff brings up time of transfer of bank account. It can take a while apparently.