

February 7, 2009

Dear Mathematics Director,

The Stanford University Mathematical Organization is pleased to invite your school to the **2009 Stanford Mathematics Tournament**, to be held on **Saturday, February 28, 2009**. This contest brings together students from the greater Bay Area and beyond for a day of challenging problems and mathematical fellowship. The tournament is run by Stanford students in collaboration with the Rice Math Tournament. The tournament is composed of four subject area tests (algebra, geometry, advanced topics, and calculus), a general test, and two team tests. We also plan to have a member of the Stanford faculty give a talk in the afternoon.

The format of the contest is as follows:

- The **Subject Area Tests** are 50-minute individual exams consisting of 10 short answer questions. Students may take one of algebra and advanced topics and one of geometry and calculus. Each subject test is worth 50 points (5 per question). The advanced topics test covers areas such as probability, number theory, and pre-calculus.
- The **General Test** is a 110-minute test that is designed for students with less mathematical background; it is held at the same time as the subject area tests. The general test will have around 25 short answer questions and be worth 75 points.
- The **Team Round** is a 50-minute, 8-person exam, testing material from all areas of high school mathematics. It consists of 15 questions worth 20 points each, for a total of 300 points.
- The **Power Contest**, taken in the same teams as the team round, is a 50-minute, multi-part, proof-oriented question. It is worth 200 points.
- We may also have some extra just-for-fun events after the faculty speaker, before the presentation of awards. In the past, these have included ARML-style Super Relay and Tiebreaker rounds. Rules for these will be explained at the tournament. Students must be present to participate in these events.

You are welcome to bring as many students as you like, but you will need to group them into teams of 8 people. Even if you do not have enough students for a full team, any number of students are welcome to participate; they can be grouped together with students from other schools to form a team. A team's overall score will be determined by adding its score on the team test to the sum of the individual scores of each of its students (up to 100 points for taking two subject area tests, 75 points for the general test). Thus, the maximum team score is 1300 points.

Here is the schedule for this year's contest:

9:00 - 10:00	Registration / Check-In
10:15 - 11:05	Power Contest
11:15 - 12:05	Team Round
12:05 - 1:30	Lunch
1:40 - 2:30	Algebra
	Advanced Topics
	General Test (ends at 3:30)
2:40 - 3:30	Geometry
	Calculus
3:30 - 4:30	Speaker
4:30 - 5:30	Fun rounds and awards

We would like to have all participants present at the awards this year. Please do not leave after the individual events if at all possible.

If you competed last year, you will remember that we provided a pizza lunch during the contest. This year, we will again provide pizza, but ordering it will be optional. Teams that register in advance may, along with their registration, specify how many pizzas they would like for lunch and what kind, and we will put in one order with Domino's and distribute it to teams that ordered pizza. The cost is \$8 per large one-topping pizza; we will provide drinks. Teams that do not wish to order pizza, or teams that register on the day of the contest, will need to get lunch on their own. The Treehouse (at Tresidder Union) and Axe and Palm (at Old Union) will be open on contest day. We have reduced the registration fee from last year since it no longer includes lunch.

The enclosed map shows the math building (Building 380), where the contest will be held. A map is also available at campusmap.stanford.edu.

The early registration deadline is February 17, 2009. You may still register after this date, up to the morning of the contest, but we strongly encourage you to register early if possible. There will be a late fee for entries postmarked or completed online after this date (please see registration form) and an additional fee for registrations completed upon arrival at the tournament. Early registrations will also help us make sure the contest runs smoothly.

You may register either online or by mail. The online registration form can be found at sumo.stanford.edu/smt. Online registrations will not be charged the late fee as long as the form is completed by February 17th. You will still need to mail in a check if registering online.

If registering by mail, send the enclosed form with payment to:

Silas Johnson
Stanford University Mathematical Organization
P.O. Box 11415
Stanford, CA 94309

Please remember to allow sufficient time for late registrations to arrive by mail, as the Stanford Post Office is generally a couple of days slower than other area post offices. Note that if we have not received your form by February 23, registration should be done on the morning of the tournament.

Other information about the contest is also available on our website: <http://sumo.stanford.edu>. Please feel free to contact Silas Johnson at (650)906-0581 or preferably at silasj@stanford.edu with any questions. Even if you are unsure which students will be attending, we would still very much appreciate an approximate number of teams and students to expect.

Sincerely,

Silas Johnson
SMT Coordinator