

# Regulations of the International Young Naturalists' Tournament

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## Chapter 1. General information

### I. International Young Naturalists' Tournament

The International Young Naturalists' Tournament (hereinafter the *IYNT*) is a team competition for school students in their ability to solve research problems of natural sciences, convincingly present their solutions, and defend them in scientific discussions called Science Fights (hereinafter *SF*.)

### II. General Council

The IYNT is solely governed by the General Council (hereinafter the *GC*) established by the Founding Members of the IYNT. The GC presides over the manner in which the IYNT is held, releases its problems, approves the Regulations and ensures their implementation, and has ultimate authority over the IYNT competition. The GC establishes other principal Bodies, Centers and Committees of the IYNT, assigns their responsibilities, and appoints Chairpersons. The GC entrusts Local Organizing Committees with hosting each respective IYNT event.

### III. Local Organizing Committee

The Local Organizing Committee (hereinafter the *LOC*) provides board, lodging and premises, and ensures all necessary conditions and facilities to conduct the IYNT competition in the host country. The LOC determines the venue of the IYNT and its schedule in agreement with the GC.

### IV. Participants

1. The participants are aged 12 through 16. The age limit is set such that participants of the IYNT must not turn the age of 17 years during the calendar year of the respective IYNT competition.
2. Each Team is composed of six Team Members, including one Team Captain. The GC may allow participation of smaller Teams. The Captain is the official representative of the Team during the IYNT. No Team Member and no Captain can be replaced after the Opening Ceremony.
3. Each Team is accompanied by two adult Team Leaders who supervise their Team and work in the Jury.
4. To participate, a Team must pre-register for the IYNT and subsequently fulfill the requirements for registration. These requirements are determined and made public by the GC.

### V. Agenda

The agenda of the IYNT includes the following rounds graded by the Jury and social activities:

- Opening Ceremony;
- Introduction of Teams via short performances (graded round);
- Drawing lots;
- Taking a group photograph of all participants by the LOC;
- Jury briefings;

Two Selective SFs with main IYNT problems (graded rounds);  
One Selective SF with the problems *Invent Yourself* (graded round);  
One Selective SF with additional IYNT problems (graded round);  
One Semi-Final SF (graded round);  
One Final SF (graded round);  
Cultural program provided by the LOC;  
Unofficial contests in various nominations (not used in the official ranking of Teams);  
Closing and Awards Ceremony.

## VI. Introduction of Teams at the Opening Ceremony

Each Team introduces themselves in a short artistic performance during the Opening Ceremony. The performance can be of any genre. Team Leaders may participate. The Teams can in particular produce and display a short video about them. The duration of the Introduction is limited to 3 minutes. Exceeding this time limit incurs a penalty. By the end of the IYNT, the Teams submit any audiovisual materials of their Introduction (e.g. videos or slides) to the GC for archiving, and must ensure that the files are safely kept.

## VII. Problems

1. **Main problems** are research oriented experimental and theoretical problems in natural sciences released by the GC to the Teams and the general public in advance but not earlier than on the closing day of the previous IYNT. These problems may be used in national or regional competitions recognized by the GC.
2. **Problems *Invent Yourself*** are open-ended questions that ask the Teams to specify and formulate their own problem statements and solve the respectively stated tasks. The general descriptions of these problems are released by the GC together with the main problems. Teams must release their original written statements of the problems *Invent Yourself* to the GC no later than in the beginning of the IYNT. The submitted statements of the problems are made public.
3. **Additional problems** of the IYNT are not published in advance and are released to the Teams by the GC directly in the course of the IYNT. These problems are research oriented and are solved by the Teams during the respective SF.

## VIII. Science Fights

A Science Fight (*SF*) is a meeting of three or two Teams in which the Teams discuss and present their solutions of the IYNT problems. There are five types of SFs in the IYNT which differ in the type of problems, in the agenda, and in the eligibility of Teams to participate.

1. **Selective SFs with main problems** are conducted according to the Standard SF regulations and use the main IYNT problems known to the Teams in advance. All Teams participate.
2. **Selective SF with the problems *Invent Yourself*** is conducted according to the Standard SF regulations. Each Team presents and defends their own problems *Invent Yourself*. Only those Teams participate that have timely released their original statements of *Invent Yourself*.
3. **Selective SF with additional problems** is conducted according to the Standard SF regulations with changes in the preparation time and challenge procedure. This SF uses the additional problems released to the Teams by the GC immediately before the SF. All Teams participate.
4. **Semi-Final SF** is conducted according to the Standard SF regulations with an omitted challenge procedure. Main IYNT problems and problems *Invent Yourself* are used. Only appropriately determined winners of Selective SFs participate.
5. **Final SF** is conducted according to the Standard SF regulations with an omitted challenge procedure. Main IYNT problems and problems *Invent Yourself* are used. Only appropriately determined winners of the Semi-Final SF participate.

## IX. Jury

1. In all SFs, the Jury evaluates the solutions of the IYNT problems presented by the Teams and the Team performances by publicly showing integer Grades. The grading reflects whether a Team is successful in their performance. Guidelines and particular criteria aimed at improved grading are made public by the GC. Each individual Juror decides on each Grade and bears sole responsibility over the Grade. Each Grade is public. No Grade can be corrected retroactively. Each Juror must publicly justify any of their Grades upon the request of Team Captains or the Chairperson.
2. The Jury for each SF Group is composed of independent experts and Team Leaders such that their Teams do not take part in the respective Group. The Jury for each Group is formed by the GC in cooperation with the LOC.

3. One of the Jurors in each Group is the Chairperson who conducts the SF and ensures that the Regulations are respected. The Chairperson is appointed by the GC or by an accredited Committee before the beginning of the SF.

## X. Official language

The official language of the IYNT is English.

## Chapter 2. Science Fights

### I. Standard Science Fight regulations

1. Each SF in each Group is conducted by the Chairperson who facilitates discussions, announces the ordering, manages time, clarifies the Regulations, and ensures their implementation. In the beginning of a SF, the Chairperson asks Jurors to introduce themselves, and asks Team Captains to introduce their Team Members. At the SFs from the Selective SF 4 onwards, the Chairperson carries out the Captain's Contest in the beginning of the SF.

2. In the Groups of three Teams, the SF is carried out in three Stages. In each Stage, each Team plays one of the three roles: the Reporter, the Opponent, and the Reviewer. The roles are assigned in the following order:

3 Teams	Stage I	Stage II	Stage III
Team 1	Reporter	Reviewer	Opponent
Team 2	Opponent	Reporter	Reviewer
Team 3	Reviewer	Opponent	Reporter

3. In the Groups of two Teams, the SF is carried out in two Stages. In the Stage I, one Team acts as the Reporter, and the second Team is divided into two independent sub-teams that take the roles of the Opponent and the Reviewer, respectively. The division takes place before the challenge procedure in the beginning of the Stage. Team Captain decides how the Team is divided and appoints a temporary acting Captain for the sub-team from which he or she is absent. In the Stage II, the Teams change their roles. The roles are assigned in the following order:

2 Teams	Stage I	Stage II
Team 1	Reporter	Opponent, Reviewer
Team 2	Opponent, Reviewer	Reporter

4. In the first three Selective SFs, the sequence of performances is determined by the Tournament Bracket established at the Opening Ceremony. In the Selective SF 4, in the Semi-Finals, and in the Finals, the sequence of performances is determined via Captain's Contest conducted by the Chairperson in the beginning of the SF before Stage I. The Captain's Contest has a sole winner. The winner determines the roles of all Teams in Stage I and thus the sequence of performances in the whole SF. The Captain does not interact with their Team during the Captain's Contest and when deciding on the sequence of performances.

5. Only one Team Member takes to the floor as Reporter, Opponent or Reviewer on behalf of their Teams. All other Team Members may work as assistants, offer technical support to the presenter, pass handwritten notes and, if allowed by the Chairperson, make short remarks.

6. In the course of one Stage, Members of one Team communicate only with each other. They have no right to use mobile data transfer and other technical means to communicate with anyone outside their Team, in particular Team Leaders.

7. Prior to announcing their Grades, Jurors have no right to express their judgment or opinion. Jurors have no right to explicitly examine textbook knowledge of Team Members or pose the same question to several Teams at once.

8. Before the Jurors show their Grades, the Chairperson checks that each Juror has filled and signed their individual protocol and has clearly recorded their Grades. In case of any discrepancy between the protocol and the displayed Grade, the protocol is considered correct.

9. Chairperson and Team Captains can ask any Juror to justify any of their Grades, in particular the extreme Grades.

10. If a Team does not show up for a SF, the Chairperson reports to the GC. The GC establishes the whereabouts of the Team and may resolve to conduct the SF without the absent Team as a two-team SF. If the Group in question is planned as a two-team SF, the GC may introduce a one-time amendment in the distribution of Teams, upon the discretion of the GC.

### II. Standard Stage regulations

1. Each SF is composed of three of two Stages. Each Stage is composed of separate Phases according to the agenda in the table below. In a two-team SF, each Stage begins with one of the Teams dividing into two independent sub-teams, of which one acts as Opponent and the other acts as Reviewer. Asterisk (\*) denotes the positions where Standard Stage regulations should be amended for particular types of SFs.

#	Phase	Duration
1*	<b>Challenge by the Opponent</b>	1 min
2*	<b>Accepting or rejecting the challenge by the Reporter</b>	1 min
3**	<b>Preparation of the Reporter</b>	3 min
4	<b>Presentation of the report</b>	8 min
5	<b>Clarifying questions of the Opponent to the Reporter</b>	3 min
6	<b>Preparation of the Opponent</b>	3 min
7	<b>Statement by the Opponent</b>	4 min
8	<b>Discussion between the Opponent and the Reporter</b>	5 min
9	<b>Clarifying questions of the Reviewer to the Reporter and the Opponent</b>	2 min
10	<b>Preparation of the Reviewer</b>	2 min
11	<b>Statement by the Reviewer</b>	3 min
12	<b>Concluding remarks of the Opponent</b>	1 min
13	<b>Concluding remarks of the Reporter</b>	1 min
14	<b>Clarifying questions of the Jury to all speakers</b>	5 min
15	<b>Grading</b>	4 min
16	<b>Concluding remarks of the Jury, justification of Grades</b>	4 min
17	<b>Break</b>	10 min
	Total for one Stage (no break incl., appx.)	<b>50 min</b>
	Total for a three-team SF with 2 breaks (appx.)	<b>3 h</b>
	Total for a two-team SF with 1 break (appx.)	<b>2 h</b>

\* In the Selective SF with additional problems, consecutive challenges by all Teams are carried out in the beginning of the SF. The order of challenges is determined by Captain's Contest. In the Semi-Finals and Finals, the challenge procedure is omitted.

\*\* In the Selective SF with additional problems, the preparation time is used by all Teams for solving an accepted problem. The preparation time is 45 minutes.

2. The Chairperson must rigorously keep the time limits for each Phase.

### III. Team roles in the Stage

1. **The Reporter** presents an original solution prepared by their Team. The Report contains the basic ideas and methods for the solution, the description of observations and experiments, theoretical analysis, and also clear conclusions. The Reporter must explicitly cite the sources of any ideas, data or theories which are not of own work. The standard visual aids for the report are multimedia slides with graphs, figures, data, mathematical expressions, photos, or videos. Other visual aids may include experimental demonstrations or handout sheets. By the end of the IYNT, the Reporter submits a copy of their solution (i.e. slides or written reports) to the GC for archiving, and must ensure that the files are safely kept.

2. **The Opponent** presents a critique of the Report, including its contents and form, and leads the discussion with the Reporter. The Opponent justifies their agreement or disagreement with the methods, results, and conclusions presented by the Reporter. The Opponent challenges each aspect of the Report and discusses possible improvements. The Opponent points to inaccuracies and errors in the understanding of the problem and in the solution, but also points to achievements and strong sides of the Report. Whilst the Opposition must focus on the Report only and may not be a presentation of their own solution, the Opponent can cite literature and own results to justify particular criticisms. By the end of the IYNT, the Opponent submits a copy of their opposition (e.g. slides or written notes) to the GC for archiving, and must ensure that the files are safely kept.

3. **The Reviewer** summarizes and assesses the outcome of the debate between the Reporter and the Opponent, and draws weighted and independent conclusions. The Reviewer presents a short evaluation of the performances of two other teams, pointing to their strong sides and shortcomings. As the Reviewer does not select the reviewed problem, he or she thus expresses their critical third-party view on the essential points raised in the debate and concludes this debate. Whilst the Review must focus on the performance of two other Teams only and may not be a presentation of another solution, the Reviewer can cite literature and own results to justify particular opinions. By the end of the IYNT, the Reviewer submits a copy of their review (e.g. slides or written notes) to the GC for archiving, and must ensure that the files are safely kept.

### IV. Limitations on Team Members to take the floor

1. During any single SF (Selective, Semi-Final or Final) any Team Member may take the floor only once.

2. Throughout all SFs taken together, except for the Finals, any Team Member may take the floor in each role only once, i.e. once as Reporter, plus once as Opponent, plus once as Reviewer.
3. In the Final SF, there are no limitations related to earlier performances of individual Team Members. Any of them can however take the floor only once.
4. Penalties are applied if these limitations are not respected.

## V. Rules of challenge and rejection

1. In any SF with a challenge procedure, the Opponent can challenge the Reporter on any problem available for such a SF, except for those problems that:
  - a. have been presented in this SF by another team;
  - b. the Reporter has previously reported (in any earlier SF);
  - c. the Opponent has previously reported;
  - d. the Reporter has previously opposed;
  - e. the Opponent has previously opposed.
2. The Reporter can reject the challenge. Such a rejection is recorded in the protocol. In such case, the Opponent makes a new challenge.
3. It is allowed for the Opponent to make a new challenge on the problem that has been previously rejected by the Reporter. If the Reporter rejects, this is not counted as a new rejected challenge.
4. In a situation that no problems are left for a challenge, the restrictions are lifted in the following order: first e., then d., then c., then b., then a.
5. Throughout all SFs, the total allowed number of rejected challenges not incurring a penalty is **three**.
6. Penalties are applied to the Reporter for rejecting a challenge if the Reporter has exceeded the allowed number of rejected challenges.

## Chapter 3. Grading, Penalties and Results

### I. Grading parameters

#### 1. Grade (*G*)

Each Juror evaluates the Team performance by giving integer Grades *G*. In any SF, the Grades are in the following range:

To the Reporter in a SF	from 1 to 30;
To the Opponent	from 1 to 20;
To the Reviewer	from 1 to 10.

In the Opening Ceremony, the Introduction of Teams is graded in the range from 1 to 10.

#### 2. Average Point (*P*)

The Average Point for any performance is calculated in the following manner. Two extreme Grades, one maximum and one minimum, are replaced with one grade equal to their arithmetic mean. In the next step, the Average Point *P* is determined as the arithmetic mean of the new data set of  $n-1$  grades. Any Average Point is rounded to the nearest 0.1 of a point.

#### 3. Sum of Points (*SP*)

The Sum of Points for the Introduction of Teams at the Opening Ceremony is equal to the Average Point earned, with any penalties applied. The Sum of Points in a SF is equal to the arithmetic sum of all Average Points for the Team in all performances in the said SF, with any penalties applied. Any resulting Sum of Points is rounded to the nearest 0.1 of a point.

#### 4. Total Sum of Points (*TSP*)

The value of *TSP* is equal to the sum of all *SP*s earned by the Team in all completed SFs and in the Introduction of the Team. The resulting value is calculated after each SF.

#### 5. Criterion of Victory (*V*)

For the Team with the highest *SP* in a SF Group equal to  $SP_{max}$ , the Criterion of Victory is set to  $V=1$ . For the Teams in the Group which have  $SP \geq (SP_{max}-2)$ , the Criterion of Victory is set to  $V=1$ . For the Teams in the Group which have  $(SP_{max}-10) \leq SP < (SP_{max}-2)$ ,  $V=0.5$ . For the Teams in the Group which have  $SP < (SP_{max}-10)$ , the Criterion of Victory is set to  $V=0$ .

## 6. Sum of Victories (*SV*)

The parameter *SV* of a Team equals the arithmetic sum of Criteria *V* in all completed SFs.

## 7. Rank (*R*)

The Rank *R* for a Team has integer values from 1 to *N*, where *N* is total number of Teams in the IYNT. It indicates the placing of a Team in the list of all Teams sorted descending. The value of *R* for each of *N* Teams is calculated after each completed Selective SF and Semi-Final SF. The top Rank (*R*=1) is assigned to the Team that has the highest Sum of Victories (*SV*) at the end of all preceding rounds. In case of equal *SV* for two or several Teams, their Rank is determined via comparison of other grading parameters in the following order:

- a. Total Sum of Points (*TSP*) after all preceding rounds;
- b. the sum of Average Points (*P*) for all Reports in all preceding SFs;
- c. the sum of Average Points (*P*) for all Oppositions in all preceding SFs.

If the listed criteria are not sufficient to unambiguously resolve the ranking of the Teams, the GC introduces additional criteria allowing determination of a univocal ranking. Rank *R* is the only criterion to determine Teams that participate in the Semi-Finals and a supporting criterion to determine Teams that participate in the Finals.

## II. Penalties

### 1. Yellow Cards and Summing of the penalties

Penalties during a SF are applied only to the *SP* earned during the said SF. A Yellow Card is used to indicate each penalty. A Yellow Card issued to a Team reduces the *SP* in this SF by 10%; two Yellow Cards issued to a Team during a SF reduce the *SP* by 20%; three Yellow Cards reduce the *SP* by 30%, etc. The penalties for various violations are applied independently and sum up.

### 2. Number of rejected challenges (*NR*)

If the total number of rejected challenges in all (the current and all preceding) SFs exceeds the limit by one, a Yellow Card is issued; if it exceeds the limit by two, two Yellow Cards are issued, etc. If there is no rejected challenge in a particular SF, the *SP* in this SF is not penalized even if the total number of rejections in preceding SFs has exceeded the limit. Repeated rejection (if a challenge on the same problem has been rejected by the Reporter previously) is not counted as a new rejection.

### 3. Number of individual performances in one Science Fight (*NP*)

Any individual Team Member is allowed to take the floor only once during a SF. If a Team Member takes the floor in two roles, one Yellow Card is issued; if a Team Member takes the floor in three roles, two Yellow Cards are issued.

### 4. Total number of individual performances in Selective and Semi-Final Science Fights (*NT*)

Throughout all SFs taken together, except for the Finals, any individual Team Member is allowed being Reporter only once; plus being Opponent only once; plus being Reviewer only once. Each violation results in one Yellow Card.

### 5. Duration of one performance (*DP*)

If the duration of Team performance during their Introduction at the Opening Ceremony exceeds the time limit (3 minutes), each extra minute results in one Yellow Card. The extra time is rounded up to next minute. There are no penalties for exceeding the time allowed for presentations in the SFs where time is under control of the Chairperson who must stop the Phase when the time is up.

## III. Results

1. The following values of grading parameters for the Teams (with penalties applied) are published as a table after each SF:

- R*, Rank;
- SV*, Sum of Victories;
- TSP*, Total Sum of Points;
- V*, Criterion of Victory for the most recent completed SF or all preceding SFs;
- SP*, Sum of Points for the most recent completed SF or all preceding SFs.

2. The following grading parameters are assigned to the Team that has not taken part in a SF:  $SP=0$ ,  $V=0$ .

## Chapter 4. Tournament Brackets

### I. Selective Science Fights

1. For the three first Selective SFs, the Tournament Bracket established at the Opening Ceremony determines what Team competes in what Group and the sequence of performances in each Group.

2. The Tournament Bracket is established according to an exact procedure made public by the GC during the Opening Ceremony. The procedure involves drawing lots and aims at such a distribution of Teams among the Groups that the following criteria are respected when possible:

- a. no two Teams meet more than once prior to the Selective SF 4;
- b. no two Teams from one country meet at all;
- c. no Team competes in any Group more than once.

Below is given an exemplary Tournament Bracket of  $N=15$  Teams, each from a different country, where the numbers indicate the Team index established by drawing lots. If  $N$  is a multiple of 3, the respective Bracket is established analogously. If  $N$  is not a multiple of 3, an analogous Bracket is established for the nearest next multiple of 3 ( $N+1$  or  $N+2$ ), followed by removing the extra entries. This and similar Tournament Brackets must allow each Team to be Reporters in all three possible Stages: Stage I, Stage II, and Stage III. The order of Teams in each Group determines the sequence of performances in Stage I.

SF	Selective SF Groups														
	A			B			C			D			E		
SF 1	1	6	11	2	7	12	3	8	13	4	9	14	5	10	15
SF 2	10	14	3	6	15	4	7	11	5	8	12	1	9	13	2
SF 3	12	5	9	13	1	10	14	2	6	15	3	7	11	4	8

3. In the Selective SF 4, the Teams are distributed among the Groups according to their Rank  $R$  after Selective SF 3. Below is given an exemplary Tournament Bracket of  $N=15$  Teams, where the numbers indicate the Rank  $R$ . This and similar Tournament Brackets aim at separating top Teams from each other, such that they compete in different Groups. The sequence of performances in each Group is determined by the Captain's Contest.

SF	Selective SF Groups														
	A			B			C			D			E		
SF 4	R1	R10	R11	R2	R9	R12	R3	R8	R13	R4	R7	R14	R5	R6	R15

## II. Semi-Final Science Fight

1. If the total number of Teams  $N$  is **12 or more**, then nine Teams having the highest Rank  $R$  after Selective SF 4 are allowed to the Semi-Finals in three Groups. The Tournament Bracket for the three Groups is given by the table below, where the numbers indicate the Rank  $R$ . The sequence of performances in each Group is determined by Captain's Contest.

Semi-Final SF Groups								
A			B			C		
R1	R6	R7	R2	R5	R8	R3	R4	R9

Only one Team from each of the three Semi-Final Groups is allowed to the Final SF. If there is more than one Team with  $V=1$  in a Group, only one of such Teams is determined as a Finalist via comparison of Ranks  $R$  after Semi-Finals in the said Group only.

2. If the total number of Teams  $N$  is **8, 9, 10, or 11**, then six Teams having the highest Rank  $R$  after the Selective SF 4 are allowed to the Semi-Finals in two Groups. The Tournament Bracket for the two Groups is given the table below, where the numbers indicate the Rank  $R$ . The sequence of performances in each Group is determined by Captain's Contest.

Semi-Final SF Groups					
A			B		
R1	R4	R5	R2	R3	R6

If only two Teams have  $V=1$  in the two Semi-Final Groups, both are allowed to the Finals, while the third Finalist is determined by the highest Rank  $R$  after Semi-Finals across both Groups. If three Teams have  $V=1$  in the two Semi-Final Groups, all three are allowed to the Finals. If there are four or more Teams with  $V=1$ , only three of them with the highest Ranks  $R$  after Semi-Finals are allowed to the Finals.

3. If the total number of Teams  $N$  is **7 or less**, then the Semi-Finals are not carried out and the three Teams with the highest Rank  $R$  after the Selective SF 4 are allowed to the Finals.

4. Immediately after the announcement of the Semi-Finalists following the Selective SF 4, the Semi-Finalists select the problems for their reports from the set of main IYNT problems and problems *Invent Yourself*. Teams may not select the problem that they have reported in any preceding SF. All problems must be different, and the priority in the choice is determined by the Rank  $R$  after the Selective SF 4. The list of selected problems is made public.

## III. Final Science Fight

1. Three appropriately determined Teams take part in the Final SF. The sequence of performances in the Final Group is determined by Captain's Contest.
2. Immediately after the announcement of the three Finalists, the Finalists select the problems for their reports from the set of main IYNT problems or the problems *Invent Yourself*. Teams may not select the problem that they have reported in any preceding SF. All problems must be different, and the priority in the choice is determined by the Rank  $R$  after the Semi-Finals (or, if the Semi-Final SF was omitted, by the Rank  $R$  after the Selective SF 4.) The list of selected problems is made public.

## Chapter 5. Winners

### I. Diplomas and Medals

1. Each Team Member and each Team Leader of the winning Teams receive an own Medal and an own Diploma. Official Diplomas of the IYNT must be signed by at least two Members of the GC.
2. One or several Finalists with  $V=1$  in the Final SF are awarded 1st Place Diplomas and Gold Medals. Only one Team with the highest  $SP$  in the Final SF is declared Absolute Winner of the IYNT.
3. Other Finalists with  $V \neq 1$  are awarded 2nd Place Diplomas and Silver Medals of the IYNT.
4. All other Semi-Finalists are awarded 3rd Place Diplomas and Bronze Medals of the IYNT. If the Semi-Finals are omitted (in case of 7 or less Teams in the IYNT), 3rd Place Diplomas and Bronze Medals of the IYNT are awarded to two Teams with the top Rank  $R$  that do not pass to the Finals.

### II. Certificates

All other Team Members and Team Leaders receive Certificates of Participation for their Teams.

### III. Final Ranking

The Final Rank ( $RF$ ) for each Team is made public after the Finals and has integer values from 1 to  $N$ , where  $N$  is total number of Teams in the IYNT. For the three Finalists, it has values of  $RF=1$ ,  $RF=2$ , and  $RF=3$  according to the  $SP$  in the Finals (equal  $SP$ s are resolved by comparing Ranks  $R$  after the Semi-Finals.) For the Semi-Finalists that do not pass to the Finals,  $RF$  is determined via comparison of Ranks  $R$  after the Semi-Finals. For the Teams that do not pass to the Semi-Finals,  $RF$  equals the Rank  $R$  after the Selective SF 4. Final Rank  $RF$  is used to indicate the placing of a Team after the completion of the IYNT and the order in which Certificates and Diplomas are awarded at the Closing Ceremony, from bottom to top.

## Chapter 6. Status of the Regulations

### I. Authority, Authorship and Application

These Regulations supercede and replace any and all prior Regulations of the IYNT released by the GC of the IYNT and other Bodies in the past. By releasing these Regulations, the GC abrogates in particular the Regulations of the IYNT adopted and released on February 25, 2015. The Regulations are developed by Evgeny Yunosov. Contributions are made by Ilya Martchenko.

### II. Effective date

These Regulations are adopted and take effect on September 5, 2015.

### III. Future amendments

These Regulations are adopted and approved by the GC and can be amended or edited only by the GC. Unless a future GC decision abrogates these Regulations, they remain in force indefinitely.



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