

17. International Solving Contest (ISC)

Sunday 24.01.2021

The International Solving Contest next year will take place on Sunday 24.01.2021. The event is happening simultaneously in all participating countries.

There will be three categories: one for experienced solvers. The second category is intended for weaker, inexperienced solvers. This second category is not open for solvers with a rating **(or half-rating or non-active-rating)** of more than 2000.

The third category is intended for youngsters born **after 31.12.2007**.

Separate results are recorded for youth, females and seniors. For Categories 1 and 2 the results of solvers will be rated. However for all solvers no norms for titles are possible.

A local controller per country should be appointed who can be entrusted with the responsible task of organising this contest. If appropriate, this contest may be organised in more than one location per country. It is permissible for countries to have a combined organisation. Participants may also be from a different country. For each location a local controller must take responsibility. It is an absolute requirement that local controllers have an e-mail address at their disposal.

The contest in the main category will consist of two rounds with six problems each, i.e. for each round a 2#, 3#, n#, EG, h# and s#. The second category will consist of two rounds with six problems: in the first round two 2# and one 3#, n#, eg and s#, and in the second round one 2#, two 3# and one n#, eg and h#. The youth category will consist of one round with six orthodox problems, i.e. four 2#, a 3# and an EG.

For each round, the solving time is two hours.

To prevent possible irregularities it is essential that the start of the contest is at the same time in each country. This means CET (Central European Time) at 11 a.m. Local time must meet this CET. Between the two rounds a break is foreseen of at least 0,5 hours and max. 1,5 hours, at the option of the local controller.

The local controller will receive between 15. and 17.01.2021 the following PDF file format documents **by e-mail**:

- For each round, a sheet with the problems.
- For each round, a sheet for writing the solutions.
- For each round, a sheet with the solutions and their marking.
- A form for summarising the results.

The tasks of the local controller are:

- Organisation of the local contest.
- Announcement in local magazines.
- Invitation of local participants.
- Reproduction of the various sheets for the solvers.
- Checking of the solutions and point giving.

- E-mailing of the Top-3 results from Cat 1 to the central controllers **not later than 24.01.2021 (Sunday evening)**
- E-mailing of the results. These must reach the central controllers **by e-mail** not later than 27.01.2021
- E-mailing of the scanned solving sheets to the central controllers, not later than 03.02.2021
- The local controller should keep the original solving sheets to ensure a back-up
- The e-mail address of Axel Steinbrink is: axel.steinbrink@gmx.de
- The local controller will send a copy of all e-mails to Luc Palmans (palmans.luc@skynet.be)
- It is recommended that the local controllers use the WFCC Solving Tournament Manager for the administration of their local tournament

The central controllers check the markings and distribute the preliminary result to the various local controllers and to the delegates not later than 15.02.2021. Appeals have to be sent to the central controllers not later than 22.02.2021.

After handling possible appeals, the central controllers will present the results and their report to the Solving Committee by 01.03.2021. After the review the results will be presented on the WFCC website.

The final results of this contest will take the form of **individual ranking**. No ranking per country will be provided by the central controllers (although any country may do this for itself). There will also be a ranking for youngsters, seniors and female solvers.

The name of the locally appointed controller must reach the central controllers by e-mail not later than 31.12.2020.

Thank you for your cooperation,
Axel Steinbrink
Luc Palmans
Central controllers ISC 2021

Rules for the International Solving Contest (ISC)

- 1. Event:** The ISC is a solving competition appointed by the WFCC for individual solvers taking place on multiple locations worldwide on a Sunday at the end of January concurrently in all participating countries.
- 2. Organisation:** at the WCCC of the preceding year central controller(s) are appointed by the WFCC delegates who will take the overall responsibility of the contest.
- 3. Admittance:** For the admittance of each participating place a reliable local controller with email address has to be appointed for the responsibility of organising the local tournament, preferably by the local controller of the respective country; otherwise the central controllers decide about the acceptance of local controllers.
There is no limit for the amount of local competitions and multiple places per country are possible. Solvers are admitted in any local competitions, also in other countries.
- 4. Categories:** The competition comprises three solver categories:
 - **Category 1** for experienced solvers, but open for all solvers
 - **Category 2** for inexperienced solvers with no rating or with an active, non-active or half-rating of less than 2000
 - **Category 3** for youth not older than 13 years in the year of the competitionSeparate results are recorded for youth, females and seniors. For Category 1 and 2 only results of solvers will be rated. However for all solvers no norms for titles are possible.
- 5. Begin:** The start of the contest should be at 11 a.m. CET (Central European Time) in all countries. Central controllers can allow a different begin of the contest for Asia and the Americas and an earlier or later begin of one hour at most for all other countries.
- 6. Rounds:** The rounds of the contest last two hours for all categories.
There are two rounds for category 1 and 2 with a break of at least half an hour with a maximum of one and a half hour between the two rounds.
For category 3 there is one round only.
- 7. Modus:**
 - **Category 1:** for each round a 2#, 3#, n#, eg, h# and s#
 - **Category 2:** in first round two 2# and one 3#, n#, eg and s# and in second round one #2, two 3# and one n#, eg and h#
 - **Category 3:** four 2#, a 3# and an eg
- 8. Rules and Appeals:** General applicable solving rules of the WCSC/ECSC apply accordingly. Appeals by solvers have to be sent to the central controllers who will decide in the first instance. In case of disagreement a 3 man committee with members of the WFCC Solving Committee will be appointed for the final decision.
- 9. Tools:** (technical tools used by central and local controllers)
All communication between central and local controllers by **email**
Usage of **WFCC Solving Tournament Manager** by all controllers highly recommended for reducing the efforts of all involved parties
The results will be transferred automatically to the MatPlus-website where they can be seen by all solvers.
- 10. Timeline:** (specification of latest deadlines in days - ISC = date of contest)
 - registration of local controllers until the end of the previous year
 - distribution of complete documentation by central to local controllers: ISC-7
 - top 3 results of Cat. 1 sent by email to central controllers: ISC (Sunday evening)
 - mailing of all results to central controllers: ISC +2
 - mailing of scanned solving sheets to central controllers: ISC+ 8
 - publication of preliminary results by central controllers: ISC+21
 - possible appeals by solvers: ISC+28
 - publication of final results: ISC+35
 - prize giving and distribution of certificates at next WCCC

Annex

PDF Documents local controllers receive from central controllers by email

- One sheet with diagrams of the problems for each round
- One solving sheet for writing the solutions by solvers for each round
- One sheet with diagrams and solutions of the problems for each round
- A form for summarising the results

Tasks of the local controllers

- Organisation of the local contest including reservation of suitable tournament venue
- Announcement in local publications (magazines, Internet websites etc.)
- Invitation of local solvers by mail or email
- Reproduction of various sheets to be distributed to solvers during contest
- Checking of solutions and point giving on solving sheets
- Email of preliminary results of 3 top solvers of Category 1 to central controllers
- Email of results to central controllers
- Email of scanned solving sheets to central controllers
- Keeping of original solving sheets to ensure back-up
- Using of WFCC Solving Tournament Manager is highly recommended!

Tasks of the central controllers

- Selection of problems according to the rules for WCSC/ECSC and creation of the whole documentation necessary for the contest; especially diagrams at least for category 3 with coordinates (digits and letters) and rules for writing the solutions (like "twomovers: only the key-move" etc.)
- Creation of the invitation document, including distribution to WFCC delegates and previous local controllers
- Distribution of the complete documentation to local controllers
- Supervision of the overall contest
- Checking of the markings of local controllers
- Decision on possible appeals by solvers
- Distribution of final results to WFCC delegates, local controllers and the WFCC web publisher