The Forty-Fourth Hong Kong Mathematics Olympiad (2026/27)
Regulations of the Heats

1. The Heats consists of **two** papers, Paper 1 and Paper 2 . **30 minutes** is allowed for Paper 1 , **60 minutes** for Paper 2 .

2. Each school may nominate **4 to 5 student participants** of **Secondary 5 level or below**. All student participants must take part in both Paper 1 and Paper 2. Any enrollment of teams with less than 4 members will not be accepted.

3. All student participants, **accompanied by the teacher-in-charge, should wear proper school uniform**. The competition will commence at 9:10 a.m. sharp.

4. Question papers are printed in both Chinese and English. Verbal instructions will be given in Cantonese. However, for competitors who do not understand Cantonese, written instructions in both Chinese and English will be provided. Question papers are printed in both Chinese and English.

5. Each participant must solve 15 questions in both Paper 1 and Paper 2 (***10 questions in Part A*** and ***5 questions in Part B***).

6. Throughout the competition, discussions among participating team members are **NOT** allowed, **otherwise, student participants may be disqualified from the competition**.

7. Devices such as calculators, four-figure tables, protractors, compasses, set squares and rulers will **NOT** be allowed to use throughout the Heats, otherwise the participant may risk disqualification.

8. **All numerical answers in both papers should be reduced to the simplest form unless stated otherwise. No proof or demonstration of work is required.**

9. All electronic communication devices (include tablets, mobile phones, multimedia players, electronic dictionaries, databank watches, smart watches or other wearable technologies with communication or data storage functions) and alarm device(s) should be turned off during the Heats. **Otherwise, student participants may be disqualified from the competition**.

10. For Paper 1, 1 mark will be given to each correct answer. The total score for each participant will be scaled to 20 marks. Since only the scores of the 4 best-performing students will be used to calculate the team's total score, the maximum total score for a school team is 80.

11. For Paper 2, 1 mark and 2 marks will be given to each correct answer in Part A and Part B respectively. As with Paper 1, since only the scores of the 4 best-performing students will be used to calculate the team's total score, the maximum total score for a school team is 80.

12. No mark for speed will be awarded in the Heats.

13. Participants should bring along their own writing instruments, e.g., **BALL PENS** and **PENCILS**. However, they are **NOT ALLOWED TO USE PENCIL** to write their answers on the answer sheet. **All pencil writings on the answer sheet WILL NOT BE ASSESSED**.

14. Based on each school team's aggregate score (the sum of the scores in both Paper 1 and Paper 2), the Organising Committee will invite the 50 highest-scoring teams to enter the Finals.

15. Awards:

    (a) Participants will be ranked from highest to lowest according to their aggregate score (the sum of their Paper 1 and Paper 2 scores).

        (i) Participants obtaining a full score will be awarded Best Performance Honour Certificates;

        (ii) after deducting those participants with full score achievement as in (i),

            (1) the first 5% from the remaining participants in the said order will be awarded First-class honour certificates;

            (2) the next 7% from the remaining participants will be awarded Second-class honour certificates; and

            (3) the next 10% from the remaining participants will be awarded Third-class honour certificates;

            (4) the next 14% from the remaining participants will be awarded honourable mention certificates;

    (b) In each of the following regions — Hong Kong Island, Kowloon East, Kowloon West, New Territories East, and New Territories West — about 10–15% of participating schools with the highest aggregate score will be awarded Certificates of Merit. The aggregate score is the sum of the scores of the 4 best-performing students in Paper 1 and the 4 best-performing students in Paper 2.

16. Should there be any queries, participants should contact Mr CHENG Sze-man, the representative of EDB in the Organising Committee, **via the teacher-in-charge** at 2153 7436 immediately after the Heats. The decision of the Organising Committee on the queries is final.