



# International Physicists' Tournament

## Code of Conduct

*Last updated: 16 Mar 2025*

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### 1. About the code of conduct

This document is written to serve as a reference for the entire community involved in the International Physicists' Tournament (IPT) and should serve to expose and discuss the objectives of the competition, and the roles and duties of students that participate in it. This document is accompanying other local regulations at the location of the IPT and requirements from the hosting institutions. We aim to promote respectful and violence-free interaction between the members of the community, and to serve as a space for open and safe physics-related activities, leading to positive life-defining experiences.

### 2. About the IPT

The IPT is a formally recognized association founded in 2009. This competition exists to foster scientific collaborations and discussions between undergraduate and graduate physics students in international scope. We believe the best way to promote science and scientific discoveries is by providing a healthy, inclusive, receptive environment so that students from everywhere in the world with any background can contribute and enrich the scientific debate, and feel encouraged to do so.

The IPT is a platform for educational, technological, and scientific development. Educationally, participation in the IPT provides an opportunity for students to transcend and explore the knowledge in classrooms, by solving the challenging IPT problems. This revolutionary character is demonstrated and acknowledged through the IPT community by the adoption of IPT problems as part of classes in countries all around the world. Technologically and scientifically, the competition prepares young researchers for all research challenges they might face, by presenting by them open-ended research questions to be explored theoretically and experimentally over the course of approximately 10 months. At the competition, they are challenged once again to defend their solutions and ideas during the Physics Fights, to complete the entire scientific cycle of discovery, exploration, exposition, and discussion.

### 3. Core values of the IPT

All members within the IPT shall be equally respected regardless of race, age, nationality, ethnicity, culture, gender identity, physical and mental ability, education, professional experience, political views, opinions and affiliations, spiritual and religious beliefs, citizenship, location, family and marital status, socioeconomic status, job title, role or function, department, seniority, or union affiliation. We are a diverse community composed of undergraduate and graduate students, professors, faculty members, and all should have the same and receive opportunities of the same treatment in the tournament. This diversity should not only be understood, but also encouraged so that the tournament becomes more inclusive as the tournament reaches new countries. We believe the differences amongst us enrich the scientific



debate, and that the IPT should be a platform for scientific, educational, and technological development for all interested people, regardless of any aspect cited above.

All IPT participants should be aware of these core values, and act accordingly to them. We do not encourage or tolerate attitudes that violate these principles, and acts that go against these principles should be investigated, understood, discussed, and acted upon by the International Office (IO).

The IPT association is not responsible for any actions by students, professors, faculty members, organizers, or general participants individual actions. We believe the exposition of our beliefs and the enforcement of the principles is sufficient to guarantee a healthy environment during the competition.

#### **4. Roles and duties**

##### **4.1 Students during the Physics Fights**

Physics Fights are an open environment where participants can expose, discuss, and develop scientific discoveries and efforts. During such discussions, students should respect and be respected by the other students, jury members, participants, organizers, and everyone involved. Good conduct that should be reinforced during the Physics Fights and the competition:

- Speak respectfully to all participants, jury members, organizers, and people involved in the competition.
- Not displaying images or figures of sexual or hatred content.
- Presenting scientific results obtained by own research effort; In other words, not plagiarizing scientific results of any kind.
- Respect the allocated times within a Physics Fight.

##### **4.2 Jury members during the Physics Fights**

Jury members should be **completely impartial while evaluating students** in the IPT. This ensures a healthy environment and is essential for the functioning of the tournament. Jury members should:

- Base student grades solely by evaluating the efforts presented during the physics fights, and the discussions between all teams. All discussions, or impressions from before or after the physics fights should not, in any case, interfere with the grades attributed to the members.
- Consider all core values of the IPT, considering equity, diversion, and inclusion, presented in point 3, when providing the grades to the students.
- Speak respectfully to all participants, jury members, organizers, and people involved in the competition.
- Respect the allocated times within a Physics Fight.

##### **4.3 Chairs during the Physics Fights**

Chairs should be **completely impartial** to all parties involved in the Physics Fight. This ensures a healthy environment and is essential for the functioning of the tournament. Chairs should:

- Consider all core values of the IPT, considering equity, diversion, and inclusion, presented in point 3, when controlling the roles and times during a Physics Fight.
- Speak respectfully to all participants, jury members, organizers, and people involved in the competition.
- Respect the allocated times within a Physics Fight.

#### **5. Disciplinary violations**

We expect that all participants strive to be objective, unbiased and truthful. Please be aware of possible biases and human errors, and assess the potential impact of it on your decisions and



judgements. At the Physics Fights and beyond, during communication with other guests, we won't tolerate any intimidating or offensive behaviour.

Disciplinary violations include any (but not only) of the following items towards participants, jury members, professors, organizers, students, or anyone within the IPT community:

- Inflicting moral,
- Inflicting physical harm,
- Offenses,
- Conducting dangerous experiments and/or demonstrations without appropriate safety measures.

As previously stated, misconduct that contributes to the disharmonious functioning of the tournament will not be tolerated, and acts that go against the core principles of the IPT can be energetically responded with actions by the IO and the Decision Assembly (DA) that include but are not restricted to:

- Raising concerns with one's team leaders,
- Limiting one's participation in the event to an observer only role,
- Individual or collective suspension from the tournament (after consultation with IO members, and DA members),
- Removal of points during the tournament.

#### **Miscellaneous**

Adverse cases not explicitly detailed in this document will be treated individually, and addressed accordingly by the International Office of the IPT.