

## The Tournament of the Towns

The International Mathematics Tournament of the Towns is an annual mathematical competition originating in Russia. The Tournament of the Towns is one of the most open and at the same time most prestigious mathematical contests with participants from over 100 cities in different countries.

During an academic year there are two tours (Fall and Spring) of the competition. Each tour consists of two levels: basic and advanced. Both the basic and the advanced levels include two different problem sets: one for grades 7-10 and one for grades 11-12. We decided to start the Tournament in Berkeley with the advanced Fall tour. If you are in 7th grade or higher, we encourage you to attend. If you are 6th grade or lower, but would still like to try, you are very welcome to attend as well (but please don't be disappointed if you cannot solve a lot of problems, their level may be as high as the ones from the International Mathematical Olympiad).

The advanced level suggests 5 hours to solve any three out of seven given problems, though if you are done or just tired you can leave earlier. The problems require ingenuity rather than any kind of special knowledge or technical skills (it should appear to you somewhat close to BAMO in spirit). Solutions should be written down in the most detailed way. If you have solved more than three problems, you should specify which three of them you would like to be evaluated. Other (rather simple) rules will be explained right before the contest. White unlined paper will be provided. Pencils, pens and other supplies (such as graph paper, erasers, (quiet) pencil sharpeners, rulers, compasses, etc.) must be brought by participants if needed. You are also encouraged to bring a snack or lunch with you. Note that no food (except for bottled water) is allowed in the room, but you will be allowed to eat your snack in the hallway (one person at a time).

Please find problem sets for both 7-10 and 11-12 grades from the advanced Spring 2012 tour in the attachment. For additional information you might want to check the webpage of the Tournament of the Towns on Wikipedia

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tournament\\_of\\_the\\_Towns](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tournament_of_the_Towns)

and links therein. Another especially useful source with an archive of previous problem sets and solutions is the webpage of the Tournament of the Towns at Toronto:

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/oz/turgor/>

The upcoming tour of the Tournament of the Towns will be held on **October 21** in **Evans 736 for grades 7-10** and **Evans 740 for grades 11-12**. The competition will start at 10 AM, so please come at **9:30 AM** to get acknowledged with rules, fill out the forms and get prepared. The east door (one on the Berkeley hills side) to the first floor of Evans will be open 9:30 – 11 AM.

**If you plan to participate** or have any questions considering the contest **please drop me an e-mail on shapiro@math.berkeley.edu**

**Everybody is welcome to attend!**