



GOLD MEDALS AND TOP TEN FINISH FOR UK AT INTERNATIONAL MATHS OLYMPIAD

Three young students representing the UK have won gold medals at the world's most prestigious mathematics competition, the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO). This stunning performance meant the UK finished in ninth place, out of 111 participating countries, and top of all European nations for the first time ever.

The team's medal haul was 3 golds, 2 bronzes and one honourable mention (for solving at least one problem perfectly). This is the first time that the UK has won three gold medals at an IMO since the team sizes were reduced from 8 to 6 in 1983.

The six students representing the UK were:

Joe Benton (St Paul's School), Gold Medal

Rosie Cates (Hills Road VI Form College), Bronze Medal

Jacob Coxon (Magdalen College School), Bronze Medal

Neel Nanda (Latymer School), Gold Medal

Alexander Song (Westminster School), Honourable Mention

Harvey Yau (Ysgol Dyffryn Taf), Gold Medal

The UK team included a girl for the first time since 2008. Rosie won a bronze medal with 18/42, placing her in the top half of contestants. Joe was ranked 7th in the whole competition.

The team was accompanied by the Team Leader and Chair of the IMO, Dr Geoff Smith (University of Bath), and the Deputy Team Leader, Dominic Yeo (Technion).

The UK team entry is organised by the UK Mathematics Trust, and supported by Oxford Asset Management. Rachel Greenhalgh, Director of the Trust, said “Congratulations to the UK team on their wonderful performance! This is the third time in five years the UK has achieved a top ten finish, and to be top of all European nations is a fantastic achievement. I thank all those involved, from the maths teachers who support our activities to the UKMT volunteers who run them on our behalf, in helping make this possible. We look forward to hosting the IMO in the UK in 2019.”

The 58th IMO took place from 12 - 23 July 2017 in Rio de Janeiro. The UK will be hosting the International Mathematical Olympiad in 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rachel Greenhalgh director@ukmt.org.uk

Director of the UK Mathematics Trust on 0113 343 2339

Dr Geoff Smith G.C.Smith@bath.ac.uk

UK IMO Team Leader and IMO Chair on 01225 386182

Notes

1. The UK Mathematics Trust is a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics. It organises national mathematics competitions and other mathematical enrichment activities for UK secondary school pupils. Further information about the Trust and its activities is available at www.ukmt.org.uk. Information about selection and training for the IMO can be found at the British Mathematical Olympiad Subtrust website <https://bmos.ukmt.org.uk/>
2. The IMO is the world championship of mathematics for students in secondary education. It is a problem-solving contest for high school students, held in a different country in July every year. The first IMO was held in Romania in 1959, with seven countries taking part. Today, more than 100 countries participate, representing over 90% of the world's population. The IMO is the oldest, biggest, and most prestigious of all the international science Olympiads and the problems of the IMO are notoriously difficult. More details can be found at <http://www.imo-official.org/>.
3. The problems from this year's IMO can be found at <https://www.imo-official.org/problems.aspx>.