

Name of the Competition: BALKAN OLYMPIAD IN INFORMATICS (BOI)

Area: Informatics

Style of the Competition:

- A. Algorithmic style programming tasks (like the tasks of the International Olympiad in Informatics). Tasks typically used in BOI are focused on designing and programming efficient and correct algorithms.
- B. Individual competition
- C. Financial conditions: free of charge for contestants
- D. The competition has a time limit for solving the tasks: 5 hours.
- E. Style of competition: Presence needed (attendance of the participants at an appointed time and place). Each contestant is using individual computer. Solutions are submitted for evaluation through web-based grading system.
- F. Method of evaluation: evaluation of the submitted source codes is made by the grading system, immediately after the end of the competition, with unknown to the contestant set of tests.
- G. BOI is organized each year by a selected distinct Balkan country. As a rule, the local organizer is country's Ministry of Education with the scientific support of Universities, non-governmental and professional organizations. The competition problems are prepared by the host country scientific committee.
- H. Usually a local Organizing committee is constituted and consists of about 8-12 persons.
- I. Way of announcement of the competition: BOI is included in the annual schedule of the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science.
- J. All the competition materials: problems, results, authors' and sometime contestants' solutions also are published in a paper form and on the Internet.
- K. There are no different age groups in BOI.
- L. Types of awards: the half of all the participants receives medals. The ratio of gold, silver and bronze medals is 1:2:3. The other participants receive a certificate for participation.

Target Group: The competition is intended for National teams of the Balkan countries. Invited teams may also participate. Usually the team of each country is composed according to the results achieved by contestants in series of National competitions.

Age of Participants: Typically 17-19 years.

School level of Participants: Secondary schools.

Number of Participants and the number of editions of the competition in the Last 3 Years: Once a year, about 10 countries, each with a team of 4 competitors and 2 leaders.

History of Competition: In 1994, the First BOI is organized in Constanta, Rumania by the initiative of Dr. Stelian Niculescu, Dr. Choria Georgescu and Dr. Clara Ionescu. The following editions are: 1994 - Thessaloniki, Greece, 1995 - Varna, Bulgaria, 1996 - Nicosia, Cyprus, 1997 - Drama, Greece, 1998 - Ankara, Turkey, 1999 - Ioannina, Greece, 2000 - Ohrid, Macedonia, 2001 - Duras, Albania, 2002 -

Belgrad, Serbia, 2003 - Iasi, Romania, 2004 - Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 2005 - Rhodes Island, Greece, 2006 - Nicosia, Cyprus, 2007 – Chisinau, Moldova.

Financial Basis of the competition: All accommodation expenses are covered by the host country. The transportation costs of the Bulgarian team are supported by the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and sponsors. The main sponsor during the last 3 year is the American Foundation for Bulgaria.

Contact Address of the Organizers, E-mail, Web page(s):

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Problems given: For 15th Balkan Olympiad in Informatics, Chisinau, Moldova, 2007, see <http://boi2007.edu.md>

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