



Official MAA Competitions

Academic Integrity Policy

MAA Competitions Covered by This Policy

The following MAA Competitions, exams, and programs are subject to this Academic Integrity Policy.

- American Mathematics Competition 8 (AMC 8)
- American Mathematics Competition 10 (AMC 10)
- American Mathematics Competition 12 (AMC 12)
- American Invitational Mathematics Exam (AIME)
- USA Junior Mathematical Olympiad (USAJMO)
- USA Mathematical Olympiad (USAMO)
- All exams and graded work administered as part of the Mathematical Olympiad Program (MOP)
- All exams administered as part of the MAA's efforts to identify the teams that will represent the United States at international math competitions, such as Team Selection Team Selection Tests (TSTST) and Team Selection Tests (TSTs)
- The William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition (the Putnam)

For the purposes of this document, the term Administrator will refer to any individual who is administering an MAA Competition, exam, or program. This includes AMC competition managers, USAMO/USAJMO site directors, MOP staff, TST proctors, and Putnam supervisors, as well as any of the individuals who support them in administering the exam.

Academic Integrity

MAA will take all reasonable measures to uphold academic integrity while limiting, to the extent possible, erroneous cancellations and disqualifications. By participating in MAA Competitions, students acknowledge and understand that participation is voluntary and agree that the MAA has the right to cancel or disqualify scores consistent with its stated policies with no opportunity to appeal the cancellation or disqualification.

- **Cancellation:** A participant's score may be canceled due to factors outside of an individual competitor's control. For example, a score may be canceled because an Administrator erroneously allowed calculators or failed to enforce a time limit.
 - Decisions to cancel scores shall be made in MAA's sole discretion.
 - Cancelled scores will not be reported to any third-party entity, nor will a cancelled score prohibit any student from competing in future MAA competitions.
- **Disqualification:** A participant's score is subject to disqualification for observed or circumstantial evidence implicating academic dishonesty or other misconduct.
 - *Observed policy violations:*
 - Administrators who directly observe a student violating the MAA Competitions policies must immediately contact the MAA at amcintegrity@maa.org to report the violation.
 - Students and other community members who have knowledge of violations of competition policies may report them to the Administrator (preferred) or to the MAA directly at amcintegrity@maa.org. The MAA will make a determination based on the strength of available evidence.
 - *Circumstantial evidence:*
 - Scores may be disqualified due to anomalies, as determined by mathematical experts during the scoring process.
 - Examples that may lead to disqualification include anomalies in answer patterns, logical structure, notation, word choice, a combination of these, or other evidence that suggests that the student accessed resources or shared or received answers.
 - For USAMO, USAJMO, exams during MOP, TSTSTs, TSTs, and the Putnam:
 - When one or more graders identifies anomalies, and where the anomalies are unlikely to be borne from chance (as evaluated in the graders' expert

opinions during the blind grading process), they make note of the student ID.

- At the end of the grading process, a small group of graders re-examine the papers with identified anomalies (through a blind process) and evaluate whether the anomalies warrant a recommendation of disqualification.
- In some instances, anomalies may be evidence of academic dishonesty, and in other instances, may simply reflect innocent coincidence. Whether or not academic dishonesty is proven beyond doubt, MAA, in its sole discretion, may disqualify scores tied to anomalous solutions.
- Participants, parents/guardians, and Administrators are not entitled to review evidence that led to the disqualification.
- *Other misconduct:*
 - Scores may be disqualified for significant non-academic misconduct.
 - Examples that may lead to disqualification include harassment of, or threats of harm toward, other competitors, Administrators, or MAA staff.
 - Whether or not misconduct is proven beyond doubt, MAA, in its sole discretion, may disqualify scores for misconduct.
- When a score is cancelled or disqualified:
 - The score in the system will be updated to reflect cancellation or disqualification. While the original score may remain visible, it is no longer valid.
 - **AMC 10 and AMC 12:**
 - If a participant's score on the AMC 10A or AMC 12A is disqualified, they are not eligible to take AMC 10B or AMC 12B. If a student takes an exam before a disqualification is determined, their AMC 10B or AMC 12B score will be cancelled.
 - If a participant's score on the AMC 10B or AMC 12B is disqualified, their score on the AMC 10A or AMC 12A will be canceled.
 - Participants who have been disqualified on any of AMC 10A, AMC 10B, AMC 12A, or AMC 12B are not eligible to participate in AIME.
 - Participants whose scores were cancelled or disqualified are not eligible for awards/recognition.

- The MAA will notify the participant and their Administrator about the decision. For AIME, USAMO, and USAJMO, the MAA will also notify the participant's AMC competition manager(s).
- The MAA will not share the participant's information with any third parties, even if the participant gave the MAA permission to do so. However, the MAA reserves the right to correct the record if a participant's score is misrepresented to a third party.
- Any participant whose score is disqualified may, in MAA's sole discretion, be banned from all future MAA competitions.
 - Such a ban will be communicated to the participant and their Administrator. For AIME, USAMO, and USAJMO, the MAA will also notify the participant's AMC competition manager(s)..
 - Participants who wish to appeal a lifetime ban from MAA Competitions may appeal to the Council on Competitions. The MAA will provide the process by which appeals may be made. Participants can inquire about the process and express interest in having their ban lifted by emailing amcintegrity@maa.org.

Acknowledgment of Voluntary Participation

MAA Competitions are private, non-profit math competitions that are not run in part or in whole by public funds. Student competitors understand that while MAA will take reasonable steps to administer a fair competition, they are participating voluntarily and are not entitled to any particular score, recognition, or process.

Entire Policy

This Policy regarding academic integrity is official MAA Policy. If you learn any additional information regarding Academic Integrity that stands in contradiction to this Policy, whether oral or written, this Policy shall govern. This Policy supersedes any prior policies, oral or written. MAA reserves the right to change this Policy at any time, with or without notice to competition participants.