



2nd Penchick Open Mathematical Olympiad

Contest Primer

Version 2.0.0 (30 September 2026)

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About POMO

The **Penchick Open Mathematical Olympiad**, also known as POMO Main, is a student-initiated contest aimed towards preparing for various math contests such as the Philippine Mathematical Olympiad (PMO). You may learn more about POMO at our website, <https://penchickomo.replit.app/>.

The POMO Main includes the following contests:

- **POMO Qualifying Stage** on 9-11 October 2026, designed to simulate the PMO qualifying stage;
- **POMO Final Stage** on 28 November 2026 (tentative date), designed to simulate the PMO area stage.

General Rules

1. **Do not discuss a currently ongoing contest.** Doing so, in the form of leaking the questionnaire, sharing answers, or asking for help during the contest period, will result in the contestant receiving a yellow card (See the Violation System for more information).
2. **Always exhibit academic honesty during a contest.** Do not use calculators, protractors, graph paper, search engines, artificial intelligence (AI software), and other external applications, resources, or help while answering the contest. Rulers, compasses, and blank or lined paper are allowed. **Note that although this is a mock contest for the PMO, cheating in any form is strictly prohibited** and will be actioned upon based on the stated violation system.

Violation System

1. Violation of any of the rules stated above will result in a **yellow card**.
2. Two yellow cards will result in a **red card**; this results in disqualification from the contest. Here, disqualification refers to a participant being disqualified from both the POMO 2 and POMO Finals.
 - 2.1. Note that serious offenses, such as concrete evidence of cheating, will result in an **immediate red card**.
3. Warnings will reset at the beginning of every contest season.

 Contest Mechanics

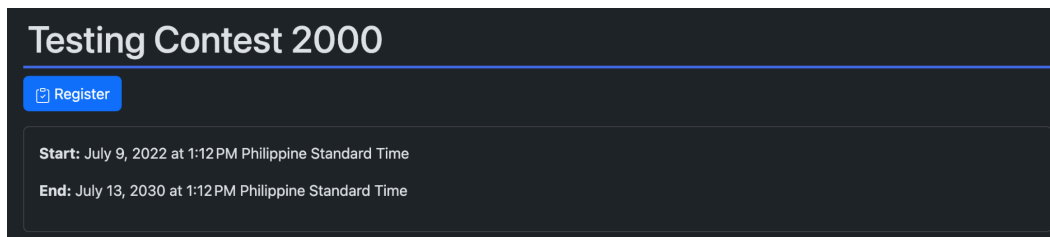
1. The **POMO Qualifying and Final Stages** are contests designed to prepare high school students for the Philippine Mathematical Olympiad (PMO), with the test difficulties calibrated to that of the PMO. Students both inside and outside the Philippines are welcome to participate in the series.
2. The **POMO Qualifying Stage** is structured in three parts to be answered within three hours:
 - 2.1. Part I consists of 10 multiple-choice questions, each worth 2 points;
 - 2.2. Part II consists of 10 multiple-choice questions, each worth 3 points; and
 - 2.3. Part III consists of 8 short-answer questions with integer answers between 1 and 999, inclusive, each worth 5 points.
3. The **POMO Final Stage**, likewise, is structured into two parts to be answered within three hours:
 - 3.1. Part I consists of 15 short-answer questions with integer answers between 1 and 999, inclusive, each worth 3 points; and
 - 3.2. Part II consists of 3 problem-solving questions with full solutions written, each worth 10 points.
4. The POMO Qualifying Stage may be taken **asynchronously** from **9 October 2026, 9:00 am (UTC+8)** to **11 October 2026, 9:00 pm (UTC+8)**. Note that those who start by the indicated end time will be **allowed** to finish the three-hour time limit.
5. **A participant is considered eligible for awards** if they are Grade 12 and below during the school year 2025–2026, regardless of their country. However, grade school, high school, and students who have already graduated high school are **all allowed** to take POMO Main.
6. Available awards for the POMO Qualifying Stage are as follows. Participants who have already **graduated from high school** may still participate and may only receive one of the three **certificates** below based on the cutoffs among Eligible Participants. However, their scores will **not affect** award cutoffs:
 - 6.1. **Certificate of Distinction:** Top 20% of **eligible participants**
 - 6.2. **Certificate of Merit:** Next 20% of **eligible participants** after Distinction (20%–40%)
 - 6.3. **Certificate of Proficiency:** Next 20% of **eligible participants** after Merit (40%–60%)
7. Although anyone is allowed to join, qualification for the future POMO Final Stage is given to participants who obtain a Merit or Distinction award in the POMO Qualifying Stage.

8. The POMO Final Stage will be held **synchronously** on **28 November 2026**, with timeslots to be announced soon. *Note that this date is still tentative, and qualifiers will be sent an email regarding any updates.*
9. Available awards for the POMO Final Stage are as follows. Only **eligible participants** who are **also finals qualifiers** are eligible to earn any of the 5 awards available for POMO Final Stage. Meanwhile, students who have already graduated high school and are **Finals Qualifiers** may still participate and receive either Gold/Silver/Bronze/Merit Award, but will not affect cutoffs:
 - 9.1. **Penchick Champion:** Top 1 highest scorer in POMO Final Stage among **eligible participants who are finals qualifiers**
 - 9.2. **Gold / Silver / Bronze Award:** Split into a 1:2:3 ratio among the Top 50% of **eligible participants who are finals qualifiers**
 - 9.3. **Merit Award:** The Merit Award will be given if both conditions are satisfied for an **eligible participant who is also a finals qualifier**:
 - 9.3.1. A participant has not received a Gold, Silver, or Bronze award; and
 - 9.3.2. The participant's score is at least 25 or (Bronze Cutoff – 5), whichever is lower.
10. Throughout all contests, the POMO committee **reserves the right to hold an interview with selected contestants** about the problems if there is evidence that the contestant has likely broken the honor pledge. Such contestants will be sent an email about this a few days before the interview.

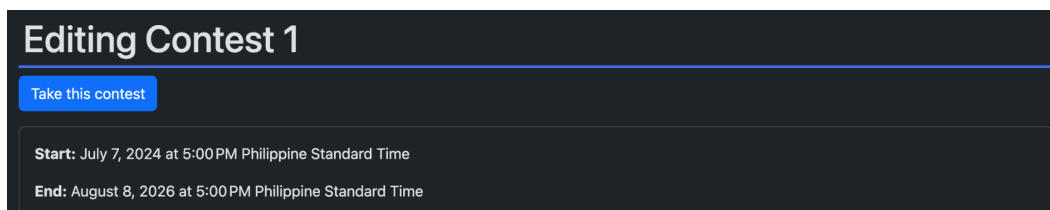
Contest Procedures

Follow the steps below to have a seamless experience in your POMO contest.

1. Firstly, **create an account** on the POMO website at <https://penchickomo.replit.app/register> by filling out all the necessary fields. Once you have done so, log in to your account.
2. To **register** for a contest, go to <https://penchickomo.replit.app/contests>, select the contest you want to register for, then click *Register*.



3. For the **POMO Final Stage**, you will be prompted **immediately after registration** to give a Google Drive link to the folder where you will upload your solutions. The naming format for the folder is given in the prompt. **Ensure that you submit this link before the contest starts, or we may not be able to grade your solutions.**
4. When the contest period starts (or when you register, whichever is later), you will see a *Take the contest* button. **When you are ready for the contest**, click that button.



5. You will be redirected to the pre-contest page which contains instructions for filling the contest form and the honor pledge. Tick the box for the honor pledge and click *Submit* when you have read the contents of the page in full.

Editing Contest 1

Hello **mathemolympiad2**, you are about to take **Editing Contest 1**. Please read the instructions below IN FULL and sign the honor pledge below before taking the contest. You will have access to the instructions during the contest.

Instructions for filling the form

- Maximize your screen to see both the PDF and the form properly.
- To ensure your answers are saved, click the Submit button BEFORE the timer ends. It also does NOT auto-save answers, so please write your answers on a sheet of paper for backup purposes.
- For short-answer questions, only input the NUMBER; all answers are from 1 to 999, inclusive. Do NOT include leading zeros.

Honor Pledge

I affirm that I will abide by the rules and regulations of the Penchick Online Math Olympiad (POMO), where my participation implies that:

1. I will work independently during my designated 3-hour contest window and will not use any calculators, protractors, notes, search engines, AI tools, and other external aids.
2. I will not discuss any of the problems, answers, or solutions related to POMO to anyone until the official contest period has concluded, which is after August 8, 2026 at 5:00 PM Philippine Standard Time.
3. I understand that any violation of the rules above will merit an immediate disqualification from this round of POMO, and
4. I am aware that the purpose of the POMO exam is to honestly evaluate my mathematical performance under authentic testing conditions. Any form of cheating not only defeats this purpose, but disrespects the organizers, problem-setters, and participants.

☐ I have fully read, understood, and agree to follow the honor pledge above.

[Submit](#)

The instructions for filling the form are as follows:

- Maximize your screen to see both the PDF and the form properly.
 - To ensure your answers are saved, click the Submit button BEFORE the timer ends. The form does NOT auto-save answers, so please write your answers on a sheet of paper for backup purposes.
 - For short-answer questions, only input the NUMBER; all answers are positive integers from 1 to 999, inclusive. Do NOT include leading zeros.
6. The contest timer will start, and the questionnaire and answer form will then be displayed on your screen. Fill out your answers in the form as you solve the problems.

Penchick Online Mathematical Olympiad Testing Contest
This is made for you to be familiarized with the testing system of POMO.

Please input the following answers IN ORDER to get a perfect score.
a,b,c,d,a,b,c,d,a,b,c,d,1,2,12,14,21,25,304,306

Editing Contest 1

Time left: 2h 59m 45s

Instructions for filling the form

- Maximize your screen to see both the PDF and the form properly.
- To ensure your answers are saved, click the Submit button BEFORE the timer ends. It also does NOT auto-save answers, so please write your answers on a sheet of paper for backup purposes.
- For short-answer questions, only input the NUMBER; all answers are from 1 to 999, inclusive. Do NOT include leading zeros.

I.1	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d
I.2	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d
I.3	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d
I.4	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d
I.5	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d
I.6	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d
I.7	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d
I.8	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d
I.9	☐ a	☐ b	☐ c	☐ d

Penchick Online Mathematical Olympiad Testing Contest
This is made for you to be familiarized with the testing system of POMO.

Please input the following answers IN ORDER to get a perfect score.
a,b,c,d,a,b,c,d,a,b,c,d,a,b,c,d,1,2,12,14,21,25,304,306

II.6

II.7

II.8

II.9

II.10

III.1

III.2

III.3

III.4

III.5

III.6

III.7

III.8

☐ a
☐ b
☐ c
☐ d

☐ a
☐ b
☐ c
☐ d

☐ a
☐ b
☐ c
☐ d

☐ a
☐ b
☐ c
☐ d

Submit

7. Once you are done with the contest, click *Submit*. This will cause you to be redirected to the contest's front page. **Start uploading your scratch papers to the indicated form linked in the website as soon as you finish your test. This is required in order for you to receive results.**

Testing Contest 1000

You have finished this contest. Congratulations!

If you haven't yet, please upload your scratch papers [here](#). Sending of scratch papers is *required* in order to receive results.

? Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to join POMO Main?

People of all ages are eligible to join POMO Main, even if they are below grade 7 or have finished high school.

Will there be two POMO qualifying stages, just like last year?

No; only one qualifying stage will be given this year as opposed to last year's POMO 1 and POMO 2.

Is the contest synchronous or asynchronous?

- The POMO Qualifying Stage will be administered asynchronously from 9 October 2026, 9:00 am (UTC+8) to 11 October 2026, 9:00 pm (UTC+8). Note that those who start by the indicated end time will be allowed to finish the three-hour time limit.
- The POMO Final Stage will be administered synchronously on the contest date. More details on this will be given soon.

Are there sample problems for POMO Main?

You may check <https://penchickomo.replit.app/problems/> for last year's POMO problems (see *1st POMO 1*, *1st POMO 2*, and *1st POMO Finals*). There are also three sample problems provided below the links to past papers.

How do I register for the POMO Qualifying Stage?

Please follow the instructions in the Contest Procedures section of this primer.

Will I still be allowed to register for the POMO Qualifying Stage during the contest?

Yes; participants will be allowed to register for the POMO Qualifying Stage until the end of the contest, which is 27 September 2026, 9:00 pm (UTC+8).

Help! The website didn't allow me to take/finish the test!

Before asking, please make sure to check the following:

- Have you logged in to your account?
- Have you followed the procedure stated in the previous pages to register and take the contest?

If the website still does not allow you to take the test, send an email to penchickomo@gmail.com.

When will results and answers be released for the POMO Qualifying Stage?

We will be announcing qualifiers to the Final Stage and sending out score breakdowns the week after the contest. Answer keys will also be released the week after the contest.

Note that there will also be live sessions hosted the week after the contest to discuss selected problems from the contest. The schedules for these will be announced soon.

Honor Pledge

I affirm that I will abide by the rules and regulations of the Penchick Open Math Olympiad (POMO), where my participation implies that:

1. I will work independently during my designated 3-hour contest window and will not use any calculators, protractors, notes, search engines, AI tools, and other external aids;
2. I will not discuss any of the problems, answers, or solutions related to POMO to anyone until the official contest period has concluded;
3. I understand that any violation of the rules above will merit an immediate disqualification from this round of POMO; and
4. I am aware that the purpose of the POMO exam is to honestly evaluate my mathematical performance under authentic testing conditions. Any form of cheating not only defeats this purpose, but disrespects the organizers, problem-setters, and participants.

I have fully read, understood, and agree to follow the honor pledge above.

If you have any clarifications, please ask in the #pomo-clarifications channel of the POMO Discord server (<https://discord.gg/ntWe29E4Eb>) or send an email to penchickomo@gmail.com.



"Good fun and have luck, everyone!"