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Australian Mathematics Trust

Aussie kids on top of the world at International Olympiad in Informatics - Our team brings home two Gold and two Silver medals with Australia's 1st perfect score and 1st and 5th place in the world for computer programming.

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Australia's four-member secondary school student team achieved our best ever result at the 2014 International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) held in Taipei, Chinese Taipei, from 13 to 20 July. The top performer in the Australian team was 16-year-old Ishraq Huda, who was one of only three in the world to attain a perfect score, Australia's first IOI perfect score and best individual ranking result.

Ishraq shared first place with students from China and the United States. Ishraq won a bronze medal in 2013 on his first attempt.

First-time team member, Oliver Fisher, solved 5 out of 6 questions perfectly and also won Gold. Oliver ranked 5th which made Australia the only country in the world to have two students in the top five.

Competing against more than 311 contestants from over 82 countries, the 2014 Australian team brings home 2 gold and 2 silver medals, compared to 3 Silver and 1 Bronze last year.

Countries represented in the top ten include Australia, China, United States, Russian Federation and Bulgaria. This is Australia's highest ranking since Australia commenced participating in 1999.

Informatics is the science of computer programming and information processing, requiring mathematics skills and creative solving. Hosted by a different country each year, the IOI is part of the UNESCO-sanctioned International Science and Mathematics Olympiads, which are annual worldwide competitions for exceptionally talented secondary school students and represent the pinnacle of achievement in each discipline. It is the most recently established and now the second largest of the Olympiads.

The Australian IOI team members and their results are:

Name	Year	School	Resides	Score	Result
Michael Chen	11	Scotch College, VIC	Springvale	435 / 600	Silver
Oliver Fisher	12	Normanhurst Boys High School, NSW	Hornsby	530 / 600	Gold
Ishraq Huda	11	James Ruse Agricultural High School, NSW	Stanhope Gardens	600 / 600	Gold
Ray Li	12	James Ruse Agricultural High School, NSW	Berala	348 / 600	Silver

The cut-off scores for a Gold medal was 449 and Silver was 323 marks.

The not-for-profit Australian Mathematics Trust, under the Trusteeship of the University of Canberra, runs the training and selection for Australia's International Mathematical and Informatics Olympiad teams.

The first stage in selection for the Australian IOI team is the Australian Informatics Olympiad (AIO), a 3-hour annual computer programming competition held in high schools. The next AIO will be on Thursday, 4 September and is open to all high school students who can program. For more information contact the Australian Mathematics Trust on 6201 5137.

Adjunct Professor Mike Clapper, Executive Director of the Trust, said, 'We are extremely excited about these excellent results and where they might lead us for future participation. This is the best outcome for Australia to date'.

The Trust's best-known activity is the annual Australian Mathematics Competition sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank which, together with other competitions, helps to identify students for participation and development in the Olympiad programs. The Mathematics and Science Olympiads are supported by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Mathematics and Science Participation Program.

The Trust also offers students the opportunity to explore whether they have an aptitude for programming through the Australian Informatics Competition (AIC), which is a non-programming competition designed to promote logical and algorithmic thinking. In 2015, the AIC will be available on-line and there will be a new division for Upper Primary students.

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