

The Maths Battle

The Maths Battle is a simplified version of the Russian “Матбой.”

Two teams are given the same list of problems for a fixed period of time. They also have time to discuss the solutions and strategy of the battle.

The battle starts with a duel between the captains. The two captains are presented with a short problem to solve; the first captain to find the correct solution decides who challenges first.

A challenge is a request for a solution of a particular problem from the list. It can be either accepted or declined.

-If it is accepted, the solution is presented by a member of the team appointed by the captain. No member is allowed to present a solution more than once. The challenging team is then asked for any objections/criticism and, if the solution happens to be wrong, may present its own solution. A correct solution means a correct answer and correct reasoning. The final decision is at the discretion of the Principal Coordinator or his nominee.

-If the challenge is declined, the challenging team must present its solution and the opponents may criticise it and spot possible mistakes. In that case, independently of whether the solution is correct or not, the same team will have to challenge again next turn.

If one of the captains chooses not to challenge any more, the other captain can then choose to show the solution to some or all of the remaining questions; he then scores full marks if the answer is correct.

If the answer is wrong, he scores a zero mark; if the declining captain spots a mistake, his team scores 2 marks.

For more details see the tree below.

**Captain A challenges Captain B:
e.g. " Give the solution to Problem 3"**

B accepts.

B declines.

**B gives the
correct answer.**

**B gives a wrong
answer.**

**A presents a
solution.**

**A has no
solution.**

**A does not notice
B's mistake.**

**A notices B's
mistake.**

**A's solution
is correct.**

**A's solution
is wrong.**

**A gives the
correct answer.**

**A does not give
the correct
answer.**

**B does not notice
A's mistake.**

**B notices A's
mistake.**

**FULL
MARKS
TO B.**

**ZERO
MARK TO
A AND B.**

**FULL
MARKS
TO A.**

**2 MARKS
TO A.**

**FULL
MARKS
TO A.**

**2 MARKS
TO B.**

**FULL
MARKS
TO B.**