



Math League News

■ **Our Calculator Rule** Our contests allow both the TI-89 and HP-48. You may use any calculator without a QWERTY keyboard.

■ **Send Your Comments** to comments@mathleague.com. View results at www.themathleague.com before they arrive in the mail.

■ **Upcoming Contest Dates & Rescheduling Contests**

Future HS contest dates (and alternate dates), all Tuesdays, are Jan 13 (20), Feb 10 (17), & Mar 17 (24). (Each alternate date is the following Tuesday.) If vacations, school closings, or special testing days interfere, please reschedule the contest. Attach a brief explanation, or scores may be considered unofficial. We sponsor an *Algebra Course I Contest* in April, and contests for grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. Get information and sample contests at www.themathleague.com.

■ **Carefully Check Your Contest Package—Disregard Incorrect “2013-2014” Designation**

Without opening any contest envelope, please check that the remaining envelopes are numbered 4, 5, and 6. If you’re missing a contest envelope, e-mail dan@mathleague.com with your name, the school’s name, the full school address, and the number of the contest envelope you’re missing. We’ll mail you another set of contests right away. Please note that the envelopes containing the six contests have the year’s schedule printed on them. While the schedule is correct, the heading has the wrong year. Please disregard the “2013-2014” heading.

■ **Contest Dates for 2015-2016 and Alternate Dates:**

HS contest dates for the next school year (and alternate dates), all Tuesdays, are October 13, 2015 (October 20), November 10, 2015 (November 17), December 8, 2015 (December 15), January 12, 2016 (January 19), February 9, 2016 (February 16), and March 15, 2016 (March 22). Please note that each alternate date is the Tuesday following the official date!

■ **T-Shirts Anyone?**

We’re often asked, “are T-shirts available? The logo lets us recognize fellow competitors!” Good news — we have MATH T-shirts in a variety of sizes at a **very** low price. Use them as prizes for high or even perfect scores, or just to foster a sense of team spirit! The shirts are of grey material and feature a small, dark blue logo in the “alligator region.” A photo of the shirt is available at our website. There’s one low shipping charge per order, regardless of order size. To order, use our website, www.themathleague.com.

■ **Contests for iPads and iPhones**

We have iPad/iPhone versions of ALL of our prior contests for grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 and the Algebra contests available now, including last year’s contests. We are not sure when high school contests will be available, but we are working on it! The link to these iPad/iPhone applications is on the home page of our website, www.mathleague.com. Take note of our current special offer: access to **all** past contests at any selected grade level for **all** students at a given school for the low, low price of only \$9.95 for the year!

■ **Administer This Year’s Contests Online** Any school that is registered for any of our contests for the 2014-2015 school year may now register at www.online.mathleague.com for the 2014-2015 Online Contests at no cost. The advantages of administering the online versions of our contests rather than the paper and pencil ones are that you do not have to grade your students’ papers and that you do not have to submit any scores at our Score Report Center ~ these tasks are done automatically for you when your students take our contests online. If you decide to use this free service, you must set up your account and set the day you are going to administer each contest at least one day in advance of the actual contest date.

■ **Students Hungry for More?** Don’t forget, we do offer the *Algebra Course 1 Contest* in April!

■ **General Comments About Contest #3:**

Benjamin Wearn said, “Contest 3 was tougher for our group! I really liked 3-4 but many good students couldn’t solve it. Number 3-5 was also a good question where many students were close but none of our group solved it. I don’t mind an occasional tougher contest ~ challenge is a learning opportunity ~ thanks for the great questions!” Chip Rollinson said, “A !more challenging batch of questions than the first two contests.” Kipp Johnson said, “This one beat us up pretty badly. The last problem proved to be particularly troublesome. But we’re not complaining. It’s a fine test, and provides lots of good discussion. Keep up the good work!”

■ **Question 3-5: Comments**

Chip Rollinson said, “I had a bunch of students ‘get’ problem 3-5 (the acute triangle problem) but only wrote down the integers even though the question clearly states ‘what are all real numbers.’ Strange.” Travis Bower said, “Many answered 3.5 with integers, sigh.”

Statistics / Contest #3

Prob #, % Correct (all reported scores)

3-1	90%	3-4	30%
3-2	52%	3-5	13%
3-3	67%	3-6	2%