

FIRST CIRCULAR

12th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics, Beijing, China, 3 - 11 November 2018

Dear Colleagues, Beijing Academy of Science and Technology (BJAST) and Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Beijing Municipality are honored to organize the 12th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) to be hosted by China in Beijing from November 3 to November 11, 2018. We are looking forward to having you here in Beijing in November for the 12th IOAA.

Local Hospitality

Local hospitality will begin on November 3, 2018 (check-in after 14:00 hrs) and end on November 11, 2018 (check out before 12:00 noon). Local hospitality includes accommodation (8 nights) along with breakfast, lunch and dinner during this period. Any other expenditure (meals in other restaurants of the hotel, mini bar, laundry, telephone, etc) will be billed to you by the hotel individually and will need to be settled by you at the time of check-out. International travel will be borne by the participating delegation. Students will be accommodated in Holiday Inn Resort Beijing Yanqing.

Leaders and Observers will stay in Xiyuan Hotel.

Airport transportation

Transport from Beijing Capital International Airport (Airport Code: PEK) to our designated accommodation venues will be provided from 09:00 hrs to 24:00 hrs on November 3. (Shuttle buses will be arranged at 09:00, 14:00, 19:00 and 24:00 hrs.) The leaders and contestants of a delegation will be transported directly from the airport to their respective accommodation.

Teams arriving before November 3 should make their own arrangements to reach Xiyuan Hotel, and the contestants can come to Beijing Planetarium and take the shuttle buses to designated venues(Holiday Inn Resort Beijing Yanqing) at 15:00 hrs on November 3.

November 11 is the closing ceremony day. All of leaders and observers should take shuttle buses to the ceremony at 06:30 from Xiyuan Hotel. If the leaders and observers will leave Beijing on November 11 or early in November 12 morning, they should check out and take all luggage to the shuttle buses before 06:30 hrs on November 11.

Closing ceremony will be held from 09:00 to 11:30 hrs on November

11 at Holiday Inn Resort Beijing Yanqing. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 – 12:30 hrs. All of contestants should check out before 13:30 hrs.

At 13:30 hrs, two lines of shuttle buses will be provided. Line 1: from Holiday Inn Resort Beijing Yanqing to Beijing Capital International Airport. Line 2: from Holiday Inn Resort Beijing Yanqing to Beijing Planetarium. There will be no more shuttle buses after 13:30 hrs.

For teams who are leaving early, they should choose Line 1 and take all luggage to the airport directly. Teams are advised not to book tickets of any flights before 19:00 on November 11.

For teams (including contestants) who want to stay in Beijing on November 11 or afterwards, they should choose Line 2 and go back to Beijing Planetarium. Their own accommodations on November 11 and afterwards, along with transportation to the airport, need to be arranged by themselves.

List of Participating countries

Armenian	Greece	Russia
Bangladesh	Hungary	Serbia
Bolivian	India	Singapore
Brazil	Indonesia	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Iran	Slovenia

Canada	Kazakhstan	South Korea
China	Malaysia	Thailand
Colombia	Mali	Ukraine
Croatia	Mexico	United Arab Emirates
Cyprus	Nepal	United Kingdom
Czech Republic	Poland	United States of America
Estonia	Romania	Vietnam

Communication devices

Contestants carrying mobile phones, laptops, tablets, smart watches etc. will have to deposit them with the leaders after the opening ceremony. They will be returned after the completion of all examinations on November 9, 2018. If any contestant is found in possession of a communication device during the restricted period, organizers may disqualify him/her or his/her entire team from the competition.

Information and Contacts

Circulars and all relevant information are put up on our website at <http://ioaa2018.bjp.org.cn> which will be updated regularly.

Welcome to 12th IOAA!

12th IOAA Secretariat