



Canadian Mathematical Society
Société mathématique du Canada

2019 International Mathematical Olympiad
Bath, UK, July 14th – July 22nd



2019 CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL
OLYMPIAD TEAM

2019 MATH TEAM CANADA'S LEADERS AND CONTESTANTS
FACT SHEET

2019 Canadian IMO Team – Contact Information

Matthew Brennan

Leader

MIT

Email: brennanm@mit.edu

Sarah Sun

Deputy Leader

Goldspot Discoveries Inc

Email: sarah.k.sun@gmail.com

James Rickards

Observer A

Graduate Student, McGill University

Algebraic Number Theory

Email: jamesarickards@hotmail.com

Thomas Guo

Email: tyuo@exeter.edu

Victor Rong

Email: vro11121@gmail.com

Howard Halim

Email: howardhalim@gmail.com

David Tang

Email: tanda@utschools.ca

Sebastian Jeon

Email: sebastianjeono@gmail.com

William Zhao

Email: williamzhaoisawesome@gmail.com

Matthew Brennan - Leader



Matthew Stewart was born in Toronto, Ontario and is a third-year Ph. D. student in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT, where he also completed his undergrad in Mathematics and Computer Science.

Matt was on the Canadian IMO team where he earned a Gold medal in 2012 and a Bronze medal in 2011. He also was the observer for Math Team Canada at the 2014 IMO in South Africa.

He really liked competing in math competitions in high school and enjoys coming back as the leader and an instructor.

Sarah Sun – Deputy Leader



Sarah Sun was born in Edmonton, Alberta. Sarah's mathematical journey first started with writing math competitions at the age of 11. A graduate of the University of Waterloo, she double majored in Mathematical Finance and Statistics, which eventually led her into the field of Data Science. After dabbling in the banking industry for seven years, she decided to switch industries and is now applying data science to mining. Currently Sarah is the Chief Data Strategist for Goldspot Discoveries Inc, a publicly traded AI company specializing in Mineral Exploration.

Over the last decade Sarah has extensive experience lecturing for various math circles and camps, coaching contest mathematics, organizing math camps, leading the Ontario Math Circles team at the American Regions Mathematics League, as well as being the head organizer for the Toronto Math Circles since 2012. Most recently, Sarah has been the Deputy Leader for Math Team Canada at the IMO 2017 and EGMO 2018, and will be Deputy Leader for both EGMO and IMO 2019.

Outside of work and mathematics, Sarah enjoys traveling, eating, being outdoors, and pampering her two fat cats.

James Anton Rickards – Observer A



James Rickards was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. James represented Canada at the IMO in 2011 and 2012, earning two silver medals. In 2016, he graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge. Rickards is currently pursuing a PhD in algebraic number theory at McGill University, under the supervision of Prof. Henri Darmon.

Participating in the International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO) program opened up many doors and opportunities for James, and he enjoys staying involved. He has been a member of the Canadian Open Mathematics Competition (COMC) Problem Selection Committee since 2013, was an Observer for the Canadian IMO team in 2015, and Leader of Math Team Canada in 2017, and 2018.

In his spare time, James enjoys all outdoor activities, as well as cooking, games, and watching hockey.

Thomas Guo



Thomas was born in Toronto, Ontario, and is currently a grade 10 student at Phillips Exeter Academy (Exeter New Hampshire). Thomas first became interested in math in grade 3, after his chess teacher encouraged him to take math classes. Although Thomas has taken extra math classes, he has stopped playing chess. Excelling at his first Grade 7 contest, Thomas was motivated to continue pursuing math. He then began participating in national mathematics competitions, including the Canadian Mathematical Olympiad (CMO) and the Canadian Open

Mathematics Challenge (COMC) winning the top prize in both contests.

"I am very happy to have done so well in them. I like solving challenging problems with nice logical solutions, so naturally I enjoyed these CMS competitions."

Thomas is very excited for the upcoming IMO, and says he feels honoured to be part of *Math Team Canada*.

In his spare time, Thomas enjoys computer programming, ice hockey and playing video games.

Sebastian Jeon



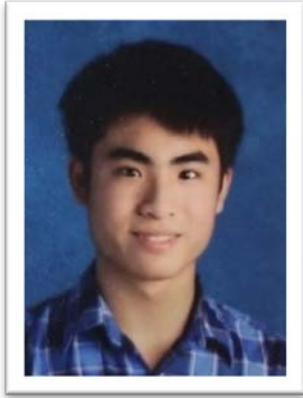
Sebastian was born in Syracuse, New York and moved to Canada at age 3. He then moved back to the United States to study at Bergen County Academies in New Jersey.

Sebastian's interest in mathematics was realized when he began participating in his local math team. His passion for mathematics grew as he competed in national contests such as the Harvard-MIT Math Tournament and the American Regions Math League. He particularly likes solving functional equations.

One of Sebastian's favorite mathematical experiences was attending the Canada-USA Mathcamp, where he was exposed to many interesting fields such as abstract algebra and combinatorics.

In his spare time, Sebastian likes to watch anime, code, and play the electric guitar.

Howard Halim



Howard Halim was born in Jakarta, Indonesia, and moved to Canada at the age of 5. He has been attending University of Toronto Schools for the past 5 years, and is currently in grade 12.

Howard's interest in math began at an early age, from doing math-related puzzles in elementary school. He participated in his first math competition—Math Kangaroo—in grade 6. Since then, he loved solving math contest problems, especially those in olympiad geometry.

One of Howard's favorite experiences was representing Canada at IMO 2018, where he won a silver medal. He is thrilled to be back on the team for IMO 2019!

In his spare time, Howard enjoys competitive programming, solving puzzles, and playing card games.

Victor Rong



Victor was born in Toronto, Ontario and is currently a grade 12 student at Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute. Victor began doing math at a young age with the encouragement of his parents. Math became a major hobby of his, and this led him to compete in various mathematics competitions since grade 4. Victor is particularly fond of synthetic geometry. Although Victor confesses to being a little nervous about the upcoming IMO, he says he is delighted to be a member of Math Team Canada 2019.

"Many CMO problems are feasible for those fairly new to competitive math and at the same time can be challenging to experienced students."

Victor competed in the 2018 Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC) and earned a Silver medal (Best in Canada, Grade 12). Victor also earned 2nd Place in the 2019 Canadian Mathematical Olympiad (CMO).

In his spare time, Victor enjoys competitive programming and card games.

David Tang



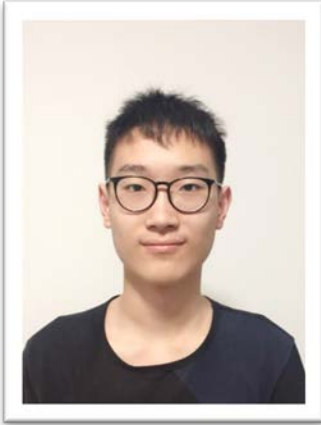
David was born in Toronto, Ontario, and is currently a grade 11 student at University of Toronto Schools. He first started doing mathematics contests in grade 4 through the Mathematica series. Although his initial motivation was getting the right answer, he fell in love with math after being introduced to proof-type questions in grade 8 through the Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC).

“For me, the beauty of mathematics lies not in the answers but in the solutions, of which there are often different answers but these are all beautiful in their own unique way.”

This is the first IMO that David is participating for Math Team Canada, and he is honoured to be part of such a talented team. He’s excited not only to do the contest but also to learn more about high-level mathematics and problem-solving techniques.

Besides math, he likes physics, programming, and strategy games.

William Zhao



William Zhao was born in Toronto, Ontario and is currently a Grade 12 student at Richmond Hill High School. William became interested in math at a very young age.

As a child William enjoyed reading non-academic math books, which led to his interest in mathematics.

William was a member of the 2016, 2017 and 2018 IMO Teams earning Gold medals. William also received first place in the 2019 Canadian Mathematical Olympiad (CMO).

William is excited to be a member of Math Team Canada, to explore the city of Bath and to meet competitors from many other countries.

"I am very interested in the IMO contest as it gives me a measure as to how much I've improved this year."

In his spare time, William enjoys playing basketball and video games with friends, as well as reading books and articles on mathematics or computer science.