

1 Welcome Letter

Dear Math Team Coaches and Students,

You are cordially invited to attend the eleventh annual James S. Rickards Fall Invitational Mathematics Competition, to be held on **Saturday, November 12, 2016**. The Rickards Invitational is one of the largest competitions in Florida, with over 800 participants from over 35 schools throughout the Southeast participating last year.

We encourage all middle and high schools to participate, regardless of whether they currently have math teams or Mu Alpha Theta chapters. To attract a variety of participants and familiarize new teams with mathematics competitions, we will incorporate the structure and rules of a standard Florida Association of Mu Alpha Theta Invitational. We hope that this competition will inspire students to pursue the study of mathematics and motivate them to work hard for the upcoming mathematics competition season. It is our goal to ensure the competition runs as smoothly as possible and is an enriching experience for all students.

Registration may be completed online at **www.rickardsinvitational.org**. The fee is \$10 per student and is to be postmarked by Wednesday, November 2. Late registration will be available until Sunday, November 6, and will be \$15 per student. Registration will be closed the week of the competition. We strongly urge you to pay your registration fees on time to guarantee that there is enough room for competition events and that there are an adequate number of tests to accommodate the participants. Furthermore, we recommend that schools interested in participating in this competition also update their registration with FAMAT. On the day of the competition, sponsors will sign-in their teams in the Rickards Auditorium and the first testing session will begin at 9:00 a.m. (a complete schedule of events is attached) If you would prefer to register by mail, you may do so by completing the registration form found in the Competition Handbook.

To prepare you for competition events, the rules for our invitational are detailed in this Competition Handbook. In general, rules are in accordance with standard FAMAT policies. Calculators will not be permitted on any test, except for the Statistics Bowl. We will have individual and team tests for the Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Precalculus, and Calculus divisions, as well as Open tests for those students not on the four-member teams. There will not be a Statistics individual, but there will be a Statistics Bowl, which is a team test. Students that compete in the Statistics Bowl will not be able to compete in any Open tests.

If you have any questions, please contact us at **rickardsinvitational@gmail.com**. We look forward to your participation at our Invitational.

Sincerely,

Jessica Pickett
Math Team Sponsor

Kyle Chen
Math Team President

2 Competition Format

Eligibility

All students will compete in their respective Mu Alpha Theta divisions for the 2016-2017 school year (Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Precalculus or Calculus). There will be no Statistics test. If a student does not participate in Mu Alpha Theta, he or she will compete in the division corresponding to his or her current math class. If you are not sure which division a student may compete in, please see the FAMAT Sponsor's Guide at

<http://floridamao.org/PublicPages/Downloads.aspx>

Individual Tests

There will be an individual round for each division (Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Precalculus, and Calculus). The individual tests will consist of 30 multiple choice questions and an allotted testing period of one hour. The scoring is +4 points for each correct answer, -1 point for each incorrect answer, and 0 points for a question left blank. Any ties will be broken using the sudden death method (where correct > blank > incorrect). Past tests are available for download at the Rickards Invitational website, www.rickardsinvitational.org.

Team Rounds

In addition to the individual round, four preselected students will compete in their respective divisions in the Team Rounds. We will only be seating one team per school, and teams must consist of at least 3 members. In the Team Round, the 4 students will be allowed to work together on 12 questions, presented one at a time. For each question, the team will have up to 4 minutes to submit their answers, and may only submit one time during each of the 12 questions.

The scoring system for the Team Round will be standard scoring; that is, 16 points for a correct answer in the first minute, 12 points for a correct answer in the second minute, 8 points for a correct answer in the third minute, and 4 points for a correct answer in the fourth minute. A sliding scale will be implemented – every minute without a correct answer shifts the point values down a further minute. Hence, if there are no correct answers in the first two minutes, a correct answer in the third minute earns 16 points, and a correct answer in the fourth minute earns 12 points.

Open Tests

Students not on the preselected four member team can compete in the Open Division. The format and scoring for these tests are identical to the Individual Tests. A description of each test is provided below:

Euclidean Open

The Euclidean Open is for students in **Pre-Algebra and Algebra I**. It draws upon concepts from both of these divisions, and is intended to be very approachable for students in either division.

Theta Open

The Theta Open is for students in **Geometry and Algebra II**. It draws heavily upon concepts from Algebra I and Geometry, as well as some topics from Algebra II.

Mu-Alpha Open

The Mu-Alpha Open is for students in **Precalculus and Calculus**. It draws upon concepts from Geometry, Algebra 2, and Precalculus, but will include some basic Calculus topics usually included in a Precalculus curriculum.

Mini-Events

Speed Math and Mental Math will be held during lunch and is open to all divisions.

3 Awards and Sweepstakes

A breakdown of the awards given is given below:

Individual Tests

Awards will be given to the top 15 competitors in each individual test.

Team Awards

Awards will be given to the top 5 teams in each division, as determined by adding the individual scores of the preselected 4-member team to the Team Round score.

Open Tests

Awards will be given to the top 10 competitors in each Open test.

Mini-Events

The top three competitors in each event will be recognized; however, keep in mind these events are just for fun, and do not count towards sweepstakes.

Middle School Sweepstakes

Sweepstakes awards will be given to the top 3 middle schools, as determined by adding the T-scores from the Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, and Geometry (or Algebra II, if a school has no Geometry team) divisions.

High School Sweepstakes

Sweepstakes awards will be given to the top 5 high schools, as determined by adding the top 3 T-scores from the Geometry, Algebra II, Precalculus, and Calculus divisions.

4 Preliminary Schedule

Please note that this is a preliminary schedule of events, and is subject to small changes prior to competition day. An official schedule of events, complete with room numbers/event locations, will be distributed in the competition program on the morning of the competition. Any updates prior to competition day will be posted on the Invitational website, www.rickardsinvitational.org.

8:00–8:45 A.M.	Registration (Rickards Auditorium)
9:00–10:30 A.M.	Round 1 Testing
	Individual Tests: Geometry, Algebra II, Euclidean Open, Mu-Alpha Open
	Team Rounds: Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Precalculus, Calculus, Statistics Bowl
10:30–10:50 A.M.	Disputes
11:00–12:30 P.M.	Round 2 Testing
	Individual Tests: Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Precalculus, Calculus, Theta Open
	Team Rounds: Geometry, Algebra II
12:30–12:50 P.M.	Disputes
12:50–3:00 P.M.	Lunch and Mini-Events
3:00–4:30 P.M.	Award Ceremony (Auditorium)

5 Registration

The registration cost is \$10 per student. Other details are included in Section 1 (Welcome Letter). Registration must be completed and fees must be postmarked by November 2, 2016 to avoid late fees. It is preferable that you complete registration online at www.rickardsinvitational.org, but if you would like to fill out a registration form by hand, one is provided on the following page. Once you complete registration, you will receive a confirmation email within 48 hours that details how to pay your registration fees, as well as any other details that need to be addressed.

For ID numbers, you must use the 2016-17 FAMAT ID numbers, so we ask that you please update your FAMAT registration online so that we may access these numbers. If, for whatever reason, a student does not have a FAMAT ID, please list their name(s) in the space provided in registration so that we may assign an ID for this competition. We ask that you bring your own scantrons (the same that are used at FAMAT competitions) and have your students bubble in these ID numbers.

When you arrive on the morning of November 12th, you can sign-in your school in the Auditorium.

We hope to see everyone November 12th! Thank you.

6 Registration Form

If you choose not to register online at www.rickardsinvitational.org, please use the following registration form and mail registration to Jessica Pickett, c/o Rickards High School, 3013 Jim Lee Road, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

James S. Rickards Invitational Competition Registration Form

School _____ **** FAMAT school ID#** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____

Sponsor(s) Name(s) _____ **Email** _____

Sponsor's School Phone _____ **School FAX #** _____

List all sponsors (so duties can be assigned if needed)

Division, # of students

Pre-Algebra _____

Algebra I _____

Geometry _____

Algebra II _____

Precalculus _____

Calculus _____

Regular Registration

Total # of students _____ **x \$10 =** _____

Late Registration (>7 days in advance)

Total # of students _____ **x \$15 =** _____

Total Enclosed Amount _____

The registration fee is \$10 per person if your competition registration form is postmarked by November 2, 2016. For schools not registering by the deadline but by November 6, the registration fee will be \$15 per student. Registration will be closed the week of the competition. Whether you send your registration by mail or email, you will be responsible for paying for each student you register whether or not they are present at the competition.

**Schools that will compete in Florida Association of Mu Alpha Theta competitions at any point during the year should register their students online by the deadline date. The registration procedure for FAMAT will be followed at this invitational. If you school does not anticipate competing in FAMAT, please contact us at rickardsinvitational@gmail.com so that we may assign your school an ID number and provide you with instructions.

I HAVE READ THE RICKARDS INVITATIONAL COMPETITION RULES TO MY STUDENTS AND UNDERSTAND THE PROCEDURES DESCRIBED ABOVE.

Signature of Sponsor