



PHYSICSBOWL 2015



2015 PhysicsBowl Results

Dear Physics Teachers,

Thank you for having your students participate in this year's AAPT PHYSICSBOWL contest.

This year there were more than 7500 students participating from almost 250 schools from the United States, Canada, Kuwait, Latvia, and the United Kingdom, as well as almost 250 schools participating from China!

With the addition of the large number of Chinese schools, the contest is almost in two parts with Regions 01 – 14 competing for prizes from AAPT while ASDAN China is coordinating the contest in China. As a result, for simplicity of trying to read the long lists, there are three files: the list of winners in Regions 01 – 14, the list of winners in Regions 15 – 19, and a list of the top students/teams from all regions in both divisions!

Instructors from regions 01 – 14 can obtain the scores of their students from the AAPT website and that link will be provided to you in an email from the national office. Please realize that we were able to retrieve some scores that were disqualified for improperly recording the required information, but this was done after-the-fact. If the information was not encoded correctly, the student was immediately disqualified from winning prizes even though we may be able to link that student to your code now. Some students provided no codes, the wrong regions, no name, just a last name, etc. There are a lot of records and we cannot go back and fill in missing information. While it is unfortunate to disqualify anyone, these are the rules of the contest. Sadly, some very high scores were disqualified. If you still are missing a student's score... please email jlane@aapt.org with student information (CEEB, teacher codes, etc.) and we can try to find the information.

Information is being provided to ASDAN China to find scores from regions 15 – 19.

We will, as always, be trying to improve the contest and we look forward to your participation in 2016.

The statistics from this year's contest are shown below.

Division 1 had an average score of 14.0. Statistically, the easiest question was **#1** (85 % correct) while the most difficult question was **#39** (11 % correct).

Division 2 had an average score of 13.0. Statistically, the easiest question was **#14** (81 % correct) while the most difficult question was **#46** (6 % correct).

The production of a challenging contest of only 40 questions that has a small percentage of very high scores while still not being overly difficult to discourage the majority of students is a very challenging task. The averages this year were lower than desired and we will do our best to adjust for next year's contest to still have a good competition with a higher average score!

Statistics for exam

Average Score for Division 01 = **14.0** with a standard deviation of 4.8

Average Score for Division 02 = **13.0** with a standard deviation of 4.7

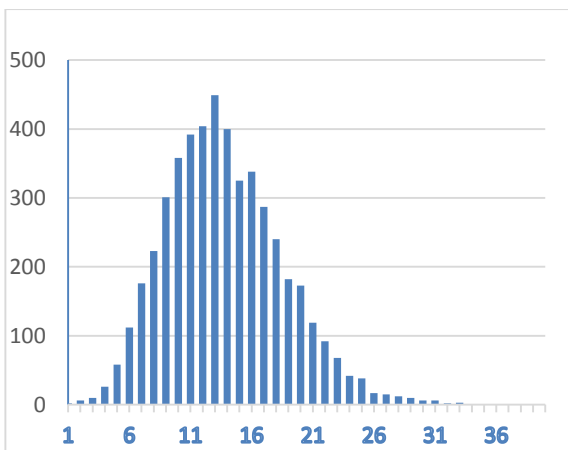


Figure 1. Division 01... # students vs. Score

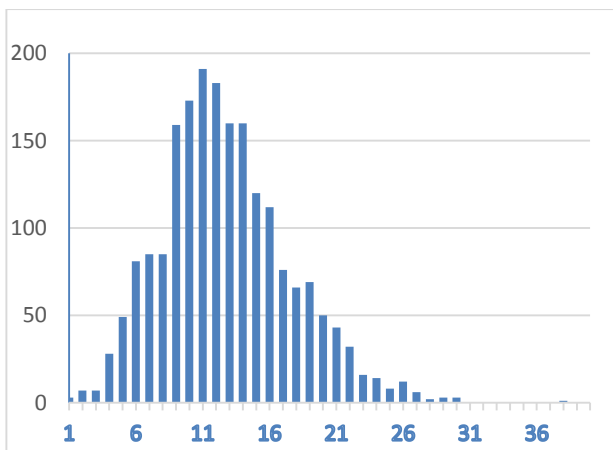
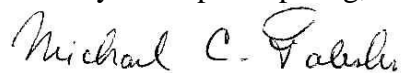


Figure 2. Division 02.... # students vs. Score

We look forward to having you participate in next year's contest... and please let your colleagues at schools near you know about the contest!

Thank you for participating,



Michael C. Faleski
PhysicsBowl Academic Coordinator