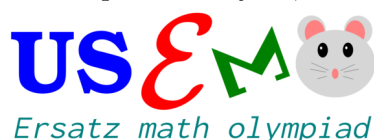


USEMO Guidelines for Problem Authors

UNITED STATES ERSATZ MATH OLYMPIAD

Last updated July 11, 2020



If you'd like to propose a problem to the USEMO, please follow these guidelines.

1. *Eligibility*: Problem proposals will be considered from anyone who is not themselves eligible to compete.
2. For USEMO 2020 (held in October 2020), the deadline for the receipt of problems is **August 20, 2020** of that calendar year.
3. Submissions must be **emailed in TeX format to usemo@evanchen.cc**. In addition, every submission is required to have the following information in the body of the email:
 - a. A list of any other *authors* of the problem, who should be credited with the proposal in the solutions packet.
 - b. A disclosure of everyone else who has seen the problem. This includes (but isn't limited to) friends or collaborators you have mentioned the problem to, as well as any previous contests that this problem was sent to.
 - c. An estimation of the difficulty of the problem (say, "IMO 1 level").

Submissions must **contain a full solution**.

4. **Submissions which are not used are returned to you** at the conclusion of the USEMO event they were proposed for; you can then submit them to any other contests which take them.¹ Obviously, they should not be submitted elsewhere before the USEMO takes place!

You won't be notified automatically about the use of your problem. You should check the USEMO when it is posted to see whether it is used.

Finally, a couple hints about supply and demand. We are almost always short in *easy* problems, and in *algebra and number theory*. Moreover, the USEMO has a major grading bottleneck, which means that problems with shorter easy-to-grade solutions are more likely to be chosen. Happy proposing!

¹However, the International Math Olympiad (IMO) will not take these problems, under IMO general regulation 4.2. Basically, if you want a problem to be in consideration for IMO, you must send to IMO *before* anywhere else.