



# Thank you, Azerbaijan!



**IOI President  
Dr. Greg Lee:**  
IOI 2019 has been a success. I am sure it was an eye-opening experience for many of the IOI participants who are visiting Azerbaijan for the first time. The competition, the meetings and the excursions all went as planned. I saw that the host organization team had a good plan in place and was able to adjust to different situation (weather, for example) accordingly. I especially want to thank the team guides (all those in green). You are the best ambassadors for Azerbaijan to all 87 countries in this IOI.  
(interview continues on page 2)

## IOI 2019 RESULTS



**28**

**GOLD MEDALS**



**54**

**SILVER MEDALS**



**81**

**BRONZE MEDALS**





Continuation of interview with  
IOI President Dr. Greg Lee.

**What were your expectations from the IOI 2019, and have they been fulfilled?**

The IC were in Baku for winter meeting. Although the detailed program was not available at the time, but the overall plan and the venues were sound. Therefore, I came to IOI 2019 with high expectations and the host team either met or exceeded my expectations coming out of the winter meeting.

**Share your impressions about the IOI 2019 organization.**

It is easy to see that the IOI 2019 Organization Committee took the preparation for the IOI very seriously. Any event this big is bound to have some unexpected requests or hip-cups. The host team was quick to adapt and to resolve such matters. I would certainly trust the host team in organizing any event in the future.

**What do you think about participants' performance this year?**

The tasks were quite challenging this year. Aside from the usual batch tasks, there was also an output-only task. Judging from the results, the medalists were well prepared to face the difference in the task type. The team leaders have trained them well. Even the non-medalists were able to receive some points in both days of the competition. It is very encouraging to see that the overall algorithmic and programming skills of the contestants are improving.

**Please tell us about the significance and importance of IOI.**

The main goal of the IOI is to stimulate interest in informatics. IOI is hosted in a different country every year. Usually the government will take notice and drive to improve computer science education in the country. As the number of students learn to program in each country, we will then see a steady increase in the number of participants in the national delegation selection process.

**What do you think about the current state of the informatics/computer science education? What are the future trends in the field?**

AI, AI and AI (Artificial Intelligence). But all starts with Computational Thinking, then on to programming and problem solving algorithmically.

**Your wishes to participants of the future Olympiads.**

By virtue of being here and having competed in IOI 2019, you have earned membership in the exclusive club of "Past IOI Contestants." Continue enhancing your education further and together with the new friends you made at the IOI, you can shape the future of this world.



**Benjamin Qi** (Team USA) is the Absolute IOI champion for the 2nd consecutive time (IOI 2018 Japan and IOI 2019 Azerbaijan).

Benjamin received the award from the Minister of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mr. Jeyhun Bayramov and the IOI President Dr. Greg Lee.



## New IOI Tradition established in Azerbaijan



A new IOI tradition was established during the Closing Ceremony of the IOI 2019 held at Heydar Aliyev Center on 10 August 2019. From now on, it is suggested to put the IOI Flag into a special bag when it is being transferred from one host country to the next one. The IOI Flag (and the bag to put in into) was presented to the host of IOI 2020 – Singapore.





## IOI 2019 Postage Stamp

Azerbaijan brought together IOI memories in one token of appreciation – an official postage stamp of the Republic of Azerbaijan was released on the stage during the Closing Ceremony. The stamp features logos of all International Olympiads in Informatics starting from the very first one held in 1989 in Bulgaria.

## Photo of the Day: IOI Family Photo

IOI 2019 Family in front of the Heydar Aliyev Center after the Closing Ceremony

