

# mensa world journal

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# Logical Olympiad 2018

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*The biggest Mensa project in the world has been running for 11 years. This year a new record was set, yet again, with a total of 61,761 students from more than 3,000 schools from all over the Czech Republic having registered*

All in all, there were 193 finalists in three age categories. Participants competed in the final round, on the 26th of November, which took place in the historical Míčovna (Ball Games) hall within Prague Castle. The event was a great success!

The team actually preparing the logical tasks, along with the Logical Olympiad core team, had a series of meetings where they thought up the myriad tasks and tests. Pancakes (courtesy of the Blumenstein family) were usually served at these meetings and hence the meetings became simply known as "Pancakes".

## QUALIFYING AND REGIONAL ROUNDS

The first stage of the process is registration for both children and their teachers, which was done on the Logical Olympiad website. After registering, participants completed their on-line tests during the qualifying

round, with the best contestants going forward to the regional rounds. During the regional rounds more than 2100 competitors had to solve two tests, one of which was projected on a screen. This year, 193 of the best participants went forward to the final round.

## THE FINAL ROUND

The very last day before the finals, the team of volunteers met in the Mensa office to compile tests, prepare name tags, diplomas and the seating order, as well attending to various last-minute tasks. The team also personally tested a variety of additional contests and quizzes; ultimately, everything has to be ready so that the final round can start on time, the next day.

Great thoughts and ideas are often wasted if they remain unimplemented. If there aren't enough people who can sacrifice their own time and who identify with the ideas and work on their realisation, we wouldn't have the

same success. We are very happy that this year the Logical Olympiad ran smoothly once again, and we have our team of volunteers to thank for this.

Mensa Czech Republic is very proud to have a long-standing team of more than 200 enthusiastic people at each level of the competition: the core team, the team for the preparation of logical tasks, the team responsible for communicating with children, students, teachers, coordinators of the regional rounds and also IT support. We look forward to the continued support from our dedicated volunteers. With their help, we are sure that next year's competition will be an even greater success!

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PHOTOGRAPHY: ZDENĚK FALÁŘ



*The winners: (from l to r) Martin Kosprd, Havlíčkův Brod, Vilem Gutvald*