

2011/11/12

Let's Host Programming Camps!

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ACM-ICPC Asia Regional 2011 Fukuoka
Site, Coach Workshop

Self Introduction

- Takashi Tayama
 - University of Aizu (M2)
- ICPC history
 - 2006 – 10: Contestant
 - 2011: Co-coach

Background

- JAG (Japanese Alumni Group) hosts ICPC training camps
 - (Sep.) Summer Camp for the Regionals
 - (Feb.) Winter Camp for the World Finals
- Why camps are important?
 - Provide opportunity to make friends to teach and motivate each other

Background

- Can anyone take part in JAG camps?
 - No – capacity is limited
 - We are sorry for that
 - Top 13 teams are invited to Summer Camp this year
- Are there any other camp hosts in Japan?
 - No

Background

- Opportunity to take part in camps is not enough
- **Why don't you host camps by yourself?**
- Today I will tell you that hosting ICPC camp is not difficult

Aizu Camp 2011

- ICPC Camp was held in this summer
 - Place: Univ. of Aizu
 - Date: 2011/09/12 – 14
 - Judge: Aizu Online Judge
 - Eligibility: Everyone is OK!

Motivation

- Ritsumeikan coach wanted to give his students a chance to train and communicate with students of other universities
- Ritsumeikan coach and Aizu coach are old friends

Participants

- We called for participants via blogs and Twitter
 - Ritsumeikan students
 - Aizu students
 - 1 The University of Electro-Communications student
 - 1 high school student in Aizu

Schedule

- 9/12
 - 14:00 Opening
 - 15:00 – 19:00 Practice Contest 1
 - 20:00 – 22:00 Welcome Party
- 9/13
 - 9:00 – 12:00 Commentaries for Day 1
 - 13:00 – 18:00 Practice Contest 2
- 9/14
 - 9:00 – 12:00 Commentaries for Day 2

Practice Contest 1

- Hosted by 6 Ritsumeikan students
 - R.....2D
 - Rokkaku
- 9 problems, 4 hours
- Private contest (only for camp participants)
 - Rearranged as Ritsumeikan University Programming Contest (RUPC) later

Practice Contest 2

- Hosted by an Aizu student and a co-coach
- 10 problems, 5 hours
- Organized mixed university teams
- Private contest
 - Rearranged as University of Aizu Programming Contest 2011 Summer (UAPC2011Summer) later

Feedback from Participants

- Enjoyed!
- It was interesting to collaborate with student of other universities!
- Making problems was good experience!

Camp Hosts' Workload

1. Setup contest room
 - We needed computers, network and printers
 - Just used university's resource
2. Setup contest server
 - Just asked to AOJ manager
 - The manager (= me) worked hard :D
3. Setup welcome party
 - Just booked a restaurant

Versus JAG Camp

- In Aizu camp, hosts made their workload as less as possible
 - Hotel and meals
 - JAG: prepared by staffs
 - Aizu: prepared by each participant
 - Contest room setup
 - JAG: staffs prepared network and printers
 - Aizu: just used university's resource

Versus JAG Camp

- In Aizu camp, hosts made their workload as less as possible
 - Making problems
 - JAG: made problems for 1 contest and asked participants to make for 2 contests
 - Aizu: Entirely ask participants
 - Accounting
 - JAG: done
 - Aizu: none (hosts didn't collect nor spent money)

Demerits & Improvement

- More expensive than JAG camp
 - JAG: 10,000 yen of fee, 3 days accommodation and meals are provided
 - Aizu: no fee, no accommodation, no meals
 - Almost nothing for Aizu students
 - Maybe around 20,000 yen for others

Demerits & Improvement

- If participants make problems, they can't take part in the contest
 - 6 Ritsumeikan students could take part in only one contest
- Suggestion
 - Decompose problem set
 - 10 problems, 5 hours, 6 persons -> (5 problems, 2.5 hours, 3 persons) * 2
 - In each contest 3 person can take part in

Demerits & Improvement

- If participants make problems, they can't take part in the contest
 - On the other hand, most Aizu student could take part in both contest
 - Because the contest of day 2 was hosted by only 2 people
 - Not recommended
 - Very tough for problem setters :-)

Demerits & Improvement

- Aizu students got back their home at night
 - In JAG camp, everyone stays same lodge and can talk each other until late night
 - Night is good chance to make friends
- Suggestion
 - Everyone should stay same lodge
 - Inexpensive accommodation is needed
 - Increases organizers' workload...?

Demerits & Improvement

- We wanted more people to join
 - Aizu is isolated :-(
- Suggestion
 - Next time we are going to have a camp at Ritsumeikan University
 - It must be easier to join for Kansai people

Summary

- To host ICPC camp, all we definitely need is
 1. Contest room
 2. Contest server
- We can ask any other things to participants
 - They still would be satisfied
- In fact, Aizu camp host team are not organized at all
 - No leader, no meetings
- Hosting a camp is easy!

Dream

- Student-hosted contests have been held
 - 200? - : Maximum Cup (Saitama Univ.)
 - 2008 - : UTPC (Univ. of Tokyo)
 - 2009 - : UAPC (Univ. of Aizu)
 - 2011 - : KUPC (Kyoto Univ.)
 - 2011 - : RUPC (Ritsumeikan Univ.)

Dream

- Student-hosted contests have been held
 - 200? - : Maximum Cup (Saitama Univ.)
 - 2008 - : UTPC (Tokyo Univ.)
 - 2009 - : UAPC (Univ. of Aizu)
 - 2011 - : KUPC (Kyoto Univ.)
 - 2011 - : RUPC (Ritsumeikan Univ.)
- Now let's hold student-hosted camps!
 - 2011 - : Aizu Camp
 - 20XX - : Tokyo Camp, Kyoto Camp, ...