

*Math Circle 9/10/2016 Meeting: Challenge of the week*

Make sure that your solution is correct, complete, and clearly written. You should not expect much credit if your proof refers to a false statement, or even if all your statements are true but you forgot to tell us "why?" It is one of the purposes of the Circle to help you improve your "essay-proof" writing style as well as your logical skills.

Please remember that the Challenge is **individual**. Although we strongly encourage cooperation and help among the participants of the Circle, the Weekly Challenge will be one exception to this rule: you may consult your notes, but you may not ask other people to help you.

Problem 1. In a school Ping-Pong tournament, every registered participant played exactly four games. No two of contestants share the same birthday. Prove that there exists at least one player that either won at least 2 games against opponents older than this player, or won at least 2 games against opponents younger this player.