

**How I Won the APL  
Problem Solving  
Contest –  
Introduction and  
Prize Ceremony**

DYALOG

Elsinore 2017

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APL Tools Group



## 2017...

- Our 9<sup>th</sup> Year
- 5<sup>th</sup> year working with Squire
- Thank you to our sponsors!
- Thank you problem contributors
  - Paul Grosvenor/Optima – Healthcare
  - Dr. Charles Brenner – Maths and Statistics
  - Zack Batik – Maths and Statistics, Computational Geometry
- Thank you judges
  - Adám, Michael
- A special thank you to Fiona...



**SimCorp**



# This year...

- Format – 2 phases
  - Phase 1 – 10 "simple" one-liners
  - Phase 2 – 3 areas of concentration
    - Healthcare
    - Maths and Statistics
    - Computational Geometry
- Participation
  - Phase 1 – 59 (up from 42) student submissions, 42 non-student submissions
  - Phase 2 – 18 (up from 15) student submissions, 6 non-student submissions
- Prizes
  - Phase 1 – \$100 prize for top 10 submissions
  - Phase 2 – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes plus \$200 prizes for 5 competitors not in the top 3

# One competitor's impressions...

- About himself...

On the Wikipedia page I accidentally clicked the link to the APL page. I was captured by the few (simple) examples on the page, and was very impressed at the Game of Life one-liner. That was almost exactly a year ago.

- About the competition...

This is a great way to spread APL. More people should know about it, and I'm doing my best to get others interested. The problems proposed were all very interesting, but I particularly enjoyed the two last problems in Bioinformatics. I'll be participating again next year! (Hopefully with a few friends as well)

- He's a 16 year old high school student in Geneva, Switzerland

# The future of the competition

- Things to think about
  - Format
  - Platform
  - Timing
- Please help!
  - Contribute problem ideas
  - Spread the word

# And the winners are...

- Non-student winner
  - Mike Powell – former IPSA employee
- Runners up
  - Bioinformatics      Louis de Forcrand  
Ecole Moser, Switzerland
  - Finance              Rafael Rodrigues  
University of Cape Town, SA
  - General Computing    Imaculate Mosha  
University of Cape Town, SA
- Grand prize winners...