Preamble

At the 1932 International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) in Zurich, a resolution was adopted that at each ICM, two gold medals should be awarded to recognize outstanding mathematical achievement. Professor J. C. Fields, a Canadian mathematician who was Secretary of the 1924 Congress, later donated funds establishing the medals, which were named in his honor. The first Fields Medals were awarded at the ICM in 1936 in Oslo, Norway. In 1966 it was agreed that, in light of the great expansion of mathematical research, up to four medals could be awarded at each ICM.

Statutes

1. The Fields Medal is awarded every four years on the occasion of the International Congress of Mathematicians to recognize outstanding mathematical achievement for existing work and for the promise of future achievement.

2. The Fields Medal is awarded to an individual mathematician whose 40th birthday must not occur before January 1st of the year of the ICM at which the Fields Medals are awarded.

3. No more than four Fields Medals are awarded at one ICM.

4. The award consists of gold medal bearing the profile of Archimedes and a cash amount of CAD 15,000.

5. The Fields Medal Committee that decides the recipients of the Fields Medal, is chosen by the Executive Committee of the International Mathematical Union and is normally chaired by the IMU President. It is asked to choose at least two, with a strong preference for four, Fields Medalists, and to have regard in its choice to representing a diversity of mathematical fields. In its deliberations, the Committee has to abide by the IMU Guidelines regarding conflicts of interest. The name of the Chair of the Committee is made public, but the names of other members of the Committee remain anonymous until the award of the prize at the Congress.

6. Nominations for this award have to be submitted to the Prize Committee Chair. Any nomination should contain the name and affiliation of candidate, the candidate's date of birth, as well as a description of the work that qualifies the candidate for the award, written in terms that are accessible to mathematicians of different backgrounds, including references to the candidate's important publications. Nominations are confidential, and must not be disclosed to the candidate. Self-nominations are strongly discouraged. The committee is free to consider mathematicians not nominated.

7. Any mathematician can at most receive one Fields Medal, and cannot later receive any other IMU award (Nevanlinna, Gauss, Chern). Current members of the IMU Executive Committee are not eligible.