

Rubik's Cube World Record Annihilated

Sixteen year old Antoine Cantin of Rockland, Ontario, accomplished an incredible feat this weekend. He set nothing less than his fourth Rubik's Cube World Record, but this one by a mile. At the Toronto Open Spring 2015 competition, he solved a Rubik's Cube with only one hand in an average of 10.87 seconds. Cantin shattered the previous World Record of 11.72 seconds previously held by Feliks Zemdeg of Australia.



Antoine Cantin, current holder of two Rubik's Cube World Records

During Rubik's Cube competitions, a competitor performs five solves per round. The best and worst solves are ignored, and the average of the remaining ones determines his ranking. Antoine's five solves were 10.56 seconds, 14.19, 10.58, 10.07 and 11.47 giving him a record 10.87 average. With these solves, he is now in front of second place by an amazing 0.85 seconds. In an event often decided by hundredths of a second, a jump of almost an entire second is huge.

This isn't the first time he's broken the World Record in this category though. Some readers may remember that on April 24th of last year, he achieved an average of 12.56 seconds, breaking the previous record that had already stood for over two years. However, since then, that same record was beaten an astonishing number of times by two Polish cubers and an Aussie, bringing it down to 11.72 seconds. Finally, almost exactly a year after his first record, Cantin dropped the time to the 10.87 seconds it is now. He therefore single-handedly brought the standard down from a two year standing record of 12.67 to 10.87, dropping it 1.8 seconds or 15% of the time it was before.

Antoine is also the current World Record holder of the single fastest one-handed solve with a time of 8.75 seconds. Although the "single" solve might seem more impressive, Antoine is prouder of his recent record: "For me, getting a fast single solve requires lots of skill, but a huge part of it is just luck. The average record is what shows who is consistently faster and who the best solver really is. Totally decimating a World Record is also pretty awesome!" he told us with a chuckle.

If you'd like to come see Antoine's flying fingers in person, his next competition will be the fifth annual National Capital Region competition in Rockland. It will be hosted on May 16th by the Club de Cube L'Escale, in the Optimist Performance hall. This summer, he will also be travelling to South America. He'll start off in Lima, Peru for a large competition, then fly to São Paulo, Brazil, for the 2015 Rubik's Cube World Championships where he is hoping to be crowned World Champion.

For more information about Antoine's exploits or the upcoming Rockland competition, visit his club's website at <http://cubes.lescale.com>. Antoine also has a youtube channel, at <http://youtube.com/antoinecantin>.