

# Warm-Up: Mario Kart

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**Problem 1:**

A standard Mario Kart cup consists of 12 players and four races.

Each race is scored as follows:

- 15 points are awarded for first place;
- 12 for second;
- and  $(13 - \text{place})$  otherwise.

In any one race, no players may tie. A player's score at the end of a cup is the sum of their scores for each of the four races.

An  $n$ -way tie occurs when the top  $n$  players have the same score at the end of a round. What is the largest possible  $n$ , and how is it achieved?