



RULES OF THE NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Introduction:

The most sought after flagship event of Law Tryst. Here a mock court is set up with enthusiastic students putting forth arguments in favour of and against a case, just as real lawyers do.

P.S.: The judges are not fond of duck faces, so keep your arguments ready!

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1) **GENERAL RULES:**

- “Organizers” mean the Organizers of the Law Tryst National Moot Court Competition, Jitendra Chauhan College of Law, Mumbai.
- “Participating Team” means the team which has registered itself for the competition as per the Rules given below.
- “Participating College/University/Institution” shall be presumed to be the parent institution of the Participating Team.
- “Participants” mean the Speakers and the Researcher of the Participating Team.
- Rules should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation therefrom would attract disqualification or other penalties as the organizers deem fit.
- All decisions by the organizers in case of any disputes/doubts etc. will be final. The organizers may make such rules and procedures at any point of time, as they deem fit.

2) **DATE AND VENUE:**

The National Moot Court Competition will be held on 8th, 9th&10th March, 2019 at Jitendra Chauhan College of Law, 8th Floor, Mithibai Campus, Vile Parle (W), Mumbai- 400056.

3) **DRESS CODE:**

- Participants shall be dressed in formal attire only.
- Male participants are required to wear a full suit - comprising of a black formal blazer and trousers, full sleeved shirts, black tie and formal footwear.

Female participants are required to wear Western or Indian court room formals with appropriate formal footwear.



4) LANGUAGE:

The National Moot Court Competition shall be conducted in English language.

5) PARTICIPATION, ELIGIBILITY AND TEAM COMPOSITION:

- Participation is restricted to bona-fide law students enrolled in the 3 year or 5 year LLB course.
- A team shall be ordinarily composed of three (3) members, with two Speakers and one Researcher. A two-member team comprising of only two Speakers with no Researcher will also be permitted. A minimum of two members will thus be required for each team.
- Participation will not be restricted to only one team from each participating college.
- All research work, writing and editing must be solely the product of team members.

No change in the names of the participants shall be permitted after the receipt of registration forms.

6) INAUGURATION AND DRAW OF LOTS:

The formal inauguration of the Moot Court Competition shall be held on 8th of March, 2019 followed by the formal registration. The draw of lots for the preliminary rounds will take place on the same day after the registration.

7) MEMORIALS:

- All the teams shall submit 5 (five) sets of spiral bound Memorials for both the sides.
- The language of the Memorials shall be English.
- The Memorial shall not contain any annexure/photographs/sketches/exhibits etc.



- The teams must send a soft copy of the Memorial on or before 20th February, 2019 and send 5 (five) hard copies of the Memorial on or before 25th February, 2019 (Name of the participants or the college or any other identification mark should not appear on any part of the Memorials). It is the responsibility of the teams to ensure that the correct number of copies of the Memorials is submitted to the organizers and acknowledgement is obtained.

The hard copy of the Memorials shall be sent to the following address:

**Jitendra Chauhan College of Law,
8thFloor, Mithibai College Campus,
Bhaktivedanta Swami Marg, Vile Parle (West),
Mumbai - 400056.**

- The soft copy of the Memorials shall be sent to the following email address :

mootcourt@lawtryst.com

8) FORMAT OF MEMORIALS:

All teams shall submit the Memorials fulfilling the following specifications:

- The Memorials shall be printed on A4 size paper and must be spiral bound.
- The font style of the body of the Memorial must be Times New Roman, font size - 12, and the size of the footnotes/endnotes, if any, must be of Font size – 10.
- Each page of the Memorial must have a margin of at least an inch on all sides.
- The Memorial shall consist of the following parts:
 - i) Cover Page – (Blue for Petitioner and Red for Respondent)
 - ii) Table of contents.
 - iii) List of Abbreviations.
 - iv) Index of Authorities.
 - v) Statement of Jurisdiction.
 - vi) Statement of Facts.
 - vii) Statement of Issues.



viii) Summary of Arguments.

ix) Arguments Advanced.

x) Prayers.

- There will be negative marking for delayed submission, which shall be deducted at once from the total Memorial score obtained by a team.
- Relevant articles/materials/case laws may be provided as a supplementary volume to the Memorial, which must also be submitted with the Memorial.
- The supplementary volume, if any, must also be neatly bound and colour coded like the Memorial, and must not contain any reference to the name of the participants or College or University or Law School.
- Copies of articles/materials/case laws which are not appended to the Memorials or referred to in the Memorials may not be relied upon at the time of oral arguments.
- No team would be allowed to pass any additional material to the judges while presenting their oral arguments.
- Teams will NOT be marked on the supplementary volume, if any, while judging their Memorials.

9) EXCHANGE OF MEMORIALS:

- There shall be an exchange of Memorials between the respective opposing teams during the draw of lots.
- The teams are prohibited from making any marks on the exchanged Memorials.
- The teams are prohibited from making any copies of the exchanged Memorials.
- At the conclusion of their respective rounds, the teams are required to return the exchanged Memorials to the Court Assistants/Clerks where the round is conducted.



10) EVALUATION OF MEMORIALS:

Every Memorial will be marked on a total of 100 marks and the team Memorial marks will be the average of the total of both sides. The following shall be the marking scheme:

1.	Application of facts	20 marks
2.	Identification, structuring and presentation of issues	20 marks
3.	Application of legal principles, authorities and precedents	20 marks
4.	Ingenuity and logical reasoning	20 marks
5.	Lucidity and writing skills	10 marks
6.	Proper footnoting and formatting	10 marks

11) ORAL ROUNDS:

- There will be 3 (three) rounds, viz.,
 - Preliminary round (where each team will present twice, once from each side, i.e., Petitioner and Respondent)
 - Semi-finals
 - Finals
- Each Team will have a maximum of:
 - **20 minutes** in the Preliminary round for oral arguments, in which no single speaker shall be permitted to address the court for more than 12 minutes.
 - **30 minutes** in the Semi-finals, in which no single speaker shall be permitted to address the court for more than 18 minutes.
 - **45 minutes** in the Finals, in which no single speaker shall be permitted to address the court for more than 25 minutes.



- The above timing includes the timing for rebuttal. Sur – rebuttal shall be at the discretion of the Judges.

12) SELECTION:

The top 4 (four) teams who have won both the Preliminary rounds shall proceed to the Semi-finals. The first Semi-final and Final rounds itself would be on a 'knock-out' basis. In case of a tie, the aggregate prelim score of the team would be considered. Even in case of a tie for aggregate prelim score, the highest Speaker score for prelim would be considered. 4 teams whose aggregate is the highest in both the Preliminary rounds and the Memorial shall qualify for Semi-finals.

13) DELAY IN APPEARANCE/PRESENTATION:

If a team scheduled to participate in the oral submissions of a round does not appear for 10 minutes after the scheduled commencement of such round, the other team shall have to make oral submissions ex-parte. (Unless the delay is due to extreme unavoidable circumstances)

14) EVALUATION OF THE ORAL SUBMISSIONS:

- Speaker's score for the purpose of other rounds of the Competition shall be utilized as determined elsewhere in these Rules.
- The evaluation would be done on the following criteria:

1.	Marshalling of facts	15 marks
2.	Application of legal principles	15 marks
3.	Logical structuring and reasoning	10 marks
4.	Ingenuity and originality	10 marks
5.	Articulation of issues	10 marks
6.	Presentation and communication skills	10 marks
7.	Responses to questions posed	10 marks
8.	Use of authorities and precedents	10 marks



9.	Court etiquettes	10 marks
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- The decision of the judges as to the marks allocated to any team shall be final and binding.

15) JUDGES' FEEDBACK:

Judges are encouraged to provide direct feedback to teams regarding their performance at the completion of the Oral round. They shall not engage in any commentary which may reveal the contents of the Memorial or announce the winner of the round.

16) REPORTING OF RESULTS:

After the conclusion of each Competition, each team participating in such Competition shall receive the following on the team's request:

- A copy of the Memorial score sheets and penalties, if any, with attendant comments, if any;
- A copy of the oral round assessment – judges' score sheets and penalties, if any, with attendant comments, if any, from Preliminary rounds of the Competition;
- A copy of the Overall Rankings of the Preliminary rounds of the Competition, with the Total accumulated Win-Loss records, Overall Team Scores, and Overall Round Points;
- A copy of the Speaker Rankings from the Preliminary Rounds of the Competition, including all Total Individual Oral Scores;
- A copy of the Written submission Rankings from the Preliminary Rounds of the Competition, including all Total Written submission Scores; and
- A summary of the Advanced Rounds of the Competition.
- A synopsis of the performance of the team in tabular form, including Speaker performances and opposition performances.



17) AWARDS:

- **Winning Team:** The winning team of the final round which will be held on 10th March 2019.
- **Runners-up Team:** The team which contested against the winning team in the final round.
- **Best Memorial:** The Memorials which secure the highest marks based upon the cumulative marks of both the Memorials submitted shall be adjudged as the 'Best Memorial'.
- **Best Student Advocate:** The speaker securing the highest marks based upon the cumulative marks of the Preliminary Rounds of the Competition will be adjudged as the 'Best Student Advocate'.

18) GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL COMMITTEE:

The Grievance Redressal Committee of Jitendra Chauhan College of Law for this Moot Court Competition shall deal with all disputes arising out of the Competition in accordance with these Rules.

19) CLARIFICATIONS OF THE COMPETITION PROBLEM OR RULES:

Teams may submit written requests for clarifications of the Moot Problem or these Rules. Requests for such clarifications must be received by the organizers till 15th February, 2019. Teams may submit requests for clarifications by email only. All clarifications to legitimate requests will be summarized and answered to the participating colleges/universities. If however, the college/university has failed to provide the organizer with details of a contact person, the organizer would not be responsible for clarifications sought and corrections required.



20) SCOUTING:

- Scouting by the Speakers, Researcher or any other person affiliated with a team will lead to immediate disqualification of such team.
- Scouting shall be deemed to have happened if any person affiliated with a team is found:
 - Witnessing, hearing, observing, etc. the oral submissions in a round, except where the round is one in which the team to which he/she is affiliated is participating in; or
 - Reading a Memorial of a team except where:
 - It is of the team to which he/she is affiliated; or
 - The Memorials have been obtained on account of an exchange of memorials prior to a Round of the team to which he/she is affiliated.

21) ANONYMITY:

Participants/Participating Teams shall not disclose their names and the identity of their respective institution/college/university at any time before the award ceremony. Each team shall be issued individual codes at the time of registration and the same shall be the sole source of identity of the respective teams throughout the competition.

Note: All Participants shall refrain from wearing, using or carrying in any form, any identifying items, such as badges, blazers, pins or any other identifying material(s) such as books/bags with a college/university/library logo or seal.

22) COPYRIGHT:

The copyright over the Memorials submitted for participation in the competition is assigned by participants and shall vest completely and fully on the Organizers. The Participants shall certify in writing the originality of materials contained therein and shall be responsible for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials. Further use and exhibition of these materials, electronically or otherwise, shall be the exclusive right of the Organizers and they shall not be responsible for any liability to any person for



any loss caused by errors or omissions in the collection of information, or for the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in these materials.

23) MISCELLANEOUS:

- All the participants are expected to maintain the decorum in the court during the competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.
- Use of Mobile/Cellular/Laptops/Tablets or any other electronic devices is strictly prohibited in the court premises at all times.
- The organizers will resolve any contingencies that may arise and will be the final arbiters regarding any doubts/grievances. The decision taken by the organizers shall be final and binding.
- Acceptance of the above mentioned rules and regulations is a pre-requisite to participation in the competition. The rules shall be strictly adhered to. The Organizers reserve the right to disqualify teams for deviating from rules. The Organizers will resolve any contingencies that may arise and will be the final arbiters regarding any doubts/grievances. These Rules are not exhaustive.
- Any reference to identity of a team's institution or individual team members, either during oral arguments or in the Memorial may lead to disqualification of the team.
- The organizers reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical/unprofessional and immoral conduct.
- The organizers' decision regarding the interpretation of rules or any other matter relating to the competition shall be final.
- Organizers save the right to modify, alter, vary or repeal any of the above rules, if need so arises.



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24) DISCLAIMER:

The Moot Court Competition is based on a purely fictitious compromise/problem, whereby the characters and the incidents or the course of events in the compromise are completely imaginary and the same has no relation to any person living or dead or any past/present real life incident. The Moot Court Competition is made solely for the purpose of training law students of India in developing an analytical bent of mind and serving the Bar and the Bench to the best of their abilities.

In case of any queries, kindly email to mootcourt@lawtryst.com

