



11th INSTITUTE OF LAW NIRMA UNIVERSITY NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

22nd - 24th APRIL 2022

RULE BOOK

MOOT COURT COMMITTEE (ORGANIZING), ILNU

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ARTICLE 1: AIM AND OBJECTIVE

The Competition encourages teams of student-advocates to argue a fictitious legal case based on the theme Competition Law and Data Protection, by presenting their legal arguments in front of a bench comprising experts in the relevant field of law. The Institute of Law, Nirma University in association with the Competition Commission of India offers students from across the country the opportunity to participate in the 11th edition of the National Moot Court Competition and develop an array of professional skills, analysis, arguments, and interpretation.

ARTICLE 2: SUBJECT

All teams participating in the competition are presumed to have knowledge of and shall be subject to these Rules.

ARTICLE 3: INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

The Organizing Committee has the authority to interpret and to amend the provisions contained in the Rules. The Committee reserves the right to make changes at any time before the commencement and/or during the competition or any part of the competition thereof if deemed necessary. Any decision of the Organizing Committee shall be considered as final. Any changes made shall be communicated to the participating teams via an appropriate mode.

ARTICLE 4: PARTICIPATION AND TEAM COMPOSITION

- a) Institutions offering a degree, graduate or postgraduation, in law are eligible to participate in the Competition. The participating Institutions shall enter one team only.
- b) Each team will be comprised of three members. Furthermore, the team includes two speakers and one researcher. The amount of team representatives shall not exceed three at any moment in the competition.
- c) The teams shall submit their team composition via the final registration form provided.
- d) Any changes in the team composition are subject to the approval of the Organizing Committee.

ARTICLE 5: TEAM MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

- a) Students enrolled in Bachelor or Master Programs are eligible to participate in the Competition. Additionally, Students being on exchange in another country are eligible to participate under the host university.
- b) Students admitted to practice, including by having taken and passed the bar exam, are prohibited to participate in the Competition.

ARTICLE 6: TEAM REGISTRATION

Teams are required to register in the Competition via link (<https://forms.gle/UcYRKxBxgLthgFVw8>). The deadline for the registration is at 11:59pm on 5 April 2022. A confirmation of participation shall be sent to the teams via e-mail after the completion of the payment and attached registration form.

ARTICLE 7: REGISTRATION FEE

- a) The registration fee for the competition is INR 3500 per team. The registration fee is non-refundable and has to be paid by all the teams in order to participate in the competition.
- b) The registration fee for the Competition is to be paid online. Details of the Bank Account are as follows:

Name of the Bank: The Kalupur Com. Co. Op. Bank Ltd.

Name of the Branch: Nirma University

Branch Address: Nirma University Sarkhej Gandhinagar Highway, Ahmedabad- 382481

Bank IFSC Code: KCCB0NRM097

9 Digit MICR code: 380126029

Bank Account No: 09720180220

Type of Account: Current

- c) All the teams are mandatorily required to upload a copy of the payment receipt in the Registration Form.
- d) Incomplete payment of the registration fee renders that concerned application invalid. Refund of registration fee shall not be done in any circumstances.

ARTICLE 8: LANGUAGE

The official language of the competition shall be English. All communications will be done in English.

ARTICLE 9: TEAM IDENTITY

The participating team is not allowed to reveal their identity throughout the competition. Any violation of the aforementioned provision shall attract the penalty of 10 marks or **may** result in cancellation of the participation. The same will be communicated to the particular team via email or any other mode deemed appropriate by the Organizing Committee.

ARTICLE 10: COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- a) All participating teams must prepare written pleadings from both the sides, that is, the Appellants and the Respondents; and
- b) All participating teams must argue their submissions in the oral rounds from both sides, that is, the Appellants and the Respondents.
- c) The request for clarifications to the Moot Proposition must be completed by 1 April 2022 at 11:59pm. All request must be submitted in writing via e-mail at mootorganizingcommittee.ilnu@nirmauni.ac.in.
- d) Each participating team may request for maximum of 8 clarifications to the Moot Proposition.

ARTICLE 11: MEMORIAL PROVISIONS

- a) All teams are required to submit both sides of the memorial via google form by 19 April 2022 at 11:59pm. The link for the same will be shared with the team in due course of time. The

submission must be done in both .doc/.docx and protected PDF format. Failure to comply with the above-mentioned provision shall attract penalty points of 2 marks per violation.

- b) The name of the file must be the team code allocated by the Organizing committee. The violation of the same shall attract penalty points of 10 marks.
- c) No team is allowed to make any changes in the memorial after the submission of the memorial. The violation of the same shall attract penalty of 10 marks.
- d) The Organizing Committee reserves the right to publish the memorial.
- e) Each memorandum must consist of the following sections and shall be presented in the following order:
 - i) Cover Page
 - ii) Table of Contents
 - iii) List of Abbreviations
 - iv) Index of Authorities
 - v) Statement of Jurisdiction
 - vi) Statement of Facts
 - vii) Issues for Consideration
 - viii) Summary of Arguments
 - ix) Written Arguments
 - x) Prayer
 - xi) Back cover
- f) The Cover Page of the memorial shall include team code on the top-right corner of the Cover Page, the name and place of the forum, the relevant legal provision under which case is filed,

Name of the parties and their status, and Memorandum Filed on Behalf of... Violation of this provision shall attract penalty points of 3 marks per missing item of this provision.

g) The following scheme must be followed while submitting the softcopies of the memoranda:

Appellant(s): Blue

Respondents(s): Red

h) Each memorandum must follow the following general requirements. Failure to follow the same shall attract penalty points of 4 marks per violation.

- i) The font used in all parts of the memorandum must be in Times New Roman, font size must be 12 with double line spacing, and font color must ONLY be black.
- ii) The font used in the footnotes must be Times New Roman, font size 12, with single line spacing.
- iii) Footnotes shall not be explanatory in nature. Furthermore, speaking footnotes and endnotes are not allowed.
- iv) All footnotes shall follow the 20th Edition of the Bluebook citations.
- v) Each page must have a margin of 2 cm on every side of the text.
- vi) Each section of the memorial, excluding the Cover Page(s), must be numbered and justified. Page numbers till Summary of Arguments (inclusive) must be in small Roman Numerals (e.g., ii, iii, iv). Page numbers of the Written Arguments and Prayer must be in Hindu-Arabic Numerals (e.g., 2, 3, 4), beginning at 1.
- vii) Quotations of sources outside of the memorial of fifty words or more in any part of the memorial shall be block quoted and must be single-spaced.
- viii) Each memorial must not exceed 10,000 words (including footnotes).
- ix) Spacing between each footnote shall be single.
- x) All the sources included in the index of authorities, must be included in the footnotes

as well.

ARTICLE 12: WORD LIMIT

Each Memorial must not exceed 10.000 words (including footnotes). Violations of this article are sanctioned by five penalty points per 300 words. The 10.000 words include the following:

- i) Statement of facts,
- ii) Issues for Consideration,
- iii) Summary of Arguments,
- iv) Written Arguments,
- v) Prayer

ARTICLE 13: SCORING STRUCTURE MEMORIALS

The memorial shall be scored out of 100 marks. The following criteria shall be considered while grading the memorial: Knowledge of the facts and law; proper and articulate analysis; extent and use of research; evidence of original thought; persuasiveness; grammar and style. The Scoresheet shall be emailed to each team upon the conclusion of the Competition.

ARTICLE 14: PLAGIARISM

All memorials shall be subjected to plagiarism check. Plagiarism in Memorials beyond 10% shall be sanctioned with disqualification of the team. The above decision is final and irrevocable.

ARTICLE 15: LATE SUBMISSION

For every hour of delay in memorial submission, from the prescribed time of submission, that is, 11:59pm, 2 marks shall be deducted. Any memorandum submitted 6 hours, that is, 5:59am after the time prescribed above, the memorial shall not be accepted under any circumstances and the team will not be allowed to participate.

Note: The above deduction would apply even if the delay were not of a complete hour.
Hence, for example, a Memorandum submitted at 12:01 am would still be subject to a 02 marks deduction.

ARTICLE 16: UNFAIR MEANS

- a) The meeting link to the respective courtrooms shall not be shared by the team members with any party, not registered with the organizing committee as a member of the team. In such an event, if any team is found to have shared their courtroom link; they shall face immediate disqualification from the competition.
- b) The use of any electronic device other than the device being used for virtual oral rounds is strictly prohibited during the oral rounds. In the event, if a team is found in possession of the same, appropriate penalty ranging from deduction of round marks to disqualification from the competition shall be imposed at the discretion of the organizing committee, in consultation with the Bench/Judge of the respective courtrooms.
- c) No audio or videotaping of the oral rounds is permitted, either via the platform or through third party screen recording apps, for the duration of the competition. Further, the teams are not permitted to take images or screenshots of their courtroom screen during the duration of the hearing. The teams shall be provided photographs of their rounds by the organizing committee after the completion of the competition. Contravention of this rule shall entail disqualification of the team.
- d) If the Bench/Judge are of the opinion that the team is indulging in any unfair practice or inappropriate conduct, the organizing committee reserves the right to award appropriate penalty ranging from deduction of round marks to disqualification from the competition depending on the individual circumstance.

ARTICLE 17: ORAL ROUNDS

- a) The oral rounds shall be conducted on Cisco WebEx platform. All members in the team must be present for the entire duration of the Oral Rounds.

- b) The link to join the virtual courtroom shall be sent to the team thirty minutes prior to the commencement of the rounds. The team shall join the meeting ten minutes prior to the commencement of their scheduled rounds. Entry shall be granted only when the participants enter with provided email address provided in the registration form and with the individual code allotted to the participant.
- c) All members of the team scheduled to argue shall keep their cameras on for the duration of the rounds. The participants should ensure that appropriate distance is maintained between them and their device, so that appropriate surveillance can be made to ensure that no unfair means are being used.
- d) In case of any technical difficulties, the members of the team shall contact the Court Marshall allotted to their courtroom. The contact details of the Marshall shall be shared before the rounds to the team on their registered mobile numbers.
- e) If the team is unable to present themselves in accordance with these rules within 10 minutes of their scheduled rounds, it shall be considered that the team has forfeited the competition. The opposing team in such a round shall argue *ex-parte*.
- f) Speakers shall be evaluated on the following parameters:

CRITERION	MARKS
Knowledge of Law	20
Application of Law to Facts	20
Ingenuity and Ability to Answer	20
Style, Poise and Demeanour	20

Time Management	10
Organization	10

A. PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

- a) There shall be two preliminary rounds. Each team shall be allotted a total of thirty minutes per round, to present their submissions, rebuttals and surrebuttals. Extension of this time duration is subject to the sole discretion of the bench. No speaker is permitted to argue for less than ten minutes.
- b) In the preliminary rounds, the fixtures shall be made using the memorial scores of each team using Swiss Pairing. The highest scoring team in the memorial evaluation shall be placed as the first team in the fixtures and accordingly, ranking shall be done. Once the fixtures are made, the fixtures shall be made in the following manner:
- Preliminary Round 1: Seed Pairing - Team 1 vs. Team 40; Team 2 vs. Team 39; Team 3 vs. Team 38 ... [assuming that there are 40 teams]
- Preliminary Round 2: Slide Pairing - Team 1 vs. Team 21; Team 2 vs. 22; Team 3 vs. Team 23 ... [assuming that there are 40 teams]
- c) Each speaker shall be evaluated from a grand total of 100 marks for every round.
- d) Each judge in the Preliminary Rounds shall grant a grand total of 3 points to the teams arguing before them, wherein if the overall score of one team surpasses that of its opponent team by 10% of the higher aggregate oral score, the team scoring comparatively higher shall be awarded a total of 3 points and the opposing team shall not be awarded any points (3 – 0).
- e) In the situation wherein the difference is less than 10% of the aggregate oral score, then the team scoring higher shall be granted 2 points and the lower scoring team shall receive 1 point (2 – 1).

- f) In the event of a tie, each team shall be granted 1.5 points.
- g) In cases of a tie during the rounds, the researcher-test scores shall be considered for the purpose of tie-breakers.

B. QUARTER-FINALS

- a) The top eight teams from the Preliminary Rounds shall advance to the Quarter-Finals. The Quarter-Finals shall consist of only one round. Each team shall be allotted a side that they shall argue.
- b) Fixtures shall be made through the seed pairing method, as provided for hereinabove.
- c) The Quarter-Finals are knockout rounds. The teams that outscore their opponents in the Quarter-Finals shall proceed to the Semi-Finals. Such qualification shall be dependent solely on the cumulative scores of the team in the oral rounds in the Quarter-Finals.
- d) Each team shall be allotted a total of thirty-five minutes to present their submissions, rebuttals and surrebuttals. Extension of this time duration is subject to the sole discretion of the bench. No speaker is permitted to argue for less than ten minutes.

C. SEMI-FINALS

- a) The top four teams from the Quarter-Finals shall advance to the Semi-Finals. The Semi-Finals shall consist of only one round. Each team shall argue from the side that has been allotted to them.
- b) Fixtures shall be made through the seed pairing method, as provided for hereinabove.
- c) The Semi-Finals are knockout rounds. The teams that outscore their opponents in the Semi-Finals shall proceed to the Finals. Such qualification shall be dependent solely on the cumulative scores of the team in the oral rounds in the Semi-Finals.
- d) Each team shall be allotted a total of forty minutes to present their submissions, rebuttals and surrebuttals. Extension of this time duration is subject to the sole discretion of the bench. No speaker is permitted to argue for less than fifteen minutes.

D. FINALS

- a) The top two teams from the Semi-Finals shall advance to the Finals. The Finals shall consist of only one round. Each team shall argue from the side that has been allotted to them.
- b) Each team shall be allotted a total of fifty minutes to present their submissions, rebuttals and surrebuttals. Extension of this time duration is subject to the sole discretion of the bench. No speaker is permitted to argue for less than fifteen minutes.

ARTICLE 18: RESEARCHER'S TEST

- a) The Researchers' test shall be conducted on April 21, 2022. The test shall be for duration of thirty-five (35) minutes only. Further details regarding the mode of test and technical requirements shall be shared prior to the Competition.
- b) Only the Researcher is eligible to take the test. In case of absence of the allocated researcher the team shall be ineligible for the test. In case of two-member team, the speakers shall be ineligible for the test. The scores of Researcher's Tests shall not affect the Oral Rounds.

ARTICLE 19: RESULTS

- a) The Organizing Committee shall be solely responsible for the calculation of the total score achieved by a speaker and by the teams as well as for the publication of the scores.
- b) The results are binding and cannot be questioned except for any calculation or clerical mistake.

ARTICLE 20: NOTABLES

- a) Participating teams should carry with them required study or reference materials for their own use during the oral rounds of the competition.
- b) The organizing committee reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and wrongful conduct during the entire period of the Moot Court competition.
- c) The organizers reserve the right to make any necessary alterations in respect to the side to be taken by the competing teams, in case it becomes absolutely necessary due to withdrawal of any team/teams at the last minute, or if the competing teams had no opportunity to argue the other side of the problem. Teams shall be provided with a copy of the scoresheets for their

respective rounds only after the Competition.

ARTICLE 21: SCOUTING

- a) Scouting is strictly prohibited. Violation of this provision may result in disqualification.
- b) Teams shall not discuss the arguments/questions heard in these hearings until the rounds have ended. Such or any similar behaviour will be presumed as scouting and may be considered by the Organizing Committee as a reason for disqualification of the team.

ARTICLE 22: AWARDS AND CITATIONS

- a) Certificate of Participation - Every participating team will be issued a Certificate of Participation. Certificates for the participating team members will be prepared from the team list submitted. The certificates of the participants will show the names of the team members exactly as they have been submitted in the registration form and it is therefore incumbent on teams to ensure that names are spelled and presented correctly.
- b) Winning Team - The Winning Team shall be the team with the highest score in the Final Round. The Winning Team shall receive an award along with a cash prize of INR 40,000.
- c) Runners Up Team - The Runners Up team shall be the team with the second highest score in the Final Round. The team shall receive a cash prize of INR 25,000.
- d) Best Memorial Award - The winner of the Best Memorial Award shall be the team having received the highest average score for memorials of both the representing sides. The team shall receive a cash prize of INR 15,000.
- e) Best Speaker Award - The winner of this award shall be the person acting as the oralist with the highest average individual score in the preliminary rounds (each as petitioner and respondent). The winner shall receive a cash prize of INR 15,000.
- f) Best Researcher Award - The winner of this award would be decided on the basis of the Researcher's Test. The winner shall receive a cash prize of INR 15,000.

Moot Court Committee (Organizing)



MOOT COURT COMMITTEE (ORGANIZING)

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