

**3rd DAMODARAM SANJIVAYYA
NATIONAL MOOT COURT
COMPETITION - 2017**

24th - 26th FEBRUARY, 2017

DSNLU, VISAKHAPATNAM

RULES DOCUMENT



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1. Definitions

- 1.1 **Competition** means the 3rd Damodaram Sanjivayya National Moot Court Competition, 2017.
- 1.2 **Compendium** means the compilation of research work prepared by the participating teams for the reference of the Bench.
- 1.3 **DSNMC Committee** refers to the organising committee responsible for the competition.
- 1.4 **Informant** means the side representing the informing party.
- 1.5 **Itinerary Form** means a document to be filled by the participating university with their arrival and departure details to and from the place of accommodation of the competition.
- 1.6 **Member** mean the individual member of the participating teams.
- 1.7 **Official Website** refers to www.dsnlu.ac.in/moot.
- 1.8 **Opposite Party** means the side representing the defending party.
- 1.9 **Participating Teams** mean the teams which have completed their registration formalities.
- 1.10 **Rebuttals** refer to the challenges presented by the Claimant in response to the Respondent's submissions.
- 1.11 **Registered Teams** mean the teams which have been allotted a slot and have completed the payment formalities.
- 1.12 **Registration Form** means the document to be filled up by the participating university which has received an invite from the DSNMC Committee that contains information about the participant university team.
- 1.13 **Rules of the Competition** refers to the official rules as published on the official website.
- 1.14 **Schedule of the Competition** refers to the official schedule as published on the official website.
- 1.15 **Sur-Rebuttals** refer to the defence presented by the Respondent to the rebuttals as defined in Clause 1.9
- 1.16 **Team Code** refers to the code allocated to a participating university by DSNLU.
- 1.17 **Written Submission** means the memorials that are to be submitted consisting of the arguments of the participating teams.
- 1.18 **IST** means Indian Standard Time (+0530 GMT).
- 1.19 **INR** means Indian National Rupee(s).



2 The Competition

Damodaram Sanjivayya National Moot Court Competition, 2017 (DSNMC) is the 3rd edition of the annual moot court competition organised by the Moot and Advocacy Society at Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University, Visakhapatnam (DSNLU). The competition revolves around the theme of Competition Law for it is an upcoming field for legal expertise and that is what we aim to do in this competition. It is our objective that the participating students have a knowledgeable and learning experience as we attempt to contribute towards the development of this subject. Participation in DSNMC is on *invite only* basis with a team cap of 24 teams.

- 2.1 The Competition shall be held at Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University, Visakhapatnam.
- 2.2 The Competition shall commence from *24th February, 2017* and will continue till *26th February, 2017*.
- 2.3 The language of the competition shall be English only.



3 Eligibility Criteria

- 3.1 Participation in the competition shall be open to all students enrolled bona fide in a regular undergraduate programme, i.e., 5 Year BA LLB or 3 Year LLB, offered by a recognised Institution/ College/ University. Students pursuing postgraduate courses shall not be eligible for participation in the competition.
- 3.2 Only one team from any recognised Institute/ College/ University may register for the competition.
- 3.3 Participating teams shall comprise of a maximum of three students, wherein TWO students shall represent as SPEAKERS and ONE shall represent as a RESEARCHER.
- 3.4 Participating teams shall not comprise of students hailing from more than one Institute/College/University.
- 3.5 Any request for change in designation of the registered members shall not be entertained. However, in case of extenuating circumstances, permission may be granted on a written request from the Moot Court Committee/Association of the participating Institution/College/University.
- 3.6 Any request for an additional participating or accompanying member shall not be entertained under any circumstance.
- 3.7 Accommodation and any other facilities reserved for participants shall be provided only to the registered members of the team.



4 Schedule of the Competition

Sr. No.	Event	Date
1.	Commencement of Registration	26 th November, 2016
2.	Last Date for Expression of Interest	20 th December, 2016
3.	Last Date for Online Registration	10 th January, 2017
4.	Last Date for Wire Transfer	10 th January, 2017
5.	Last Date for Submission of Itinerary Form	10 th January, 2017
6.	Last Date for Seeking Clarifications	12 th January, 2017
7.	Issue of Clarifications	15 th January, 2017
8.	Last Date for Softcopy Submission of Memorial	6 th February, 2017
9.	Last Date for Hardcopy Submission of Memorial	11 th February, 2017
10.	Commencement of the Competition and Inaugural Ceremony	24 th February, 2017
11.	Preliminary Rounds and Quarter Finals	25 th February, 2017
12.	Semi Finals, Finals, Valedictory and Prize Distribution	26 th February, 2017



5 Registration Procedure

- 5.1 Participation in DSNMC is on *Invite Only* basis.
- 5.2 Registration fees for the competition is 3500 INR.
- 5.3 Registration process shall commence from 26th November, 2016 and shall continue till 10th January, 2017.
- 5.3.1 There is a team cap of 24 (*twenty-four*) teams in DSNMC, interested teams should express their interest to participate in DSNMC by sending a request for invitation to the DSNMC Committee via email, addressed to dsnmc17@dsnl.u.ac.in, with the subject stated as “*Request for Invite by Name of Institute*” latest by 20th December, 2016.
- 5.4 Teams which have been issued with an invitation should complete their registration formalities within *one week* from the date of invitation being issued. Failure to register their teams within such time would result in cancellation of slot allotted to the respective institutions.
- 5.5 Registration process comprises of online registration and payment, *only the teams which have been issued with a formal invite to DSNMC should proceed with the registration process*. The DSNMC Committee shall not be responsible for any payments made before the issue of a formal invite.
- 5.5.1 Online registration should be made by sending an email, addressed to dsnmc17@dsnl.u.ac.in with the subject stated as “*Registration for DSNMC 17 by Name of Institute*” and shall be considered complete only if an acknowledgement confirming registration has been received by the sender.
- 5.5.2 Payment should be made through Wire Transfer, the details of which are below:

Bank:	Andhra Bank
Branch:	Waltair
Address:	#4-38, Lawsons Bay Colony, Waltair, Andhra Pradesh - 530017
Branch Code:	000633
Account Holder:	The Registrar, Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University
Account Number:	063310100019856
IFSC Code:	ANDB 000 0633



- 5.5.3 Online Registration shall be considered only if a participating team submits the following within the stipulated time as provided under Rule 5.4:
- i. Registration Form
 - ii. Wire Payment Receipt
- 5.5.4 Registration shall be considered complete only when both the online registration and payment formalities have been duly fulfilled within the stipulated time.
- 5.5.5 Registered teams shall receive a confirmation of the same and shall be provided with a team code. All the teams should represent themselves only through their respective team codes in any further communications.
- 5.5.6 Registration fee is *non-refundable*.
- 5.5.7 Registered teams should send a softcopy of their travel details on or before *10th January, 2017*.
- 5.5.8 Registered teams are required to send the hardcopy of their submitted registration form, Itinerary Form and the payment receipt received from the bank along with the hardcopies of their written submission latest by *11th February, 2017*, as provided under Rule 8.3.1. Failure to do so shall result in immediate disqualification.



6 Accommodation and Travel

- 6.1 Participating teams shall be provided with accommodation during the days of the competition.
- 6.2 Any team arriving prior to 12:00 P.M. on *23rd February, 2017* or leaving later than 12:00 P.M. on *27th February, 2017* shall have to pay an extra amount of Rs. 2000 per day.
- 6.3 Travel to and fro from the accommodation to the venue shall be provided to the participants.



7 Structure of the Competition

7.1 The Competition shall be held over a period of three days commencing on *24th February, 2017 to 26th February, 2017.*

7.2 The competition shall consist of the following rounds:

- i. Preliminary Rounds
- ii. Quarter Finals
- iii. Semi Finals
- iv. Final Round



8 Memorial Submission

8.1 Each team is required to prepare written submissions representing both the sides, Informant and Opposite Party of the case.

8.2 Softcopy Submission

8.2.1 Participating teams are to send a softcopy of the written submission from both the sides in Adobe PDF format and Microsoft .doc/.docx format, as attachments in a single mail, latest by **11:59 P.M. IST on 6th February, 2017** to 'dsnmc17@dsnl.ac.in'. The subject of the mail should be '*Team Code-Memorial Submission for DSNMC 2017*'.

8.2.2 Once the DSNMC Committee has received the submission, it shall be considered final and no subsequent mails shall be entertained.

8.2.3 A delay in soft copy submissions beyond the stipulated time shall attract a penalty of 1 mark per day of delay. Submissions made after **11:59 P.M. IST on 8th February, 2016**, shall be subject to immediate disqualification.

8.2.4 It is the responsibility of the teams to ensure that the submitted softcopies:

- i. Are compatible with Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 8 and Microsoft Word 97-2003 or a higher version and do not contain any virus.
- ii. Are submitted as *four (4)* separate file attachments: *two (2)* as Written Submission for the Informant (one each in Adobe Acrobat Reader and Microsoft Word) and *two (2)* as Written Submission for the Opposite Party (one each in Adobe Acrobat Reader and Microsoft Word);
- iii. Does not in any manner compromise the anonymity of the team and only consist of the required information as provided under the Rules.



8.3 Hardcopy Submission

- 8.3.1 Participating teams should send their completed registration form, Itinerary Form, payment receipts and *eight (8)* hardcopies of memorial for each side (8 copies for Informant and 8 copies for Opposite Party) latest by *11th February, 2017*.
- 8.3.2 The memorials should be sent through *registered post only*, addressed to the Moot and Advocacy Society, DSNLU. The postal address for hardcopy submission shall be intimated to the registered teams at a later date.
- 8.3.3 No delay in hardcopy submission shall be entertained under any circumstance. Teams are advised to dispatch the hardcopies well within time taking into consideration any contingency that might occur.
- 8.3.4 Teams are to carry their own copies of memorials for their personal reference.
- 8.3.5 Teams should not use plastic in any manner for the purpose of memorial compilation. Use of spiral binding in memorials is strictly prohibited.
- 8.3.6 Written submissions should be made in the following format:
- i. Main body Specifications:
 - Printed on: A4 sized paper
 - Font: Times New Roman
 - Font Size: 12
 - Line spacing: 1.5
 - Alignment: Justified
 - ii. Footnote specifications:
 - Citation method: The Bluebook, a Uniform System of Citation, published by the Harvard Law Review (19th Edition)
 - Font: Times New Roman
 - Font size: 10
 - Line spacing: 1
 - Alignment Justified
 - iii. Speaking footnotes and endnotes should not be used anywhere in the written submissions.
 - iv. Margin: 1 inch margin on all sides.



- v. Print should be taken on **both sides and in black ink only**.

83.7 The memorial should consist of the following content:

- i. Cover Page
- ii. Table of Contents
- iii. Index of Authorities
- iv. Statement of Jurisdiction
- v. Statement of Facts
- vi. Statement of Issues
- vii. Summary of Arguments
- viii. Arguments Advanced
- ix. Prayer

83.8 Cover Page:

The cover page of the memorials should have the following details:

- i. Colour: **Blue** for Informant & **Red** for Opposite Party
- ii. Team Code in the upper right hand corner in accordance with Rule 8.2.4 (iii)
- iii. The year of the Competition
- iv. The name of the Case
- v. The Party on behalf of which the written submission has been prepared
- vi. Name of the forum resolving the dispute

83.9 There is an overall limit of 30 pages on the memorial, wherein the arguments advanced should be limited to a page limit of 18 pages.

83.10 Marks shall be deducted for inability to comply with the requirements mentioned under 8.3.1 through 8.3.9, in the following manner:

Sr. No.	Criteria	Marks deducted
1.	Failure in submission of softcopy beyond the stipulated time	1 mark for each day of delay till 11:59 P.M. IST on 8 th February, 2016
2.	Failure in ensuring compatibility of softcopy as per Rule 8.2.4	0.5 marks for each violation



3.	Failure in submission of requisite number of hardcopies	1 mark for each copy not submitted
4.	Failure in complying with formatting specifications	0.5 marks per violation for each page containing such violation
5.	Failure in complying with the specified citation method	0.25 marks per violation for each page containing such violation
6.	Failure in complying with content specifications	1 mark for each violation
7.	Failure to comply with the page limits for argument advance	1 mark for each exceeding page
8.	Failure to comply with the page limits for Memorial	2 marks for each exceeding page
9.	Failure to comply with Rule 8.3.6 (iii)	0.25 marks for each page containing such violation
10.	Mismatch in softcopy and hardcopy	1 mark for each page containing such violation

8.4 Evaluation criteria for Written Submissions:

Each memorial shall be evaluated on a scale of 100 based on the following criteria:

Sr. No.	Criteria for Evaluation	Maximum Marks
1.	Knowledge of Law and Facts	15
2.	Grammar and Style of Presentation	10
3.	Application of Law to Facts	20
4.	Analysis and Organisation	10
5.	Use of Authorities	15
6.	Proper Citation and Correct Format	10
7.	Originality in Presentation	10
8.	General Impression and Clarity of Thought	10



8.5 The decision of the DSNMC Committee shall be final in all matters relating to evaluation of memorials.



9 Oral Rounds

9.1 Preliminary Rounds

- 9.1.1 Two Preliminary Rounds shall be held, wherein each team shall be provided with an opportunity to argue from both sides.
- 9.1.2 Sides for the Preliminary Rounds shall be allocated on the basis of Draw of Lots by the DSNMC Committee on *16th February, 2017* and the opponent memorials shall be mailed to the respective teams latest by *17th February, 2017*.
- 9.1.3 Each team shall be allotted with a total of *30 Minutes* for Oral Arguments, inclusive of rebuttals and sur-rebuttals. Teams are at a discretion to divide the allotted time amongst the speakers, subject to a maximum of *20 minutes* for one speaker. An extension of time may be granted at the discretion of the Judges.
- 9.1.4 Each team shall communicate their division of time to the Court Officer, prior to the commencement of the Oral Arguments.
- 9.1.5 Teams may provide the Bench with a compendium, provided the same is permitted by the Bench.
- 9.1.6 A team shall be credited with a win, if the total marks secured in the respective sessions are higher than the marks secured by the opponent team. For the purpose of calculation of total marks, the marks awarded for the written submissions shall be added to the oral round score and each team will be evaluated for **300 Marks** in the preliminary round.
- 9.1.7 At the end of the preliminary rounds, the top **8 teams** will qualify for the **Quarter Finals**. The top 8 teams will be selected on the basis of number of rounds won, if the number of teams participating is less than twelve, there shall be no quarter final round.
- 9.1.8 In case of a tie, the total oral marks of the teams from both sessions will be considered. The team with the higher score will advance to the Quarter Finals.
- 9.1.9 If the situation of the tie still persists, then it would be resolved by the flip of a coin.



9.2 Quarter Finals:

- 9.2.1 The Quarter Finals shall be held after the completion of the preliminary rounds on the same day i.e. *25th February, 2017*.
- 9.2.2 The Quarter Finals shall be knock-out round on the basis of power seeding. A team will be credited with a win in the Quarter Finals if their total marks are higher than the marks secured by the opponent team.
- 9.2.3 The allotment of sides shall be done on the basis of Draw of Lots held immediately after the announcement of the results for Preliminary Rounds, followed by the exchange of memorials.
- 9.2.4 Each team shall be allotted with a total of *30 Minutes* for Oral Arguments, inclusive of rebuttals and sur-rebuttals, which should not exceed *two minutes*. Teams are at a discretion to divide the allotted time amongst the speakers, subject to a maximum of *20 minutes* for one speaker. An extension in time may be granted at the discretion of the Judges.
- 9.2.5 Each team shall communicate their division of time to the Court Officer, prior to the commencement of the Oral Arguments.
- 9.2.6 The marks obtained in the Oral Arguments *ONLY* shall be considered for computing the total marks secured by the teams.

9.3 Semi- Finals

- 9.3.1 The Semi- Final round shall be held on *26th February, 2017*.
- 9.3.2 The Semi- Final shall be a knock out round based on power seeding. A team shall be credited with a win if the total marks secured by them are higher than the marks secured by the opponent team.
- 9.3.3 The allotment of sides shall be done on the basis of Draw of Lots held immediately after the announcement of the results for the Quarter Final rounds, followed by the exchange of memorials.



9.3.4 Each team shall be allotted with a total of 40 *Minutes* for Oral Arguments, inclusive of rebuttals and sur-rebuttals. Teams are at a discretion to divide the allotted time amongst the speakers, subject to a maximum of 25 *minutes* for one speaker. An extension of time may be granted at the discretion of the Judges.

9.3.5 Each team shall communicate their division of time to the Court Officer, prior to the commencement of the Oral Arguments.

9.4 Final Round

9.4.1 The Final Round shall be held on 26th February, 2017.

9.4.2 The winning team from each of the two Semi-Final Rounds shall advance to the Final Round. The winner of the Final Round shall be declared Winner of the Competition.

9.4.3 The allotment of sides shall be done on the basis of Draw of Lots held immediately after the announcement of the results for the Semi-Final rounds, followed by the exchange of memorials.

9.4.4 Each team shall be allotted with a total of 45 *Minutes* for Oral Arguments, inclusive of rebuttals and sur-rebuttals. Teams are at a discretion to divide the allotted time amongst the speakers, subject to a maximum of 25 *minutes* for one speaker. An extension of time may be granted at the discretion of the Judges.

9.4.5 Each team shall communicate their division of time to the Court Officer, prior to the commencement of the Oral Arguments.

9.4.6 The marks obtained in the Oral Arguments *ONLY* shall be considered for computing the total marks secured by the teams.

9.4.7 A team shall be credited with a win, if its total marks are higher than the marks secured by the opponent team.



9.5 Evaluation Criteria for Oral Arguments

9.5.1 Each team shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

Sr. No.	Criteria for Evaluation	Maximum Marks
1.	Knowledge of Law and Facts	20
2.	Interpretation of Facts & its Application	20
3.	Use of Authorities	15
4.	Style, Poise and Court Mannerism	15
5.	Organisation of Arguments	15
6.	Time Management	15



10 Prizes

- 10.1 The winning team shall be awarded a trophy and a cash prize of 30,000 INR.
- 10.2 The Runner's Up Team shall be awarded a trophy and cash prize of 15,000.
- 10.3 The Best Memorial shall be awarded with a cash prize of 10,000 INR.
- 10.4 The Best Speaker in Preliminary Round shall be awarded with a cash prize of Rs. 8000.
- 10.5 The Best Speaker in the Final Round shall be awarded with a cash prize of INR 8000.
- 10.6 All the members of the participating teams shall be awarded Certificate of Participation.
- 10.7 All the Winners of the above-mentioned and teams qualifying till the Semi-Final Rounds shall be additionally awarded Certificates of Merit.



11 Scouting

- 11.1 Scouting by any team or an individual member of the team is strictly prohibited and shall be subject to immediate disqualification from the Competition.
- 11.2 A team shall be deemed to be scouting in case, the team or any member of the team is found:
- i. 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
 - ii. Reading a Memorial of another team which has not been obtained on account of exchange of memorials.
 - iii. Eavesdropping outside the accommodation of an opponent team.



12 Dress Code

- 12.1 **Gentlemen:** Black Trousers, White Shirt, Black Blazer, Black neck tie, and Black formal shoes.
- 12.2 **Ladies:** Black Trousers/Skirt, White Shirt, Black Blazer, Black neck tie and Black formal shoes.



13 Miscellaneous

- 13.1 The DSNMC Committee reserves the right to amend, modify, change or repeal any of the Competition Rules. Any changes made shall be communicated to the participating teams.
- 13.2 The Copyright of the Written Submissions of the Teams shall vest with DSNLU. DSNLU shall not be responsible for any liability accrued to any person or for any loss caused to any person because of the content of the written submission.
- 13.3 The decision of the DSNMC Committee in case of any dispute or in matters not expressly mentioned in the rules shall be final and binding.
- 13.4 In case of any complaints with regard to any violation of Competition Rules, a complaint should be registered with the Faculty Convenor, within half an hour of completion of the round in which the violation has allegedly occurred. No complaints shall be entertained after such a time frame.
- 13.5 No team shall approach the Bench with any complaints under any circumstances.
- 13.6 No team shall indulge into audio or video recording of the Competition proceedings in any round. DSNLU reserves the right to record and publish the competition proceedings both in audio and visual formats.



14 Contact Details

For clarifications and queries about the Competition Rules or for any other relevant information, please contact any of the below mentioned:

The Moot and Advocacy Society, DSNLU

Ph: +91 7671091333

Website: www.dsnlu.ac.in/moot

Email: dsnmc17@dsnlu.ac.in

Ms. Soma Battacharjya

Asst. Professor of Law

Faculty Convenor, DSNMC-17

Email: sbattacharjya@gmail.com

Ms. Rupali Dube

Student Convenor, DSNMC-17

Email: rupalidube@dsnlu.ac.in

Ms. Nidhi Singh

Convenor, Moot & Advocacy Society

Email: nidhisingh@dsnlu.ac.in