RULES & GUIDELINES
FOR THE
3rd STATE LEVEL
AMITY
MOOT COURT COMPETITION

October 30-31, 2018

ORGANISED BY:
Amity Law School

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Rules of the Competition

Rule 1:	Eligibility for Participation	1
Rule 2:	Language	1
Rule 3:	Clarifications to the Case	1
Rule 4:	Anonymity of Teams	1
Rule 5:	Dress Code	2
Rule 6:	Registration of teams	2
Rule 7:	Registration Fee	2
Rule 8:	Written Submission	3
Rule 9:	Oral Pleading	5
Rule 10:	Evaluation Criteria	8
Rule 11:	Structure of the Competition	8
Rule 12:	Awards	9
Rule 13:	Interpretation of Rules	10
Rule 14:	Miscellaneous	10

Rules of the Competition

Rule 1: Eligibility for Participation

1.1. The Competition is open to all studentsenrolled bona fide in Universities, Colleges and Institutions imparting Legal education on a regular basis that leads to an undergraduate Law course (5 years integrated Law course / 3 Year LL.B. Course) or Masters in Law (LL.M. / ML).

1.2. An Institution/College/University can enter the Competition with more than one team.

1.3. Each Team shall comprise of a minimum of two members and a maximum of three members. In a Team comprising of two members, both the members shall be designated as Speakers. In a Team comprising of three members, the third member of the team shall be designated as Researcher.

1.4. Any additional member or team coach of any team shall not formally be recognized and will not be entitled to a certificate from the University.

Rule 2: Language

2.1. The language of the Competition shall be English.

Rule 3: Clarifications to the Case

3.1. Teams may request for clarifications via e-mail to **alskmoot2018@gmail.com** latest by **October 20, 2018** (23:59 IST).

Rule 4: Anonymity of Teams

4.1. Teams shall not reveal their identity in any form, except by means of the Team Code allotted to them during the Competition.

4.2. The Written Submissions shall not reveal the identity of the team in any form and should not bear the logo, name etc. of the Institution/College/University represented.

4.3. Any material presented to the Panel should be devoid of any identification marks / seal of the Team. If any such mark / seal exists, it shall be rendered unfair means.

4.4. Any violation of Rule 4.2 and 4.3 shall attract disqualification as determined by the Moot Court Committee. The decision of the Moot Court Committee in this regard shall be final and not subject to challenge.

Rule 5: Dress Code

5.1. All Participants (Both Male and Female) shall wear Black Blazer, Black Trouser, White Shirt, Black Shoes with Black Socks and Black Tie.However, the female participants shall be allowed to wear Indian Formals.

Rule 6: Registration of teams

6.1. Each team shall complete the registration within the stipulated time.

6.2. Registration will be open until **October 5th, 2018** (23.59 IST). The registration form shall be available at https://goo.gl/forms/yaBcUYhA9xDc9Qrn1.

6.3. Once the Team is registered after completing the formalities, a Team Code shall be assigned to it before commencement of the competition.

6.4. A Team that has registered pursuant to Rules 1.3 may change its composition only after informing the Moot Court Committee of such change. Any changes with respect to the contact details shall be notified to the Moot Court Committee with immediate effect. This obligation to inform shall continue throughout the course of the Competition.

Rule 7: Registration Fee

7.1. The Registration Fee for a team of three (3) membersis INR 1,200/-. However, the registration fee for a team of two (2) members is INR 1,000/-.

7.2. The mode of payment shall be in cash.

Rule 8: Written Submission

8.1. Each Team is required to submit Memorial and Counter Memorial on behalf of both the Prosecution and the Defendantrespectively.

8.2. Each Team shall send one (1) soft copy of the written Submission for each side in PDF format only, via E-mail, on or before **October 25, 2018 (23:59 IST)** to **alskmoot2018@gmail.com**. Format for the same is mentioned in Rules 8.6 and 8.7.

8.3. Each Team shall carry three hard copies of the Memorials for each side [three for the Prosecution and three for the Defendant] on theday of the competition.

8.4. The hard copies must be the exact print out of the soft copy.

8.5. The Written Submission and Counter Memorial shall consist of the following mandatory heads:

a. Cover Page (Prosecution: BLUE and Defendant: RED);
b. Table of Contents;
c. List of Abbreviations;
d. Table of Authorities;
e. Statement of Jurisdiction;
f. Statement of Facts;
g. Statement of Issues;
h. Summary of Arguments;
i. Written Pleadings;
j. Prayer; and
k. Relevant Annexure may be attached to the Memorial.

8.6. The Written Submission (including the preliminary pages) and soft copy submission shall be typed on A4-sized paper, with the following formatting specifications:

a. Font type: Times New Roman
b. Font size: 12
c. Line spacing: 1.5
d. Margin: 1 inches on all sides
e. Body of text: Justified

8.7. For Footnotes, the formatting specifications are:

a. Font type: Times New Roman
b. Font size: 10
c. Single spacing
d. Paragraph spacing: 0
e. No additional space between 2 footnotes
f. Body of text: Justified

8.8. The Cover Page of each memorial must contain **only** the following information:

a. The alphabet "P" for Prosecution Memorial and "D" for Defendant Memorial in the upper right-hand corner. For example, the Prosecution Memorial would put the alphabet "P" in the upper right-hand corner of its Prosecution Memorial.
b. The name of the forum before which the proceedings are being conducted.
c. The Title of the Competition along with the year (3rd State Level AMITY Moot Court Competition, 2018)
d. The parties to the Case;
e. The title of the Memorial ("Memorial for Prosecution" and "Memorial for Defendant")

8.9. Table of Contents, List of Abbreviations, Table of Authorities, Section Headings and footnotes shall be typed Single-spaced.

8.10. Teams shall cite authorities in the Memorials using footnotes following **Indian Law Institute (ILI) pattern.**

8.11. Footnotes should be limited only to citations and must not contain extra information or arguments.

8.12. Plagiarism - If in the memorial checker's opinion, there is found to be an instance of plagiarism prevalent in a certain memorial, the team alleged shall be disqualified from participating in the competition. In instances where the participant is alleged to have plagiarized from the memorial of another participant's memorial, the latter shall be disqualified from participating in the competition in the absence of mitigating circumstances.

8.13. Plagiarism includes the following:

a. Direct duplication of the work of somebody else's work represented ‘inter alia’ in books, articles, internet sources, etc. without acknowledgement.

b. Substantial duplication of somebody else's work represented ‘inter alia’ in books, articles, internet sources, etc. without acknowledgement. This would include work where sentences have been substantially copied, that is, where at the least seven continuous words from the original work are present in the or where a segment of the impugned memorial has been para-phrased from the original work with minor changes, keeping intact the import of the original work.

c. Direct or substantial duplication of another moot memorial, irrespective of whether that memorial is a competing memorial or not, and irrespective of whether there is acknowledgement or not. Substantial duplication denotes situations wherein sentences have been substantially copied, that is, where at the least seven continuous words from the original work are present in the impugned memorial and / or where a segment of the impugned memorial has been paraphrased from the other memorial with minor changes, keeping intact the import of the latter.

8.14. Memorials should be preferably spiral bound. Comb / staple or any other form of binding will be considered improper. Kindly avoid plastic sheet separators.

8.15. Memorials shall not in any way identify the Team, its members, the law school, faculty, university or other participating institution except with the Team Code as assigned by the organizers. **The electronic version of memorials shall not have any electronicidentification of the Team.**

Rule 9: Oral Pleading

9.1. Any form of scouting during the completion is strictly prohibited and shall entail instant disqualification of the Team.

9.2. The proceedings and method of presentation of oral arguments shall be, to the extent possible, in alignment with the procedure adopted by the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India.

9.3. The order in which Teams shall submit their Oral Pleadings throughout the Competition shall be:

Speaker 1 for Prosecution, Speaker 2 for Defendant;

Speaker 1 for Prosecution, Speaker 2 for Defendant;

9.4. In case of any Team fails to appear in an oral round for 10 minutes after the scheduled start of the round, the round shall be conducted ex-parte and the scoring shall be done as if the defaulter team had been present and arguing.

9.5. If a Speaker speaks for more than the time reserved for him/her, the extra time used by such Speaker shall be deducted from the time allotted to the second Speaker of that team. If the second Speaker exceeds the time allotted to him/her, such time exceeded shall be deducted from the time reserved for Rebuttals.

9.6. Compendium can be submitted to the Court Officer prior to the oral rounds which will be submitted to the judges at their discretion. Any further material may be passed at the discretion of the Panel. Team members can pass research materials to the speaker in a discreet manner.

9.7. During the oral rounds, Speakers at the podium and participants seated at counsel table shall not operate, for any purpose, Mobile Phones, Laptop Computers, iPad, or any other computer or electronic devices which internet are enabled or has instant messaging capabilities.

9.8. **Preliminary Rounds:**

a. The time allotted for arguments will be **10 minutes** for the **prosecution** and **10 minutes** for the **defence**. There will be a warning bell at the end of **8 minutes**.

b. Rebuttal would be allowed. Each team will be allowed **5minutes** for rebuttals.

c. If a Speaker speaks for more than the time reserved for him/her, the extra time used by such Speaker shall be deducted from the time allotted to the second Speaker of that team. If the second Speaker exceeds the time allotted to him/her, such time exceeded shall be deducted from the time reserved for Rebuttals.

d. No Researcher of any Team will be permitted to speak but would be allowed to communicate with his/her team member in a discreet manner.

9.9. **Semi-Finals**:

a. The time allotted for arguments will be **10 minutes** for the **prosecution** and **10 minutes** for the **defence**. There will be a warning bell at the end of **8 minutes**.

b. Rebuttal would be allowed. Each team will be allowed **5minutes** for rebuttals.

c. If a Speaker speaks for more than the time reserved for him/her, the extra time used by such Speaker shall be deducted from the time allotted to the second Speaker of that team. If the second Speaker exceeds the time allotted to him/her, such time exceeded shall be deducted from the time reserved for Rebuttals.

d. Each team shall argue for either side, i.e., the prosecution or the defence and the same shall be decided by a draw of lots.

9.10. **Finals:**

a. For the Final Round, each Team would get 25 minutes each, subject to a maximum of 15 minutes per speaker.

b. Rebuttal would be allowed. Each team will be allowed **5 minutes** for rebuttals.

c. Each team shall argueforboth sides, i.e., the prosecution and the defence. The decision of the same shall be takenby a draw of lots.

d. If a Speaker speaks for more than the time reserved for him/her, the extra time used by such Speaker shall be deducted from the time allotted to the second Speaker of that team. If the second Speaker exceeds the time allotted to him/her, such time exceeded shall be deducted from the time reserved for Rebuttals.

e. Judges at their discretionmayextend oral argument time up to a maximum of 5 minutes.

Rule 10: Evaluation Criteria

10.1. Every Team will be marked on Scale of 100 and will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

S.No.	Marking Criteria	Maximum Marks Allocated
1.	Memorial	30
2.	Application of Law, Facts& Evidence	20
3.	Use of Authority / Precedents	10
4.	Reasoning of Application of Principles	10
5.	Advocacy Skills (Arguments, Framing of Ideas, Expressions and Articulation)	10
5.	Mode of Citation of source	10
6.	Court Craft and general impression	10
	TOTAL	**100**

Rule 11: Structure of the Competition

11.1. The Competition Rounds shall be held over a period of 2 days from **October 30th to 31st, 2018**. The Memorial Exchange will take place on **October 30th, 2018.**

11.2. The Competition shall consist of three (3) Rounds:

a. The Preliminary Rounds;

b. The Semi-Finals; and

c. The Final.

11.2.1. The Best Researcher shall be adjudged through a test, which shall be conducted on the first day of the competition.Only the Researcher, as indicated in the team registration form, shall take the researcher test. The speaker can only take the researcher test if the team comprises of two speakers only, which shall be communicated well in advance. The test shall be limited to general understanding of law and to the moot proposition.

11.3. **Preliminary Rounds:**

a. In the Preliminary rounds, each Team shall argue once as Prosecution and once as Defendant. The Team that argues for the Prosecution in the first Preliminary Round shall argue for the Defendant in the second Preliminary Round, and vice-versa.

b. At the end of both preliminary rounds, the top six teams will qualify for the semi-finalsbased on their wins in both Preliminary rounds.

c. The Teams are required to return the hard copy of their opponent's Written Submission to the Moot Officers soon after the Oral Rounds.

11.4. **Semi-Finals:**

a. The semi-finals will again be knockout rounds. The top six (6) teams shall qualify for the semi-final round. A Team will be credited with a win in the Semi-finals if their total marks, are higher than its opponent's Teams.

b. In case of a tie, the total marks of the Teams in the previous round(s) will be considered. The Team with the higher score will win.

c. If the situation of tie still persists, then it would be resolved through rebuttal.

d. The Teams are required to return the hard copy of their opponent's Written Submission to the Moot Officers soon after the Oral Rounds.

11.5. **Final:**

a. A total of two (2) teams shall qualify for the final round.

b. Winner of the Final will be decided based on Oral Arguments only.

c. The 2nd Runners-up shall be adjudged from the scores of the semi-finals round.

Rule 12: Awards

12.1. The Winning Team shall be awarded a Trophy and a gift hamper.

12.2. The First Runner-up Team shall be awarded a Trophy and a gift hamper.

12.3. The Second Runner-up Team shall be awarded a Trophy and a gift hamper.

12.4. The Best Researchershall be awarded a Trophy and a gift hamper.

12.5. The Best Speaker shall be awarded a Trophy and a gift hamper.

12.6. All Participants shall be handed over a Certificate of Appreciation.

Rule 13: Interpretation of Rules

The **MOOT COURT COMMITTEE** shall serve as final arbiter of implementation and interpretation of these Rules.

Rule 14: Miscellaneous

14.1. Teams who intend to opt for accommodation shall be provided to the participants and accompanying member(s) upon payment of requisite charges during the days of the Competition and who intend to arrive prior to or leave after the specified dates.

14.2. The Moot Court Committee reserves the right to modify any of the Competition Rules at any point of time. The Faculty Convener shall communicate any changes made in the Competition Rules to the Teams.

14.3. The Moot Court Committee reserves the right to take decisions on any matter not mentioned in the Competition Rules. Any such decision taken by the Faculty Convener shall be final and binding.

14.4. The Moot Court Committee reserves the right to interpret any of the Competition Rules. Such interpretation shall be final and binding.

Communication at the counsel table between Team Members may only be in writing to prevent disruption. Teams and team-affiliated spectators shall avoid all unnecessary noise, outbursts, or other inappropriate behaviour that distracts from the argument in progress.