**XXIV ALL INDIA MOOT**

**COURT COMPETITION, 2020**



 **SOCIETY OF MOOTERS**

**UNIVERSITY LAW COLLEGE,**

**BENGALURU**

**GENERAL MANUAL ON**

**RULES AND REGULATION**

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1. **GENERAL RULES:**

These are the rules for the 24th AIMCC. These are subject to change every year and any excuse for not following the rules by relying upon the previous year’s rules will be unacceptable.

1. **“Organizers”** means the Society of Mooters. University Law College, Bangalore University, Bengaluru.
2. **“Participating Team”** means the team which has registered itself for the competition as per the Rules given below.
3. “**Participating College/University/Institution”** shall be presumed to be the parent institution of the Participating Team.
4. “**Participants”** means the speakers and the researcher of the Participating Team.
5. **“Memorial”** means the written arguments submitted by each team, submitted according to these Rules.
6. “**Speaker”** refers to a participant who presents oral arguments in any given round.
7. “**Advanced Round”** means the Final Round, Semi-Final Rounds and Quarter-Final Rounds of the Competition.
8. **“Rebuttals**” refer to the arguments presented by the Petitioner in response to the Respondent’s submissions at the end of the main pleadings of all the speakers
9. **“Surrebuttal**” refer to the defense presented by the Respondent to the rebuttals
10. “**Team Code”** refers to the code allocated to a participating institution by the administrator after completion of the Registration.
11. All the rules are only inclusive and not exhaustive for the competition.
12. Rules should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation there from would attract disqualification or other penalties mentioned subsequently.
13. 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.
14. Imposition of penalties including disqualification rests solely with the Organizers in case of failure to comply with the rule(s) and deadline(s).
15. **INTERPRETATION:**

The organizers will have exclusive authority to interpret the Rules in the interest of fairness and equality. The interpretation placed upon these Rules by the organizers shall be conclusive and the decision of the organizers regarding the application of these Rules shall be final.

1. **DATE AND VENUE:**

The All India Moot Court Competition shall be held from **28th February, 2020 to 01st March 2020**at University Law College, Bangalore University, Bengaluru.

1. **DRESS CODE:**

Inside the Court Room, the participants shall be in formal wear only.

1. Male participants are required to wear a full suit comprising of black formal blazer and trousers, full sleeved shirts, black tie and formal footwear.
2. Female participants are required to wear Western or Indian formals with appropriate formal footwear.
3. **LANGUAGE:**

 The official language of the All India Moot Court Competition shall be English.

1. **ELIGIBILITY:**

Undergraduate students pursuing three or five year courses of LL.B. degree in the academic year 2019-2020 from any Law School/College/University recognized by the Bar Council of India are eligible to participate.

**7. TEAM COMPOSITION:**

a. One team, comprising of a minimum of two (2) and not more than three (3) members, per institution, shall be eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to completion of Registration formalities.

b. Each team shall be composed either of two (2) speakers only or of two speakers and one (1) researcher.

c. Each team should prepare one Memorial for each side, that is, the Petitioner and the Respondent(s).

d. Any additional member of any Participating Team shall not be entitled for hospitality or for any award. Such member or observer shall not be allowed to watch any of the rounds of the competition expect the rounds of the team they are a part of.

**8. IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATING TEAM:**

Each team will have a team code and each participant shall be given an individual code. Teams shall not disclose their identity or that of their institution or city, etc. except in registration form. Any such disclosure shall invite strict penalty which may include disqualification. The decision for the same shall be at the sole discretion of the Organizers.

**9. REGISTRATION:**

a. Teams must confirm their participation by filling a Google Form for Provisional Registration.

 b. The number of Participating Teams shall be restricted to 28. If the number of registered teams exceeds 28, the Participating Teams shall be shortlisted on the basis of the memorials submitted by them.

c. Every Participating Team will be allotted a team code which will be communicated in due time via email.

d. In case of any changes in the team composition, in terms of the members, the same must be officially conveyed to the Organizers at the time of the formal registration. Formal Registration of the Participating Team (s) shall take place on **28th February, 2020** at the venue of inauguration. However, the change in the team composition shall be restricted within the members of the team, that is, speaker registering as the researcher and researcher registering as a speaker.

e. The teams further have to fill in the registration formand send a soft copy of it to the mail ulcaimcc24moot@gmail.com.by **6th January 2020.**No forms received after the deadline shall be considered for registration.

 f. The duly filled in registration form has to be sent with the hard copy of the memos latest by **28th January 2020.**

**10. CLARIFICATIONS TO THE PROBLEM:**

All requests for clarifications to the problem must be emailed to ulcaimcc24moot@gmail.com , latest by **8thJanuary, 2020** (11:59 P.M. IST). Request for clarifications sent to any other email ID shall not be considered. The request for clarifications should be clear and related to the facts of the case and not related to the substantive arguments. Any one team can only submit 10 questions.

* All the clarifications will be posted on the official website of the college: www.ulcbangalore.com on**10th January 2020.**

**11. ANONYMITY OF TEAMS:**

Teams must not reveal the name of their institution, or country of origin, or names of the participants, anywhere in the memoranda or in the course of the oral arguments. Teams must also not make use of or display in any manner whatsoever any logo, pins, badges etc. in the memoranda or during the course of the oral arguments.

**12. MEMORANDA:**

12.1 The Memorials shall necessarily consist of the following and only the following sections:

1. Cover Page
2. Table of Contents
3. List of Abbreviations
4. Index of Authorities
5. Statement of Jurisdiction
6. Statement of Facts
7. Issues for Consideration
8. Summary of Arguments
9. Arguments Advanced
10. Prayer

**12.2**Each Memorial shall have the following and only the following on its **cover page**:

* The team code on the top right hand corner of the cover page
* The name and place of the forum
* Name of parties and their status
* Memorial Submitted to….
* Memorial Filed and appearing on Behalf of...

 A team code shall be assigned to each of the Participating Teams at the culmination of Registration formalities.

**12.3LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

All abbreviations used in the memorandum must be included in the Table of Abbreviations. This will include commonly used abbreviations, acronyms and marks such as “%”, “&”, etc. The List of Abbreviations must be in an **alphabetical order**.

**12.4 INDEX OF AUTHORITIES**

The Index of Authorities must list all the authorities cited in the memorandum. The Index must indicate the page number(s) and/or the paragraph number(s) of the memorandum in which the authority is cited. The use of “passim” in place of specific page and/or paragraph number(s) is not sufficient. The Index of Authorities must be in an **alphabetical order**.

**12.5 STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The Statement of Facts must contain a concise statement of the relevant facts of the dispute. As far as may be, the Statement of Facts should be limited to the stipulated facts and legitimate inferences which can be drawn from those facts.

**12.6ARGUMENTS ADVANCED**

The Arguments Advanced and Prayer shall not exceed **25 pages**.Any form of legal argument or legal interpretation of the facts of the Proposition must be confined to the “Arguments Advanced” section of the Memorial. The exceptions are:

o to the extent that the Prayer for Relief sets out the relief;

 o insofar as such argument may be summarized in the “Summary of Arguments”; and

o inso far as the argument may be anticipated in the “Issues for Consideration”

**12.7FONT AND SPACING**

1. The text font for the Arguments Advanced and Prayer, including that of all headings and sub-headings must be Times New Roman, size 12 with 1.5-line spacing.
2. The text font for the footnotes must be Times New Roman, size 10 with 1.0-line spacing. There must be no additional space between two footnotes.
3. Character spacing should not be condensed in any manner.
4. Alignment (Body & Footnotes):Justified Margin: 1 inch on all 4 sides.
5. Each page of the Memorial must have a margin of one inch on all sides. No text must be placed within this margin of the page, other than the page number.

**12.8 FOOTNOTES AND CITATIONS**

It is not permitted to provide any information in the footnotes that is not related to the identification of an authority or source.

* Footnotes may not include additional legal arguments.
* Citation Format - OSCALA 4th Edition, 2006
* It is hereby clarified that teams are not allowed to cite authorities in-line.
* Endnotes are not permitted.

**13.SUBMISSION OF SOFT COPIES**

a. All teams shall send a soft copy of memoranda for each side in both **Microsoft Word and PDF** formats, via electronic mail, on or before **24th January**, **2020** (11:59 P.M IST) to ulcaimcc24moot@gmail.comonly.

 b. Any submission made after **24th January 2020** (11:59 P.M. IST) will be considered late submission and penalized.Both Memorials in word and pdf format**(4 files)** must be attached in a single e-mail only with the subject of the e-mail being “Memorials for Team Code”. However, no Memorials received after **26th January 2020** shall be considered.

 c. Each memorandum should be contained in a single file with the name of the file being the allocated team code followed by the first letter of the party whose arguments are presented in that memorandum, i.e., an R for Respondent and P for Petitioner. For instance, the Petitioner memorandum of team code 2 should be named “2P”.

**14. SUBMISSION OF HARD COPIES**

a. Teams are required to submit **three**hard copies of the Petitioner and Respondent memoranda eachwhen they arrive for the competition on **28th February 2020**.The memoranda must be printed **double-side (back to back)** on A4 size sheets, with equal margin of at least one inch on all sides.

b. The Cover Page must be printed on blue paper for each Petitioner memorandum, and red paper for each Respondent memorandum. The hard copies should be stitched or stapled.Nouse of plastic will be allowed.

c. The hard copies must be exactly similar to the soft copy. Any changes in the hard copy vis-à-vis the soft copy will entail disqualification. The decision of the organizers will be final in this regard.

d. The hard copies of the Memorials must bear a cover page in conformity with the following scheme:

**Petitioner: Blue**

**Respondent: Red**

**15.EXCHANGE OF MEMORANDUM**:

a. The exchange of memorandums will take place on the day of Orientation i.e. **28thFebruary 2020**, post the inauguration ceremony.

 b. Teams are prohibited from making any marks on the memorandums thus exchanged. Teams are also prohibited from taking photocopies of such memorandums.

c. The opponent’s memorandum shall be returned to the Court Officers after the completion of each Round.

**16. JUDGING OF MEMORANDA**

Every memorandum will be marked on a maximum of one hundred (100) marks. A team’s total memorandum score shall be the sum of marks awarded for the Applicant memorandum and marks awarded for the Respondent memorandum.

1. Recognition of issues: complete and correct recognition and weighing of issues…...10
2. Correct primary and alternative submissions……………………………………….10
3. Identification of legal principles…………………………………………………….20
4. Quality and extent of research: Use of relevant case law, academic writings etc……20
5. Appreciation and application of facts……………………………………………….10
6. Logical structure and clarity of thought……………………………………………...10
7. Ingenuity…………………………………………………………………………….10
8. Overall Impression-: Formatting, citations etc……………………………………… 10

**17. MEMORANDUM PENALTIES (OBJECTIVE DEDUCTIONS)**

Non-compliance with rules concerning formatting and submission of memoranda provided in these Rules will result in a deduction from the allocated marks. Irrespective of the actual total penalties incurred, no more than 15 marks can be deducted for each memorandum for non-compliance with procedural requirements. Penalties for late submission of memoranda shall be applicable separately.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sl.no  | Violation  | Penalty |
| 1. | Breach of Anonymity | Disqualification  |
| 2. | Any violation of rules under 12.1 | 1 mark for each violation |
| 3.  | Any violation of rules under 12.3 | 1 mark |
| 4. | Any violation of rules under 12.4 | 1 mark |
| 5. | Exceeding the page limit | 1 mark |
| 6. | Any violation of rules under 12.7 | 1 mark for each violation |
| 7. | Any violation of rules under 12.8 | 1 mark for each violation |
| 8. | Any violation of rules under 14.a,b,d | 1 mark |
| 9. | Variation in the hard copy of the memorandum | 2 marks  |
| 10. | Late submission | 2 marks per day per memo  |

**18. ORAL ROUNDS:**

There shall be two Preliminary Rounds, a quarter-final round, a semi-final round and a final round. Lots picked by the teams will decide the side of the arguments in Preliminary rounds.

1. **Preliminary Rounds:**
2. Each team will be given a total of **30 minutes** to present their case. This time includes questioning by the judges. The division of time is left to the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of **18 minutes** per speaker. Division of time should be informed to the Court Officers/Clerks at the beginning of the round. The oral arguments need to be confined to the issues presented in the memorials. Passing of notes to the speakers by the researcher during the rounds is allowed. A maximum of **2 minutes** may be reserved for rebuttal and**one minute**for the surrebuttal. Judges may at their discretion, extend the time allotted for the oral arguments up to a maximum of **10 minutes**.
3. In the Preliminary Rounds, each Team shall argue once as the Petitioner and once as a Respondent. All teams are expected to carry with themselves any case laws or authorities which they intend to refer to.There shall be two preliminary rounds wherein every Participating Team shall be required to argue once from each side.Preliminary round(s) will be held on Saturday,**28th February 2020**. Top eight teams will qualify for the Quarter- Finals at the end of the Preliminary Rounds. **The top eight teamsshall be decided on the basis of the aggregate of oral score and the memorial score.**
4. Scores in the researchers’ test will be used in order to resolve a tie.
5. The Quarter-Finals, Semi Finals and the Finals will be held on Sunday, **01st March 2020**
6. **The Quarter Final Rounds:**

The highest ranked eight (8) teams from the Preliminary Rounds shall qualify for the Quarter Final Rounds. The first 8 teams will be selected on the basis of their oral scores in the Preliminary Rounds plus the scores in the memorials.

The fixtures for the Quarter Final Rounds shall be determined on the basis of draw of lots.

For the Quarter Final Rounds, each team shall argue only once against the team determined by and for the side decided by a draw of lots. The time for presenting the arguments shall be the same as the preliminary rounds i.e**. 30 minutes.**

Four (4) teams shall qualify for the Semi Final Rounds on a knock-out basis, i.e., the winner of each Quarter Final Round shall qualify to the Semi Final Rounds.

The winner will be decided by the oral arguments. Only in case of a tie, the memorial score will be considered.

* 1. **Semi Final Rounds:**

The four (4) teams that proceed to the Semi Final Rounds, as determined by the Rules above, shall each argue only once for the side allotted by a draw of lots. The fixtures for the Semi Final Rounds shall be determined on the basis of draw of lots.

Two (2) teams shall qualify for the Final Round on a knock-out basis, i.e., the winner of each Semi Final Round shall qualify to the Final Round. The time limit stipulated for each team for the presentation of arguments shall be **35 minutes** including the time for rebuttal or surrebuttal. The judges may extend the time in their discretion up to a maximum of **10 minutes.**

The winner will be determined by the oral arguments and only in case of a tie, memorial scores will be considered.

* 1. **Final Round:**

The two (2) teams that proceed to the Final Round, as determined by the Rules above, shall each argue only once for the side allotted by a draw of lots. The team which wins in the Final Round shall be declared as the “Winning Team”. The other team shall be declared as the “Runners up Team”.

In the Finals, each team will get a total of **45 minutes** to present their case. The division of time is left to the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of **25 minutes** per speaker. Division of time should be informed to the Court Officers/ Clerks before the beginning of the rounds. The oral arguments must be confined to the issues presented in the memorials. The side the Participating Teams will be arguing for will be decided by a draw of lots, with the Participating Teams picking the lots.

**19.EVALUATION OF THE ORAL SUBMISSIONS:**

* + 1. Speaker marks, for the purposes of other Rounds of the Competition, shall be utilized as determined elsewhere in these Rules.
		2. The evaluation would be done on the following criteria:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1.  | Marshaling of facts | 15 marks  |
| 2. | Application of legal principles | 15 marks |
| 3. | Logical Structure and Reasoning | 10 marks  |
| 4. | Ingenuity and originality | 10 marks |
| 5. | Articulation of issues | 10 marks |
| 6. | Presentation of facts and communication abilities | 10 marks |
| 7. | Use of Authorities and Precedents | 10 marks |
| 8. | Court Etiquettes | 10 marks |
| 9. | Response to Questions | 10 marks |

**20. 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.

**21. RESEARCHER’S TEST:**

A written test will be conducted to decide the “Best Researcher” on **28thFebruary, 2020**. Questions for such researcher’s test will be framed based upon the factual circumstances of the Moot Proposition and the principles applicable thereto. This researcher’s test is open only for the designated researchers of the Participating Teams

In the event where there are only two (2) members in a team, either one of them may appear for the **Researchers test**. The test shall be for duration of 45 minutes.

In case of a tie, the score of the memorials will be considered to decide the “Best Researcher”.

**22. AWARDS:**

* 1. *Winning Team*: The winning team of the final rounds which will be held on**1st March, 2020**.
	2. *Runners-up Team*: The team which contested against the winning team in the final rounds.
	3. *Best Memorial*: The Memorials, which secure the highest marks based upon the cumulativemarks of both the Memorials submitted, shall be adjudged as the “Best Memorial”.
	4. *Best Researcher*: The researcher securing highest marks in the researcher’s test will beadjudged as the “Best Researcher”.
	5. *Best Student Advocate*: The speaker securing the highest marks based upon the cumulativemarks of the Preliminary Rounds of the Competition will be adjudged as the „Best Student Advocate‟.

**23**.**ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD:**

Accommodation and food shall be provided by the Organizers from **12 PM of 28thFebruary,2020, till 10 AM of 2nd March 2020**.Teams wishing to stay back after, 2nd March 2020 shall have to make arrangements for accommodation, food and transport on their own. However, the Organizers shall assist the Participating Team to arrange accommodation for any additional days upon request by the Participating Teams. Accommodation shall be provided only for out station teams and not for local teams.

**24. TRANSPORTATION:**

* 1. The participating teams will be received by the Organizers at their respective places of arrival, subject to the completion of the Registration formalities.
	2. The travel plan of the participating team has to be intimated to the Organizers when the Organizers request for the same. The Organizers will fully assist the participating teams in obtaining transport to the place of accommodation provided by the Organizers. Any subsequent changes made to travel arrangements must be intimated to the Organizers forthwith.
	3. The Organizers shall take responsibility to transport the participating teams from the place of accommodation to the venue of the competition.

**25. 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.

**26. DISCLAIMER:**

The All India Moot Court Competition is based on a purely fictitious compromise/problem, whereby the characters & the incidents or the course of events in the compromis are completely imaginary and the same has no relation to any person living or dead or any past/present real life incident. The All India 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 ability

**27. SCOUTING:**

1. Scouting by the speakers, researcher or any other person affiliated with a team will lead to the immediate disqualification of such team.
2. Scouting shall be deemed to have happened if any person affiliated with a team is found:
3. 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
4. Reading a Memorial of a team except where: o It is of the team to which he/she is affiliated; or
5. 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.

**KEY DATES OF THE COMPETITION**

The following key dates will be adhered to: -

Last Date for Registration: **6th January**, **2020**

Last Date for Sending Clarifications: **8th January 2020**

Release of Clarifications: **10th January 2020**

Last Date for Submission of soft copy of the Memoranda: **24th January 2020**

Last Date for Submission of three hard copy of the Memoranda with the duly filled registration form: **28th January 2020**

Announcement of Short listed teams – **1stFebruary 2020**

Inauguration of AIMCC, Draw of lots: **28thFebruary 2020**

Preliminary Round of the moot court competition **– 29thFebruary 2020**

Quarter Finals,Semi-Finals, Final Round and Valedictory Function of the competition **- 1st March 2020**

Unless specified otherwise, the dates mentioned shall refer to 11:59 PM (Indian Standard Time/IST) on that date. For e.g., the last date for registering is Jan 6th, 2020, which shall be interpreted as Jan 6th, 2020, 11:59 PM (IST).

Note: - Any change in the above key dates made by the Organizers shall be notified to the teams.