

RULE BOOK

Organized By
SNLC Moot Court Society

# 1<sup>st</sup> ALL INDIA VIRTUAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2020

## **RULES & REGULATIONS**

## **ARTICLE 1: TEAM COMPOSITION AND ELIGIBILITY**

- Each team shall comprise of two speakers and one researcher.
- Students from all law colleges/institutions/universities across the country recognized by the Bar Council of India are eligible to take part in the competition.
- All participants must be currently pursuing their bachelor's degree in Law, i.e., either 3 year or 5-year courses.
- Only one team per college shall be allowed to participate.
- The official language of the competition shall be English.

## **ARTICLE 2: REGISTRATION PROCEDURE**

- Registration shall be based on first come first serve basis.
- Registration procedure shall consist of a provisional registration and a final registration. Provisional registration shall be restricted to a maximum number of 20 teams
- Each team shall provisionally register by filling the Google Form I before 20/11/2020, 11:59 pm.
- Provisional registration after the given deadline shall not be accepted, under any circumstances.
- On completion of provisional registration, organizers shall intimate acknowledgment to the participating teams.
- Teams successfully registered provisionally shall be allotted unique team codes which shall be used to identify the teams during the course of competition.
- All teams advancing to the preliminary round must comply with final registration by filling Google Form II and attaching screenshot/scanned copy of the receipt generated on payment of the registration fee & the same be submitted before 01/12/2020, 11:59pm.
- The registration fee is to be paid only by the teams who are selected for the Preliminary Rounds.
- Registration procedure shall be deemed to be confirmed only on completion of all the formalities as specified above. Failure to do so shall be treated as withdrawal from the competition.
- The registration fee shall be Rs.1000/- per team. Mode of payment Google Pay/Demand Draft/NEFT

❖ Google Pay :- Rejeesh CR, +919995771337

❖ Demand Draft :- Name - Sree Narayana Law College,

Poothotta Payable at Ernakulam

❖ NEFT :- Account Name: SREE NARAYANA LAW COLLEGE

POOTHOTTA

Account Number: 00000032715193367

Branch: Kanjiramattom
IFS Code: SBIN0011918

- Request for refund of registration fee shall not be entertained.
- For any queries regarding the competition and moot proposition: snlcvmccqueries@gmail.com

## **ARTICLE 3: COMPETITION FORMAT**

The online moot court competition shall comprise of three rounds:-

#### **PRELIMINARY ROUND**

- From the 20 teams complying with registration, 16 teams shall be shortlisted to the Preliminary Rounds on the basis of their memorial marks (Refer ARTICLE6).
- The teams shortlisted for the preliminary rounds shall send 4 video recordings of oracle arguments under file names:-
  - Petitioner/Applicant Speaker 1
  - Petitioner/Applicant Speaker.2
  - Respondent Speaker1
  - Respondent Speaker2
- The maximum duration permitted for each video recording shall be 15 minutes each.
- Teams are expected to send the video recordings of oral arguments via a single E-mail comprising of 4 separate file attachments or Google Drive links <a href="mailto:snlcvmcc2020@gmail.com">snlcvmcc2020@gmail.com</a>
- The evaluation of preliminary rounds shall be purely based on the merit of video recordings of the oral arguments and written memorials submitted (Refer ARTICLE5 & ARTICLE6).
- Teams shall not be confronted with questions by the judges in the preliminary round.

### **SEMI-FINAL ROUND**

- Four teams shall advance to the semi-final rounds based on the selection criteria specified for the preliminary round.
- Teams arguing on the petitioners and respondent's sides will be decided by draw of lots on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and the semi-final round shall take place on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Individual WhatsApp groups shall be created for each team to ensure rapport with the organizers. The entire team (including the researcher) shall be present at the virtual oral presentations. Teams advancing to the semi-finals shall present their case before judges.
- The platform for conducting semi-final rounds shall be Google Meet.
- Each team shall be given 15 minutes for oral presentations.
- Teams are at liberty to divide the allotted time between Speaker1, Speaker2. An extra 5 minutes will be given for Rebuttal/Sur rebuttal. The same must be intimated prior to the rounds.
- The time allotted to the teams shall be overseen by a Court Officer, who shall also pass information to the teams regarding the time left for presentation.
- Additional time shall be granted at the discretion of the judges. Further information regarding this round shall be intimated through the above-mentioned WhatsApp groups.
- In case teams intend to make reference to Compendiums submitted, teams are expected to intimate the same to the concerned court officers prior to the commencement of the session. The researcher during the course of presentation may use the "Present Screen" option available in Google Meet platform to refer to the concerned page of the compendium.
- Evaluation of teams shall be purely based on oral arguments alone (Refer ARTICLE4).
- In case of tie of marks memorial marks from the preliminary round shall be taken into consideration and a final decision shall be made.

## **FINAL ROUND**

- Two teams shall advance to the final rounds based on the selection criteria specified for the semi-final round.
- Teams arguing on the petitioners and respondent's sides will be decided by draw of lots on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and the final round shall take place on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Teams advancing to the finals shall present their case before judges. Platform for conducting final rounds shall be Google Meet.
- Each team shall be given 20 minutes for oral presentations.
- Teams are at liberty to divide the allotted time between Speaker1, Speaker2. An extra 5 minutes will be given for Rebuttal/Sur-rebuttal. The same must be intimated prior to the rounds.
- The time allotted to the teams shall be overseen by a Court Officer, who shall also pass information to the teams regarding the time left for presentation.
- Additional time shall be granted at the discretion of the judges.
- Evaluation of teams shall be purely based on oral arguments (Refer ARTICLE4).

## **MEMORANDUM FORMAT**

- Contents:-
  - Cover
  - ❖ Page (mentioning the team code on the top right corner)
  - Table of Contents
  - Table of Abbreviations
  - Index of Authorities
  - Statement of Jurisdiction
  - Summary of Facts
  - Issues Raised
  - Summary of Arguments (not exceeding 2 pages)
  - Arguments Advanced (not exceeding 25 pages)
  - Prayer (not exceeding 1 page)

- Formatting particulars for the memorial shall be as follows:-
  - Font Type Times New Roman
  - Font Size 12
  - Font Color Black
  - Line Spacing 1.5
  - Alignment Justified
  - Footnotes Times New Roman
  - Font size for Footnotes 10
  - Line Spacing for Footnotes 1
  - The entire memorial shall follow 20th Edition Bluebook Citation model.
- ❖ In case the teams are intending to submit compendiums, the same must be sent to <a href="mailto:snlcvmcc2020@gmail.com">snlcvmcc2020@gmail.com</a> along with the memorials (Both in PDF format).
- The cover page shall include only include :-
  - Team Code
  - Forum preferred
  - Case name
  - Memorandum on behalf of Petitioner/Applicant or Respondent
  - Blue color cover page for the memorandum on behalf of the Petitioner and Red color for the memorandum on behalf of the Respondent

# ARTICLE 4: ASSESSMENT OF ORAL ARGUMENTS (SEMI-FINALS & FINAL)

Sl. No.	ELEMENTS OF ASSESSMENT	MARKS ALLOTTED
1	KNOWLEDGE OF LAW & FACTS	20
2	ARGUMENT SKILLS	20
3	CLARITY OF THOUGHT & INTERPRETATION OF LAW	20
4	PROPER & INVENTIVE RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS	20
5	PRESENTATION STYLE, COURT MANNERS & TIME MANAGEMENT	20
	100	

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# ARTICLE 5: ASSESSMENT OF ORAL ARGUMENTS (VIDEO RECORDINGS – PRELIMINARY ROUND)

Sl. No.	ELEMENTS OF ASSESSMENT	MARKS ALLOTTED
1	KNOWLEDGE OF LAW & FACTS	25
2	ARGUMENT SKILLS	25
3	CLARITY OF THOUGHT & INTERPRETATION OF LAW	25
4	PRESENTATION STYLE	25
	100	

## ARTICLE 6: ASSESSMENT OF MEMORIALS

Sl. No.	ELEMENTS OF ASSESSMENT	MARKS ALLOTTED
1	KNOWLEDGE OF LAW & FACTS	20
2	IDENTIFICAION & FRAMING OF ISSUES	15
3	APPLICATION OF LEGAL PRINICIPLES, AUTHORITIES & PRECEDENCE	20
4	CLARITY & STRUCTURAL ORGANIZATION OF POINTS	20
5	ADHERENCE TO CITATION MODELS	15
6	GRAMMAR & DRAFTING STYLE	10
	100	

## **ARTICLE 7: TIMELINE - LIST OF DATES**

RELEASE OF MOOT PROPOSITION	01/11/2020
LAST DATE FOR ONLINE PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION	20/11/2020
DATE OF INTIMATION FOR THE TEAMS SUCCESSFULLY REGISTERED	21/11/2020
LAST DATE FOR SEEKING CLARIFICATIONS BASED ON THE MOOT PROPOSITION	23/11/2020
LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF MEMORIALS	25/11/2020
LAST DATE FOR FINAL REGISTRATION	01/12/2020
LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF VIDEO RECORDINGS OF ORAL ARGUMENTS	05/12/2020
SEMI FINAL ROUNDS	19/12/2020
FINAL ROUND	20/12/2020

## ARTICLE 8: UNFAIR MEANS, INTIMIDATION & MISCONDUCT

- Cheating or using of unfair means of any kind is strictly prohibited and if indulged in, shall result in disqualification of the team.
- Intimidation in any form is prohibited and if indulged in, shall result in disqualification of the team.
- Misconduct, whether behavioral or otherwise, is not allowed and if indulged in, shall result in disqualification of the team.

## **ARTICLE 9: COURT MANNERS (VIRTUAL ORAL ARGUMENTS)**

- Any form of communication between the Bar Table and any person other than those on the Bench is prohibited and if indulged in, will result in a penalty point.
- It shall be the discretion of the organizing committee to decide on any violation of the Rules and Regulations during the round and whether that violation entails a penalty point. If a participating team, member of the Bench or court officer wishes to claim a violation inform the organizing committee of the claim made and shall not consider it as a part of their deliberations unless directed to do so by the organizing committee.

## **ARTICLE 10: SUBMISSION & FORMATTING OF MEMORIALS**

• Delay in the submission of the memorials, use of incorrect font or font size, use of font of inconsistent size, or improper line spacing, failure to include all parts of the memorial, or inclusion of an unremunerated part, substantive legal argument outside of approved sections of memorial, improperly formatted index of authorities, excessive length, failure to include necessary information on the memorial cover, inclusion of any identifying mark, character or text in the memorial shall result in imposition of penalties.

## **ARTICLE 11: DRESS CODE**

• The dress code for all participants throughout the competition shall be white shirt, black blazer (optional), and black trousers, black tie (optional) for men and white shirt/kurta, black blazer (optional), black trousers for women. Strict adherence to the dress code is required.

# ARTICLE 12: CONNECTIVITY ISSUES

- Teams advancing to semifinal rounds and final round are advised to use a stable internet connection for ensuring smooth presentations.
- The host institution shall not be held responsible for any connectivity or network issues that might arise during the course of oral arguments.
- In case of unprecedented connectivity issues such as abrupt internet failure, taking the best interests of the teams into consideration 5 minutes shall be allotted for rejoining the interrupted session. Such contingencies must be intimated to the organizers through WhatsApp immediately by the researcher of the concerned team.
- In case the contingency is not mitigated, teams shall be awarded marks based on the arguments submitted till the point connections were lost. Owing to such contingency, one team completes oral arguments and the opposite team cannot begin their oral arguments, the team that completed oral arguments shall advance to the next round by default.

## **ARTICLE 13: PENALTY TABLE**

Sl.		
No.	PENALTY	MARK DEDUCTION
1	LATE SUBMISSION OF MEMORIAL (REFER ARTICLE 10)	5 POINTS (THEREAFTER 1 POINT FOR EVERY ADDITIONAL DAY)
2	NON-COMPLIANCE WITH FORMATTING OF MEMORIALS (REFER ARTICLE 10)	5 POINTS
3	NON-COMPLIANCE WITH COURT MANNERS (REFER ARTICLE 9)	5 POINTS
4	NON-COMPLIANCE WITH DRESS CODE (REFER ARTICLE 11)	5 POINTS
5	DISCLOSURE OF TEAM IDENTITY DURING SESSIONS	5 POINTS

# **ARTICLE 14: PRIZES**

• Following prizes shall be awarded as part of the competition:

Winners : Rs: 15,000/-Runner Ups : Rs: 10,000/-

Best Advocate : Rs: 5000/-Best Memorial : Rs: 5000/-

Participation Certificates for all participants

# For Queries:

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