



*MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES*

# **INDORE INSTITUTE OF LAW**

(Affiliated to D.A.V.V. & Bar Council of India, New Delhi)

## **THE NATIONAL LAW FEST**

### **“LEX BONANZA-2016”**

**STRIVING FOR LEGAL EXCELLENCE**

#### **CHAPTER V**

### **MOOT COURT COMPETITION**

#### **Contents**

<b>RULES &amp; REGULATIONS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
1. Competition committee and forum .....	2
2. Interpretation clause & Eligibility.....	2
3. Team composition.....	4
4. Rounds .....	4
4.1. Preliminary round.....	4
4.2. Semi-Final .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.3. Final.....	6
4.4. Ex-parte proceeding .....	6
5. Memorials .....	6
5.1. Service of memorial .....	8
5.2. Anonymity .....	8
6. Scoring .....	8
6.1. Scoring of oral arguments.....	8
6.2. Scoring of Memorial .....	9
6.3. Researchers test.....	9
7. Awards .....	10
8. Dress code .....	10
9. Registration & fee.....	10



## MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES

10.	Important dates.....	11
11.	Miscellaneous .....	11

### RULES & REGULATIONS

These rules shall be the official rules for Moot Court Competition to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2016 at Indore Institute of Law. All the participating teams must strictly adhere to these rules in every circumstance.

#### 1. Competition committee and forum

- Moot Court Society will be the Competition committee for the purpose of this competition.
- In case of any dispute or difficulty arising out of or during the course of the competition, the Competition Committee shall have the sole and absolute authority to remove such difficulty and resolve the dispute.
- The Competition committee's decision as regards the interpretation of these rules or any other matters related to the Moot Court competition shall be final and binding. If there is any situation, which is not covered by these rules, the decision of the Competition committee shall be final.
- The Competition committee reserves the right to amend, modify or repeal any of the rules if so required and as they deem appropriate. Participating teams shall receive adequate notice of any/all such amendments or modifications to the rules.
- The Competition committee shall not be held responsible for any loss or non-delivery of the Memorials.

#### 2. Interpretation clause & Eligibility

- **Interpretation Clause:**
  - The following terms shall have the corresponding meanings unless otherwise specified:
  - '**Bench Memorandum**' means the memorandum of Laws and authorities concerning the Problem.



## **MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES**

- '**Compendium**' means the Compiled Research Material.
- '**Competition Rules**' means the Official Rules and Regulations of the Competition as amended from time to time.
- '**I.S.T.**' means Indian Standard Time.
- '**Memorials**' means the Written Submissions of a team, submitted pursuant to these rules.
- '**Moot Court Society**' (Hereinafter M.C.S.) for the purpose of this Moot Court Competition means the Committee as for the administration and conduct of the Competition, including any other authorized person, and of all events leading to the Competition.
- '**Oral Pleading**' means the pleading before a Panel as explained under "Evaluation Criteria for Written Submission".
- '**Panel**' mean the Adjudicators of an Oral Pleading Session collectively.
- '**Participant**' means any member of the Participating Team.
- '**Penalty**' means the consequence of a rule violation, whether disqualification or the deduction of points.
- '**Petitioner**' means the side of the Team which argues on behalf of the Applicant at any given point in the Competition.
- '**Rebuttals**' refer to the set of Arguments/challenges that the Applicant shall raise at the end of the main pleadings of all the Orators. This shall be replied to in the appropriate manner by the Respondent.
- '**Researcher**' means that member of the Team who is not a Speaker.
- '**Respondent**' means the side of the Team which argues on behalf of the Respondent at any given point in the Competition.
- '**Speaker**' means the designated speaker of the Team.
- '**Team Code**' means the code allocated to a Team through a draw of lots.



## MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES

- **Eligibility**

Students enrolled in a full-time or part-time law programme at the time of the competition are eligible to compete in the Competition. Each College/Law School or University may enter one team ONLY.

### 3. Team composition

- A team consisting of **three members** that satisfies the eligibility Criteria can participate.
- Each team shall comprise of two speakers and one Researcher.
- Only the speakers are allowed to present and argue. The researcher will not be given a chance to speak unless specifically allowed by the Judges. However, he/she can pass on the hand written notes to the Speakers with the permission of the Judges.
- No team member may be replaced after the team's memorial has been received by the Competition Committee, except with the express written consent of the Competition Committee, which will require a showing of good cause.

### 4. Rounds

- The competition shall be of three rounds namely Preliminary, Semi-Finals and Final rounds.
- Following shall be the rules for **Oral Presentation** in each round.

#### 4.1. Preliminary rounds

- There shall be two Preliminary rounds each team shall argue for both sides.
- Matching of each team shall be done by the Draw of Lots
- Each team will be allotted **20 minutes for the arguments including time for Rebuttal and Sur-rebuttal.**
- The division of time is at the discretion of the team members.
- The division of time must be communicated to the court clerks before commencing arguments.



## MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES

- If any speaker continues to speak after the completion of the allocated time, the additional time which he or she speak for will be deducted from the time allocated to his or her co-speaker, as the case may be. However, no speaker shall be allowed to present his arguments beyond the maximum time.
- Each speaker must introduce himself or herself to the court using only his identification code and team code given to him/her at the time of memorial submission.
- A team shall be credited with a win in the Preliminary Rounds if their **Round Total (score of both speakers + marks allotted to memorial)** is greater than the opposing team.
- Teams with two wins will qualify for Semi-Final. In case there are more than four teams with two wins round total will be used to decide the winners.
- In case of tie, **scores of the speakers** will be considered.
- In case the tie still persists then scores allotted in **Understanding of Law and Procedure** will be added to decide the winner.

### 4.2.Semi-Final

- Total of four teams from the preliminary round will qualify for the Semi-Final round.
- Matching of each team shall be done by the Draw of Lots
- Each team will be allotted **30 minutes for the arguments including time for Rebuttal and Sur-rebuttal.**
- The Semi-Final Round will consist of One (1) Mooting Session and will also be a “Knock-out” Round where the winner of each Semi-Final Round pairings will advance to the Final Round.
- A team shall be credited with a win in the Semi-Final Round if their **Round Total (score of both speakers)** is greater than the opposing team. (Marks allotted to Memorial will not be considered in the Round Total).
- In case of tie in Semi-Final Round pairing, total scores allotted in **Understanding of Law and Procedure** will be considered to decide the winner.



## MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES

### 4.3. Final

- Winners of each Semi-Final round will qualify for the final round.
- Each team will be allotted **45 minutes for the arguments including time for Rebuttal and Sur-rebuttal.**

### 4.4. Ex-parte proceeding

- At the outset, if **a team fails to appear within 15 minutes** of the scheduled time (in any of the three rounds) or in case of odd number of teams (in preliminary round), then the oral round of the attending party may proceed **Ex parte.**
- In case failure of appearance of teams within stipulated time period, **the attending party is Respondent the party will be declared winner.**

### 5. Memorials

- Each participating team shall prepare **both memorials and counter memorials, in English.** All teams are to submit their copies to organizers in hard copy to the organizers before the deadline specified by the organizing committee. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the competition.
- Memorials from each side should not contain more than **20pages (which constitutes summary of facts & arguments, arguments advanced and prayer).**
- The memorial must be typed and double-spaced. A team does not violate the double-spacing requirement by including written material properly that is single spaced, such as a block quote.
- The memorial shall consist of following:
  - i. Cover Page
  - ii. Table of Contents
  - iii. Index of Authorities
  - iv. Statement of Jurisdiction
  - v. Summary of Issues raised/questions presented



## MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES

- vi. Summary of Arguments/Pleadings (1or 2 Page)
- vii. Arguments Advanced/Pleadings [not more than 15 pages ]
- viii. Prayer for Relief (1 Page)
- ix. Annexure (optional)

- The following sections **DO NOT** count toward the word limit:

- i. Front and back cover pages
- ii. Table of contents,
- iii. Index of authority,
- iv. Statement of jurisdiction,
- v. Summary of facts,
- vi. Questions presented
- vii. Signature block,
- viii. Appropriate appendices.

- All citations must adhere to Blue Book 9<sup>th</sup> Edition and fulfill the following requirements

:-

Font type	Times New Roman
Font size	12
Footnotes Font type	Times New Roman
Footnotes Font	10

**\*\***Memorials that do not follow the above mentioned specifications shall be penalized.

- Memorial cover page shall follow the following Color Scheme:

<b>Petitioner/Appellants</b>	Blue
<b>Respondent</b>	Respondent



## MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES

### 5.1. Service of memorial

- All participants must submit **EIGHT (8)** copies of the Memorial for **both sides**.
- The soft copy of the memorial shall also be sent through e-mail on [iilmootcourtsociety@gmail.com](mailto:iilmootcourtsociety@gmail.com) latest by **10<sup>th</sup> October before 5:00 pm**.
- The memorial should be sent as an email attachment in Word format. **Do not send the memorial as a PDF-file.**
- Subject of the email shall "**Memorial for "team code"**". Please name the memorial using your team's Code and "A" for Applicant or "R" for Respondent. For example, if you are assigned team number 555 the file name should be **555A.doc** or **555R.doc**.
- The submission of hard copies should be done latest by **12<sup>th</sup> October** at Indore Institute of Law, Campus **before 5:00 pm**.
- Memorials that arrive after the deadline may receive a deduction for being submitted late.

### 5.2. Anonymity

- Each team will be awarded a code number after registration and that number alone shall be marked on the memorials.
- Identity of the team or the names of the participants must not be revealed in the Memorial in any manner whatsoever and all teams must send the Memorial with a covering letter specifying the name and contact details of the Team Members and their designated Team Code.
- Name of the school/University shall not be mentioned on any compendium or material to be presented the bench. Failure to compliance will lead to disqualification of such compendium or material from presentation.

## 6. Scoring

Following schematics will be followed in the competition for the scoring of the teams.

### 6.1. Scoring of oral arguments

- Each speaker shall be marked on total of 100 marks by each Bench Judge. The following will be the Marking Criteria and the Marks Allocated to each category:





## MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES

Sl. No.	Marking Criteria	Marks Allocated
1	Understanding of Law and Procedure	30
2	Application of Facts	20
3	Ingenuity and Ability to Answer Questions	15
4	Use of Authority	5
5	Organization and Flow of Arguments	10
6	Reference to Memorials	10
7	Advocacy Skills, Court Craft and Demeanor	10
Total		100

\*\*Marks allotted by the judges shall be final.

### 6.2. Scoring of Memorial

The following will be the Marking Criteria and the Marks Allocated to each category:

Sl. No.	Marking Criteria	Marks Allocated
1.	Knowledge of Law and Extent of Research	30
2.	Proper and Articulate Analysis, Clarity and Organization	25
3.	Knowledge of Facts	15
4.	Evidence of Original Thought	10
5.	Grammar and Style	10
6.	Correct Format and Citation	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>

### 6.3. Researchers test

1. The Researchers' test will be conducted on the day one of the competition
2. The duration of the test will be of sixty minutes (60 minutes) only.
3. The test shall consist of Objective / Subjective question based on the Principles of laws applicable and the case study.



## MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES

### 7. Awards

Winning Team	Cash Prize of Rs 21000/- , Trophy & Certificate
Runner up Team	Cash Prize of Rs 11000/- , Trophy & Certificate
Best Mooter	Cash Prize of Rs 1500/-, Trophy&Certificate
Best Researcher	Cash Prize of Rs 1500/-,Trophy & Certificate
Best Memorial	Cash Prize of Rs 1500/-,Trophy & Certificate
Participating teams	Participating certificates

\*\*For Best Mooter award, the points scored from the preliminary rounds alone will be counted.

\*\*Best Researcher will be decided on the basis of scores in Researchers' Test

\*\*Best Memorial will be decided on the basis of score of memorials allotted in preliminary round.

### 8. Dress code

#### Formal wear

Ladies	Black and white salwar, kurta, sari or pant/suit or Western formals
Gentlemen	White shirt with black tie, black trousers, black coat, white socks and black shoes.

### 9. Registration & fee

The registration for the teams should be done latest by 5<sup>th</sup> October.



## **MOOT COURT COMPETITION RULES**

### **10. Important dates**

Participants are required to adhere with the deadlines. Following important dates shall be kept in mind:

1	Last date for Registration	5 <sup>th</sup> October
2	last date for seeking clarification	10 <sup>th</sup> October
3	Last date for Submission of Memorial (electronic copy)	10 <sup>th</sup> October
4	Last date for submission of memorial (hard copy)	12 <sup>th</sup> October
5	Draw of lots and Exchange of Memorials	21 <sup>st</sup> October
6	Preliminary round one and Preliminary Round 2	22 <sup>nd</sup> October
7	Semi-Final	23 <sup>rd</sup> October
8	Final	23 <sup>rd</sup> October

### **11. Miscellaneous**

- All participants are expected to maintain the decorum in the court during the competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.
- The Competition 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.
- Upon completion of the competition, the competition committee reserves the exclusive right to use the memorials submitted to them, as they deem appropriate.
- Participating teams should carry with them required study or reference materials for their own use during the oral rounds of competition.
- Team found attempting to approach and influencing Judges/Administrators/Organizers shall be disqualified.
- No member of any team will be permitted to hear the arguments in any court rooms in which that team is one of the contesting teams whilst that team is still in the competition.