

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

THE COMPETITION

1. The Oral Rounds of the K. K. Luthra Memorial Moot Court, 2021 [**“the Competition”**] will be held from the 15th to the 17th of January 2021 through a video-conferencing platform.

ELIGIBILITY

2. Members of the team must be valid **UNDERGRADUATE** students pursuing a recognized Bachelor of Law (or international equivalent) programme. (Note – Bachelor of Law means a 3 or year course post-graduation or 5 year integrated course for Indian students or an undergraduate degree in law recognized by the Bar or Regulator of where the student is undergoing education)
3. Only ONE team can register from a particular College or Law School for participation in the competition. In the event two registrations are received from the same College or Law School, the Team which submits a letter first by the Head / Dean of the Institution / Moot Court Committee, authorizing them to participate on behalf of the College or Law School shall be entitled to participate and will be registered.

TEAM COMPOSITION

4. Each team shall consist of two speakers and one researcher. The Organizers will assign a code to each team and its members.

REGISTRATION

5. The teams will have to register themselves at <http://www.kkluthramoot.org> by completing and submitting the Registration Form available on the website no later than 10.00pm [IST] on 31.10.2020.
6. Upon successful completion and submission of the Registration Form, a team will receive an email from the Organizers informing them of their successful Registration.
7. If a team does not receive such an email, it may contemporaneously send an email with its registration details to info@kkluthramoot.org and a response will be sent by email by the Organizers within 07 (seven) days informing the team of its successful Registration.
8. Registration Forms will have to be completed and submitted with all material particulars by the teams. Please note that incomplete Registration Forms shall not be accepted. The composition of the team cannot be changed once a team has registered.
9. There is no Registration Fee for registering or participating in the competition.
10. Teams that have successfully registered will be provided with a Unique Registration Number [**“URN”**] by an email. Once allotted, the URN must be mentioned in all future correspondence with the Organizers.
11. Apart from the URN, teams are requested not to display or add **the names or logos of their Colleges, Universities or Law Schools anywhere in any communication(s) addressed to the Organizers or in memorials/material submitted for the Competition.**

QUALIFICATION

12. The Competition shall consist of 2 rounds: (i) Memorial Selection Round; and (ii) Oral Rounds.
13. The Qualifying Teams for the Oral Rounds shall be determined on the basis of a team having scored a minimum of 8 marks out of 20 in their total Memorial Score as marked in the Memorial Round.
14. The top 40 teams with the highest memorial scores (subject to minimum qualifying mark of 8 marks out of 20 marks in the Memorial Round) will be entitled to participate in the Oral Rounds.

15. MEMORIALS:

- Teams may raise grounds of challenge other than those indicated in the Statement of Facts.
- All memorials submitted must conform to the following requirements and a team will attract negative marking for failure to keep within the limitations as described below :
 - i) Memorials must be on A-4 paper and printed with black ink.
 - ii) The font of the body of the Memorial must be Times New Roman, size 12, with 1.5 line spacing and the font-size of footnotes/endnotes, if any, must not be less than size 10.
 - iii) A uniform method of citation of authorities must be followed.
 - iv) Each page must have a margin of at least an inch on all sides.
 - v) The Memorial should not exceed 25 typed pages (not including the Cover Page) and shall at least consist of the following parts :
 - Cover Page – [coloured **BLUE** for Petitioner / Appellant and **RED** for Respondent]
 - Table of Contents
 - Index of Authorities
 - Written Pleadings
 - Prayer
 - vi) The Cover Page **MUST** contain:
 - Team Code in the upper right-hand corner
 - The year of the Competition
 - The name of the Case
 - The party for which the Written Submission has been prepared.
 - Name of the forum resolving the dispute.
 - vii) There will be a deduction of 1.0 mark for each page exceeding the 25 page limit, and a deduction of 0.25 marks for each 'objective' error, i.e., non-adherence to the rules set out hereinabove. This negative marking (along with the negative marking for delayed submission)

shall be deducted once from the total memorial score obtained by a team.

- Each team must submit the **Memorial** for the **Petitioner / Appellant** and the **Respondent** in an unsecured pdf file, no later than 9:00pm [IST] on 16.11.2020 to info@kkluthramoot.org.
- The Organizers will NOT be responsible for the non-receipt of the soft copies of the memorials. Teams are requested to ensure that soft copies via email are sent well in time and that the attachments can be opened/viewed.
- Memorials submitted after 9:00pm [IST] on 16.11.2020 will incur a deduction of ½ mark for each day of delay, with the first deduction being made at 9:01pm [IST] on 16.11.2020. It is made clear that such deduction would be made from the cumulative memorial score only once.
- Memorials submitted after 9:00pm [IST] on 24.11.2020 shall not be accepted and the team shall stand disqualified.
- **PLEASE NOTE THAT APART FROM THE URN, THE NAMES OR LOGOS OF THE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES OR LAW SCHOOLS SHALL NOT BE MENTIONED ANYWHERE IN THE MEMORIALS SUBMITTED BY THE PARTICIPANTS. BREACH OF THIS RULE CAN RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.**

16. SCORING OF MEMORIALS

- The memorials shall be checked by a panel of judges. Each judge shall score each memorial out of 20 marks, and the average of scores shall be announced/posted by the Organizers on the conclusion of the Preliminary Rounds on 16.01.2021. The teams shall be scored on the basis of the average of their scores for the Appellant and Respondent Memorials (after appropriate deductions, if any).
- The scoring criteria for memorials shall be as follows:

Application of Facts	25%
Reasoning	25%
Use of Authorities and Precedent	25%
Understanding Law and Procedure	15%
Presentation	10%

17. ORAL ARGUMENTS

- The Competition shall consist of the Preliminary, Quarter Final, Semi- Final and Final Rounds only
- The language of the Court shall be English.

- Each team would be given **30 minutes** to present their oral arguments, subject to a maximum of **20 minutes** per Speaker in the Preliminary Rounds. This shall include the pleadings and any rebuttal time, if applicable. For the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Final Rounds, each team would get 40 minutes each, subject to a maximum of 25 minutes per Speaker.
 - Before the beginning of the Oral Rounds of any team, the Speakers of the team shall inform the Moderator regarding the allocation of time between themselves and the time reserved for rebuttal. Once informed, the time shall not change.
 - **Judges, at their discretion, may extend oral argument time upto a maximum of 5 minutes per team.**
 - No additional documentation or screen-sharing will be allowed and any information which has to be provided to the Court, should be submitted beforehand along with the Compendium and Memorial in a pdf document.
 - The participants shall ensure good Internet connection. In case of a poor connection, the Court will wait for a maximum of ten minutes, after which the round would be conducted *ex-parte*.
 - If a team scheduled to take part in a round does not appear 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 presenting and arguing.
18. During the Preliminary Rounds, each team shall have to argue once for the Petitioner / Appellant and once for the Respondent. Rebuttal would be allowed only to the Petitioner / Appellant.
19. Teams with two wins in the Preliminary Rounds will go to the Quarterfinal Round. If there are **more than 8 teams** having two wins each, the teams with two wins each will be ranked according to their Memorial scores and the top eight teams so ranked will go to the Quarterfinal Round. If after ranking of the memorial scores, teams are still tied, the teams so tied will be ranked according to their total scores (excluding memorial scores).
20. If there are **less than eight teams** having two wins each, the teams having two wins each will go through to the Quarterfinal Round. For the remaining places, teams having less than two wins each will be ranked according to the sum of their highest scores in both the Preliminary Rounds (excluding their Memorial scores), and the top eight teams thus ranked will be sent to the Quarterfinal Round.
21. The Quarterfinal, Semi Final and Final Rounds shall be knock out rounds.

CONDUCTING OF ROUNDS VIRTUALLY THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING

- All the rounds for the Competition shall be conducted virtually by way of video conferencing through a video-conferencing platform. The details of the video conferencing platform will be given to the teams at least 1 week prior to the Competition.

- The Meeting ID and Password and Link will be informed to the teams through email.
- It is clarified that participating team shall argue for the both the Petitioner /Appellant and Respondents in one session of Preliminary Round itself, according to the Draw of Lots and Exchange of Memorials on the day of the Inauguration.
- Participants shall keep their microphone on mute at all times, except when addressing arguments. A speaker will unmute his or her microphone only after being invited to do so by the Court.
- Apart from the speakers and the researcher, each team shall be permitted to share the link with at least 2 other persons

SCORING

Memorial	20%
Response to questions and Articulation	20%
Use of Authorities and Precedents	20%
Reasoning in the Application of Principles	20%
Application of Facts and Advocacy skills, Court Craft and Demeanour	20%

NOTE: The marks allotted for "Reasoning in the Application of Principles" shall be awarded to teams which demonstrate as to why a principle of law derived from precedent or otherwise is well-founded and desirable. Example: If the problem involves an issue regarding the inadmissibility of hearsay evidence, marks allotted for "Reasoning in the Application of Principles" shall not be awarded for citing precedent regarding the exclusion of hearsay evidence, but for providing cogent reasoning as to why such hearsay evidence is unreliable and hence, inadmissible.

MISCELLANEOUS

- The dress code for the Competition shall be professional business attire and strictly black and white.
- Two team prizes, one prize for the best memorial and individual prizes for the Best speaker and 2nd Best Speaker will be awarded. The speakers and the researchers will be awarded certificates of participation.
- All queries relating to the problem / marks etc. may be directed vide email to info@kkluthramoot.org. Periodically, all queries / answers are put up on the website. Teams are encouraged to review the same, before sending fresh queries.
- The last date for seeking clarifications relating to the problem / marks etc is 07.11.2020, after which no clarifications shall be entertained.
- Scouting by any person and on behalf of any team should be brought to the notice of the organizers immediately, without disturbing the round in progress. Any team found scouting will be disqualified.

27. Any reference to identity of a team's institution or individual team members, either during oral arguments or in the Memorial may lead to disqualification of the team, which shall be at the sole discretion of the organizers.
28. The Organizers shall not be responsible for any loss due to slow or non-functional internet connection during the Competition.
29. No audio or videotaping of the oral pleadings is permitted without the permission of the Organizers.
30. If a team believes that violation of any of the Competition Rules has taken place at any stage of the Competition, the teams shall within half an hour of the completion of the round wherein a violation has allegedly occurred, register a complaint with Organizing Committee . Under no circumstances are the teams allowed to approach the Judges with any complaints.
31. At the end of Oral Rounds of the K. K. Luthra Memorial Moot Court, 2021, the total scores obtained by each team in each round shall be uploaded on the website www.kkluthramoot.org. No requests for release of individual marks shall be entertained under any circumstances during the course of the competition.
32. The Rules shall be strictly adhered to. The organizers reserve the right to disqualify teams for deviating from the Rules. The Organizers will resolve any contingencies that may arise and will be the final arbiters regarding any doubts/grievances. The decision taken by the Organizers shall be final. These Rules are not exhaustive.
