



**ORGANIZED BY THAKUR RAMNARAYAN COLLEGE OF LAW - MUMBAI**

**A. ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL RULES**

The name of the Competition is the 'Lex Communique - National Trial Advocacy and Judgment Writing Competition, 2023' ("**the Competition**").

**B. IMPLEMENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES**

Rules and Procedures contained in this document shall apply to all participating teams.

Regarding the practice and procedure of the Competition, the final interpretation in case of any conflict lies with the Moot Court Association ("MCA"). The decision of the MCA shall be final and binding.

**C. ELIGIBILITY:**

1. Students pursuing their bachelor's degree in the current calendar year in a three-year or five-year course in law from any recognized school/ college/ university are eligible to participate in the competition.
2. The first 30 teams will be allowed to participate first-come-first-serve basis.
3. Considering the limit in the number of teams, each University /college is permitted to be represented by ONE TEAM ONLY.
4. All the participants should attach a scanned copy of Their ID cards along with an approval letter from their respective institution.

**D. DATE AND VENUE:**

The said competition will be held from 24<sup>th</sup> February to 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at Thakur Ramnarayan College of Law, S.V. Road, Dahisar East, Mumbai - 400068

**E. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:**

The official language for the Competition shall be English only. Use of vernacular language by the participants during the said competition is prohibited.

**F. TEAM COMPOSITION:**

1. Each participating team shall consist of 4 members out of which 2 would appear as speakers and 2 would play the role of witnesses, the number cannot be modified under any circumstances.
2. Once registered, a team will not be permitted to vary the composition of the team in any manner. Changes, if any, may only be made with the express permission of the MCA.
3. No additional/observer member shall be entitled to hospitality or certificate.

**G. DRESS CODE:** For Speakers: Advocate's attire (including neckband & gown)

For Witness: Black and white formals with blazer and tie.

**H. REGISTRATION:**

1. Each institution must, first, provisionally register itself for the Competition by sending an Official Provisional Registration mail to [lexcommunique@trcl.org.in](mailto:lexcommunique@trcl.org.in)
2. Only upon the confirmation of the provisional registration by the MCA, the team shall register for the competition by filling and uploading the following documents:
  - Registration form
  - Approval Letter
  - ID Cards
  - Screenshot of payment

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- On this link ↓

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfUU2jQJ\\_6VVba\\_yktN7PX\\_ckMEhDgjLolpu4Uz1tvCWInorg/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfUU2jQJ_6VVba_yktN7PX_ckMEhDgjLolpu4Uz1tvCWInorg/viewform?usp=pp_url)

Participants will receive an acknowledgement-cum- approval as a confirmation of their registration & participation periodically after registration.

### I. **FEES:**

**The registration process has been divided into 2 slots:**

- **Early bird offer: 3000/- (Registration amount)** Valid till 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022.
- **Regular fee: 4000/- (Registration amount)** Valid till 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023.
- The Registration fees shall be accepted through online transactions.
- **Bank details for RTGS/NEFT:**

Name of the Account: Lex Communique

Bank name: Indian Bank.

Branch: Kandivali (EAST)

A/c. No.: 6701666981

IFSC Code: IDIB000K161

### J. **TEAM CODE**

Upon confirmation of the participation, teams will be allotted a unique team code which they must use from there onwards for all kinds of communication made to the organizers. Teams will not be allowed to use the name of their institution, once the team code has been allotted. such disclosure shall invite penalties including disqualification. The decision for the same shall be at the discretion of the organizers.

**K. ORAL ROUNDS & PROCEDURE:**

The competition shall consist of:

- A. Preliminary rounds 1& 2 (Qualification on Merit)**
- B. Quarter finals (Qualification on Merit)**
- C. Semi-finals (Knock-out)**
- D. Final Round (Knock-out)**

**A. Preliminary Rounds**

- 1. In the Preliminary rounds, each of the 30 teams shall be arguing for both sides, once as the Prosecution and once as the Defence.
- 2. The teams that shall be arguing against each other and the side to be argued by the teams shall be determined through the drawings of Draw of Lots that will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023 after the Inaugural Ceremony.
- 3. In preliminary rounds, each examination-in-chief, and cross-examination of 3 witnesses only.

<b>Opening Statement by Prosecution</b>	<b>1 Minute</b>
<b>Opening Statement by Defence</b>	<b>1 Minute</b>
<b>Examination-In-Chief by Prosecution</b>	<b>8 Minutes</b>
<b>Cross-Examination by Defense</b>	<b>12 Minutes</b>
<b>Examination-In-Chief by Defense</b>	<b>8 Minutes</b>
<b>Cross-Examination by Prosecution</b>	<b>12 Minutes</b>
<b>Closing Statement by Prosecution</b>	<b>3 Minutes</b>

**B. Quarter-final rounds**

- 1. The Top 8 teams from the Preliminary rounds shall qualify for the Quarter Final rounds. Selection shall be based on the marks received by the teams during the Preliminary Rounds
- 2. The Draw of Lots for the Round will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> February after the Preliminary Rounds.

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3. Each of the top 8 teams shall be arguing from the side of either the Prosecution or the Defence, depending on the Draw of Lots on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February.
4. In the quarter-final, each team can conduct an examination-in-chief and cross-examination of 4 witnesses only.

<b>Opening Statement by Prosecution</b>	<b>2 Minutes</b>
<b>Opening Statement by Defense</b>	<b>2 Minutes</b>
<b>Examination-In-Chief by Prosecution</b>	<b>12 Minutes</b>
<b>Cross-Examination By Defense</b>	<b>16 Minutes</b>
<b>Examination-In-Chief by Defense</b>	<b>12 Minutes</b>
<b>Cross-Examination by Prosecution</b>	<b>16 Minutes</b>
<b>Closing Statement by Prosecution</b>	<b>5 Minutes</b>

### C. Semi-Finals

1. The top 4 teams from the Quarter Final rounds shall qualify for the semi-Final rounds.
2. The Draw of Lots for the Semi-Final Round will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> February after the Quarter Final Rounds. The Semi-Final Round will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023 which will be the Knockout round.
3. In the Semi-Final Round witnesses will be provided by the MCA of Thakur Ramnarayan College of Law, Mumbai.
4. In the Semi-Final Round each team must conduct the examination of all 5 witnesses.

<b>Opening Statement by Prosecution</b>	<b>3 Minutes</b>
<b>Opening Statement by Defense</b>	<b>3 Minutes</b>
<b>Examination-In-Chief by Prosecution</b>	<b>20 Minutes</b>
<b>Cross-Examination by Defense</b>	<b>30 Minutes</b>
<b>Examination in chief by Defense</b>	<b>20 Minutes</b>
<b>Cross-Examination By Prosecution</b>	<b>30 Minutes</b>
<b>Closing Statement by Prosecution</b>	<b>10 Minutes</b>
<b>Closing Statement by Defense</b>	<b>10 Minutes</b>

#### **D. Finals**

1. The winners of the Semi-Final round will compete in the Final round.
2. The Final round shall be held on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023 after the draw of lots.
3. In the Final Round witnesses will be provided by the MCA of Thakur Ramnarayan College of Law, Mumbai.
4. In the Final Round each team must examine all 5 witnesses.

<b>Opening Statement by Prosecution</b>	<b>4 Minutes</b>
<b>Opening Statement by Defense</b>	<b>4 Minutes</b>
<b>Examination-In-Chief by Prosecution</b>	<b>25 Minutes</b>
<b>Cross-Examination By Defense</b>	<b>35 Minutes</b>
<b>Examination-In-Chief by Defense</b>	<b>25 Minutes</b>
<b>Cross-Examination By Prosecution</b>	<b>35 Minutes</b>
<b>Closing Statement by Prosecution</b>	<b>10 Minutes</b>
<b>Closing Statement by Defense</b>	<b>10 Minutes</b>

NOTE: PARTICIPANTS HAVE TO STRICTLY ADHERE TO THIS TIMING STRUCTURE. CAN NOT BE ADJUSTED IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES? (E.g., If A Team Manages to Finish the Opening Statement In 2 Minutes, The Remaining One Minute Will Not Be Adjusted Anywhere)

#### **L. CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF ORAL SUBMISSIONS**

The Oral Rounds shall be judged by industry professionals having experience in the field of Criminal Law and the Judges shall be made well aware of the procedure and Rules of the Competition.

The Criteria for assessment shall include the following and shall be out of a maximum of 100 marks for each speaker:

1. Knowledge of facts.
2. Logic & clarity in reasoning.
3. Persuasiveness and deference to court.
4. Proper, articulate and systematic analysis of the issues arising out of facts.
5. Understanding of the relevant Laws.
6. Ability to successfully conduct chief/cross-examination within the allotted time.
7. Ability to elicit favorable facts from witnesses or deal with unreceptive, argumentative witnesses.

#### **M. WITNESSES**

1. The organizers will not be providing witnesses for the preliminary rounds & quarter-final rounds, the teams must bring 2 members as witnesses.
2. Teams are required to use the same witnesses for the rest of the competition.
3. Teams are required to notify the court officers before the commencement of each round, as to which witnesses, they will be examining in the present round.
4. Participants have to make sure that only those two witnesses will be playing multiple roles throughout the competition and the roles cannot be modified. (e.g., If team "A" wishes to bring 6 witnesses on record, those 2 witnesses will have to play all 6 roles.)

#### **N. ACCOMMODATION:**

The teams opting for accommodation shall pay an additional amount of Rs. 3000 (Rupees Two Thousand) to the Host College for such accommodation. It will be at the discretion of the participating teams to opt for accommodation. The payment shall be made in accordance with Rule

The information regarding the accommodation shall be intimated to the teams by 12th January 2023.

Accommodation shall be provided to the participants from 24<sup>th</sup> February (10:00 a.m.) to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 (12:00 p.m.).

**NOTE: - No pickup drop services will be provided by the host college from Airport/State action to Accommodation)**

**NOTE: - Drinking and Smoking are strictly prohibited at the place of**

**accommodation as well as on the College campus. Non-compliance with this rule will lead to disqualification and the MCA shall institute strict action against the team found violating this rule.**

**O. ANONYMITY AND SCOUTING**

1. Student Counsel may introduce himself/herself to the court in the usual manner and may also state their speaker code. However, the team's college name shall not be indicated to the judges at any time.
2. Further, all team members shall refrain from identifying any team's law school/college/university at any time and in any manner, including but not limited to wearing any identifying items (such as college clothing, ties, patches, or pins) or carrying identifying material (such as books with a college logo or seal, etc.).
3. The teams shall not be allowed to observe the orals of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any of the teams shall result in disqualification.
4. Any team can file a written complaint with the MCS, regarding a case of scouting. The decision of the MCS shall be final.

**P. QUERIES AND CLARIFICATIONS**

All the queries and clarifications (regarding the case study) must be addressed to the official mail id [lexcommunique@trcl.org.in](mailto:lexcommunique@trcl.org.in) and the subject of the mail must read as "QUERY" on or before 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022. A compiled list of queries and their clarifications will be released for all the teams by 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022. No queries directed to the contact person otherwise than a mail shall be entertained whatsoever the case may be.

**Q. CERTIFICATES**

Certificates will be awarded only to the participants present in the Valedictory Ceremony and under no circumstances will they be provided to any of the participants who are absent from the ceremony. In the event that the participants fail to collect their certificates, no mail will be sent by the MCA acknowledging their participation.

No team shall be receiving the certificate if they fail to participate in the Judgment Writing

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Competition.

**R. AWARDS**

Based on their performance during the rounds, participating students would be given the following awards:

***Winning Team* – Trophy, Certificate, and Cash Prize**

***Runner-up Team* – Trophy, Certificate, and Cash Prize**

***Best Speaker* –Trophy, Certificate and Cash Prize.**

***2<sup>nd</sup> Best Speaker* –Trophy, and Certificate**

***Best Judgment* – Trophy, Certificate and Cash Prize.**

***2<sup>nd</sup> Best Judgment* – Trophy, and Certificate**

**S. RULES FOR THE JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION, 2022**

The Judgment Writing Competition shall be held on 26<sup>th</sup> February during the Semi Final round and is mandatory for all the teams to participate in the same. The participants will be divided into two Court Rooms where they have to witness the round and will have to make notes. After completion of the Semi-Final Round, each participant of the Judgment Writing Competition will be provided with a computer for the Judgment Writing Competition and will be given 45 minutes to write the judgment.

Note:



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1. The travel form should be sent on or before 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at [lexcommunique@trcl.org.in](mailto:lexcommunique@trcl.org.in) with the Subject stating your team code.
2. The railway stations nearest to the college premises are Dahisar, Borivali, and Mira Road
3. Nearest Airport is the Chhatrapati Shivaji Domestic Airport, Mumbai. Kindly mention the airport (International or Domestic) while traveling to Bombay.
4. The decision of the MCA for the application of the Rules and Regulations mentioned hereinabove shall be final and binding.

### **T. MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. Case laws that the teams wish to rely on at the time of final arguments shall be submitted to the judge before the rounds (Two for the judges, One for the other side).
2. Opening statement of the Prosecution will require the prosecutor to address the judges on the charge it wishes the court to frame. It shall be necessary to point out the supporting material from the charge sheet herewith provided to sustain the charge. As far as the Defence is concerned, the opening address shall require them to point out if there is any charge that the court ought not to frame as there is no material in the charge sheet provided herewith to support the same.
3. Judges are at liberty to ask questions to the Participants on relevant points of law which may arise from the problem or relevant provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure or Indian Evidence Act, arising during conducting the trial, to test the Participant's knowledge of the relevant provisions relating to penal laws.
4. The judges will be recording the evidence for both the prosecution and defense only in Semi Final & Final rounds.
5. In the event there is any contradiction between the evidence recorded in court and the Statements recorded under section 161 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, the participants must be aware of the procedure to deal with such contradiction.
6. After completion of evidence, the participants will be given notes of evidence (hereinafter referred to as "the said notes") of prosecution and defense recorded by the court. A fifteen (5) minutes break will be given to the participants for the perusal of the said notes. The participants will have to advance Final Arguments only based on notes of evidence and the exhibited documents so provided to them.

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7. All participating teams must be conversant with the Indian Penal Code, 1860; Criminal Procedure Code, 1973; and Indian Evidence Act, 1872 whilst taking evidence and advancing final arguments for the Prosecution and the Defence.

**U. DISCLAIMER REGARDING CHANGE IN RULES:**

The institution/society has full rights reserved to modify and cancel any rules as it deems fit to the situation at any time in due course of the competition and the decision of the organizers shall stand final.

Contact details: -

Faculty Convenor	Prof. Rajwant Rao	+91 7024945222
Student Convenor	Mr. Abhishek Singh	+91 8850402118

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*a new beginning...*

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