

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

THE COMPETITION

1. The Oral Rounds of the 1st NHRC-MNLUA National Moot Court Competition, 2024 [**“the Competition”**] will be held from the 9th to the 11th of February, 2024 at the Campus of Maharashtra National Law University, Aurangabad, Aurangabad, Maharashtra –431005.

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-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 the Verification Form 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. The prescribed Verification Form may be [accessed here](#).

TEAM COMPOSITION

4. Each team shall consist of two speakers and one researcher. No team shall deviate from this prescribed composition. The Organizers will assign a Team Code/URN to each team and its members.

5. If a fourth member is brought by the teams, s/he shall not be permitted to sit with or assist the teams during the rounds and would be provided accommodation at her/his own cost. Certification shall not be awarded to the fourth member.

REGISTRATION

6. The teams will have to register themselves [at this Google Form](#) by completing and submitting the Registration Form available no later than 10.00pm IST on 31st December, 2023.

7. Upon successful completion and submission of the Registration Form and verification of the payment of the registration fees, a team will receive an email from the Organizers informing them of their successful Registration.

8. If such an email is not received by a team by 15th January, 2024, a team may send an email with its registration details to nationalmoot@mnlua.ac.in and a response will be sent by email by the Organizers at the earliest.

9. 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.

10. A registration fee of **Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only)** shall be charged to all participating teams for the competition and the same may be [paid here at this link](#). Please note that the registration fee once paid shall not be refunded.

11. The teams successfully registering online as aforesaid will be provided a Team Code or Unique Registration Number ['URN'] which will be mentioned in the email informing the team of their registration. The email will be sent to the email address provided by the teams in the contact details forming part of the Registration Form.

12. Once each team has been provided the URN, this number will have to be mentioned by the team in all future communication(s) with the Organizers.

13. 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

14. The Competition shall consist of 1 round only i.e., the Oral Rounds.

15. To qualify for participation in the Oral Rounds, teams will be chosen on a first come first serve basis wherein the first **40 teams** that register shall be intimated of the same upon verification of their registration forms.

MEMORIALS

- Teams may raise grounds of challenge other than those indicated in the Statement of Facts.
- Each team must submit the **Memorial** for the

Applicant/Petitioner/ Appellant and the **Respondent/ Defendant/ Opposite Party** in Microsoft Word & PDF Format, no later than **9:00pm [IST] on 21st January, 2024** on a Google Form that will be shared with them after allotment of their URNs.

- 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 submitted by Google Form abide by all instructions placed therein.
- Memorials submitted after **9:00pm [IST] on 21st January, 2024** will incur a deduction of ½ mark for each day of delay, with the first deduction being made at **9:01pm [IST] on 21st January, 2024**. It is made clear that such deduction would be made from the cumulative memorial score only once.
- Memorials submitted after **9:00pm [Indian Standard Time] on 24th January, 2024** shall not be accepted and the team shall stand disqualified.
- After the **submission of the soft copy of the memorials**, the teams shall be required to submit five hard copies each of the Memorials for the Appellant and the Respondent by **31st January, 2024** to **Ms. Neha Tripathi, Asst. Professor and Faculty Convenor, Moot Court Association, Maharashtra National Law University, Aurangabad, Nath Valley School Road, Beside Chh. Shambhaji Sainiki Shala, Kanchanwadi, Aurangabad, Maharashtra – 431005.**

- The names of the participants or their Colleges, Universities or Law Schools shall not be mentioned anywhere on the Memorial.

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 OR MATERIAL WHICH MAY BE HANDED OVER AT THE TIME OF ORAL ARGUMENTS.

- It is the responsibility of the teams to ensure that the correct number of copies of the memorials are submitted to the Organizers and acknowledgement obtained.

- 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 printed on A-4 paper with black ink and must be neatly bound. No plastic dividers should be used in the memorials.

- 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. A uniform method of citation of authorities must be followed.

iii) Each page must have a margin of at least an inch on all sides.

iv) The Memorial should not exceed 40 typed pages and shall at least consist of the following parts:

- Cover Page – [coloured blue for Appellant/Petitioner, and red for Respondent]
- Table of Contents
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Issues raised
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced [Maximum of 25 pages]
- Prayer

v) The Cover Page **MUST** contain:

- Team Code/ URN 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.

vi) There will be a deduction of 1.0 mark for each page exceeding the prescribed 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.

SCORING OF MEMORIALS

16. The scoring criteria for the memorial shall be as follows:

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

ORAL ARGUMENTS

- The Competition shall consist of the Preliminary, Octa-Final, Quarter-Final, Semi- Final and Final Rounds only.
- The language of the Court shall be English
- Each team would be given 35 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 Octa-Finals, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final Rounds, each team would get 40 minutes each, subject to a maximum of 25 minutes per Speaker.
- Judges, at their discretion, may extend oral argument time up to a maximum of 5 minutes per team.
- Rebuttal would be allowed only to the Applicant. The Applicant will have to specify the length of time (if at all) they want to set aside for

rebuttal, before beginning their oral arguments.

17. During the Preliminary Rounds, each team shall have to argue once for the Applicant and once for the Respondent. It is clarified that participating team shall argue for the both the Appellants and Respondents in one session of Preliminary Round itself.

18. Teams with two wins in the Preliminary Rounds will go to the Octa-Final Round. If there are more than 16 teams having two wins each, the teams with two wins each will be ranked according to their aggregate scores for the oral round and the top sixteen teams so ranked will go to the Octa-Final Round. If after ranking of the memorial scores, teams are still tied, the teams so tied will be ranked according to their memorial scores.

19. If there are less than sixteen teams having two wins each, the teams having two wins each will go through to the Octa-Final 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, and the top sixteen teams thus ranked will be sent to the Octa-Final Round. The Octa-Final Round shall be a knock out round.

20. The Octa-Final Round shall be succeeded by the Quarterfinal Round, the Semifinal Round and the Final Round.

21. The Octa-Final Rounds shall be conducted at the discretion of the Organizers dependent on the number of teams qualifying for the Oral Rounds. In the absence of the Octa-Finals, the procedure prescribed

shall be followed for the Quarter Finals, with the exception that the number of teams will be 8 instead of 16.

22. If a team scheduled to take part in a round does not appear for 10 minutes after the scheduled start of the round, a walkover shall be declared in favor of the team present.

SCORING

Presentation	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	20%

NOTE: The marks allotted shall be at the discretion of the judges presiding over the Court and no challenge to such discretion shall be entertained or valid under any circumstance.

MISCELLANEOUS

23. The dress code for the Competition shall be professional business attire and strictly black and white.

24. **Prize Money**

a. Winner Team	₹30000
b. Runner Up Team	₹20000
c. Best Orator Male	₹10000
d. Best Orator Female	₹10000

e. Team with Best Memorial (Petitioner)	₹10000
f. Team with Best Memorial (Respondent)	₹10000
g. Best Researcher	₹10000

25. The Organizers shall provide the accommodation, food, and local transport (from the place of accommodation to the venue for the competition) to the participating teams only in the following time period: 13.30 Hrs. on 08.02.2024 to 11.00 Hrs. on 12.02.2024.

26. All queries relating to the problem/marks etc. may be directed vide email to nationalmoot@mnlua.ac.in . Periodically, all queries/answers shall be shared with all participating teams through their email. Teams are encouraged to review the same, before sending fresh queries.

27. Participants shall use only their URN numbers for identification purposes. No electronic device, including (but not limited to), laptops, tablet computers, mobile phones, etc. may be used by any member of the teams during the course of the round, including when the opposite team is addressing arguments. Teams are therefore advised to ensure that the delivery of their oral arguments is not dependent on electronic devices.

28. 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.

29. Any reference to the 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.

30. At the end of Oral Rounds of the 1st NHRC-MNLUA National Moot Court Competition, 2024, the total scores obtained by each team in each round shall be shared with the participating teams. No requests for the release of individual marks shall be entertained under any circumstances during the course of the competition and after the competition.

31. 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.