

GENERAL RULES FOR ORAL ROUNDS

General Procedure

- i. Teams are requested to bring Eight hard copies (Petitioner-4 and Respondent-4) to be submitted during the formal registration on 23rd March, 2017.
- ii. The language to be used during the Rounds is English.
- iii. The Competition shall consist of the following rounds:
 - A. Preliminary Round I and II;
 - B. Advanced Rounds;
 - a. Quarter-finals,
 - b. Semi-finals,
 - c. Finals.
- iv. During each of the abovementioned rounds, the order in which the teams shall present their arguments is as follows:
 - a. Petitioner Speaker 1
 - b. Petitioner Speaker 2
 - c. Respondent Speaker 1
 - d. Respondent Speaker 2
 - e. Rebuttal: Petitioner - Any one of the two Speakers
 - f. Sur-rebuttal: Respondent - Any one of the two Speakers

Sur-rebuttal may be permitted only at the discretion of the Judges.
- v. The Best Speaker Award shall be determined on the basis of the individual aggregate score of the Speaker taken only from the Preliminary Rounds.
- vi. The Researcher shall not be permitted to address the Court during the Oral Rounds. The Researcher may however, be permitted to pass notes to the Speakers at the discretion of the Judges.
- vii. Teams are not permitted to raise issues in the Oral Rounds that have not been submitted in the Memorandum.
- viii. The use of mobile phones, laptops, or any other electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited during the Oral Rounds.
- ix. Participants may use their own bare acts, print outs and commentaries provided that anonymity is not violated during the Rounds.
- x. The decision of the Judges as to the marks allotted to each team shall be final.
- xi. So as to ensure uniformity in the marking system all Judges will be provided with a scoring guideline.

Splitting of Time between Speakers

- i. Teams shall notify the Bench Clerks of the division of time between the 2 Speakers (including time reserved for Rebuttal & Sur-rebuttal) 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the Rounds.
- ii. If Speaker 1 exceeds his/her reserved time, the additional time taken shall be deducted from the time reserved by Speaker 2. Similarly, if Speaker 2 exceeds his/her reserved time, the additional time taken shall be deducted from the time reserved for Rebuttals/Sur-Rebuttals as the case may be. This rule may not be followed if the additional time is awarded at the discretion of the Judges to not be deducted from the time of the subsequent Speaker.
- iii. While granting additional time, if the additional number of minutes granted is not specified by the Judges, it shall be presumed that the additional time granted is 2 minutes.
- iv. The finality of the decision as to the time structure and the right to Rebut or Sur-rebut shall vest with the Judges.

Compendium

- i. All relevant case laws and statutory material to be passed on to the Judges during the Oral Rounds may be submitted in the form of a Compendium 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the Rounds to the Bench Clerks.
- ii. The Compendium shall not exceed 50 pages whether printed on one side or both sides. For this purpose, each side shall be considered as one page.
- iii. Participants are also permitted to pass on relevant material to the Judges, at their discretion, any time after the commencement of the Rounds and before its completion.
- iv. The Compendium or other relevant materials shall be returned to the participants after the completion of each Round.
- v. Participants shall ensure that anonymity is not violated while passing on any material to the Judges. If any mark, name, seal, symbol or logo of the institution/college/university is present, participants must ensure that the same is rendered unrecognizable.

Exchange of Memorandum

- i. The exchange of memorandum shall take place prior to each Oral Round as planned in the Tentative Schedule.
 - ii. The Memorandums shall be exchanged on the basis of Draw of lots before the commencement of each round.
 - iii. Teams are prohibited from making any marks on the memorandum thus exchanged. Teams are also prohibited from taking photocopies of such memorandums.
 - iv. The opponent's memorandum shall be returned to the Bench Clerks after the completion of each Round.
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A. Preliminary Rounds

- i. Every team shall argue twice in the Preliminary Rounds, once for the Petitioner and once for the Respondent.
 - ii. No two teams shall face each other more than once in the Preliminary Rounds.
 - iii. **Draw of Lots:** The match up of teams in Preliminary Rounds shall be determined on the basis of draw of lots. Draw of lots shall take place on 23rd March, 2017.
 - iv. Each side shall get a maximum time of 15 **minutes** to present their arguments. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively. The maximum time for Rebuttal is 2 minutes and the maximum time for Sur-rebuttal is 1 minute. Sur-rebuttal may be permitted only at the discretion of the Judges.
 - v. The top eight teams shall qualify to the Advanced Rounds on the basis of the aggregate score of the team in their Preliminary Rounds. In the event of a tie, the Memorandum marks shall be taken in consideration.
 - vi. The Best Speaker Award will be awarded on the basis of the scores awarded to the Speakers in the Preliminary Rounds.
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B. Advanced Rounds

- i. Every team shall argue only once in the Advanced Rounds.
- ii. The side to be argued shall be determined through Draw of Lots after the declaration of results of Preliminary Rounds.

- iii. The qualification of teams to subsequent rounds shall be on a knock-out basis for each of the Advanced Rounds. In the event of a tie, the aggregate score of the team shall be considered.
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a. Quarter-Finals

- i. The maximum time for arguments per side shall be 20 minutes. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively. The maximum time for Rebuttal is 2 minutes and the maximum time for Sur-rebuttal is 1 minute. Sur-rebuttal may be permitted only at the discretion of the Judges.
- ii. The Winners of the Quarter-final shall advance to the Semi-finals.
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b. Semi-Finals

- i. Each side shall get a maximum time of 30 minutes to present their arguments. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively. The maximum time for Rebuttal is 5 minutes and the maximum time for Sur-rebuttal is 3 minutes.
- ii. The Winners of the Semi-finals shall advance to the Final Round.
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c. Final

- i. Each side shall get a maximum time of 40 minutes to present their arguments. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively. The maximum time for Rebuttal is 10 minutes and the maximum time for Sur-rebuttal is 7 minutes.
- ii. The Winner of the Final Round shall be declared the Winner of the Competition.
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Delay in Appearance/Presentation

If a team scheduled to take part in a Round does not appear within 10 minutes of the scheduled time, the other team present shall be allowed to submit ex-parte.

Researcher's Test

- i. The Researcher's Test shall be conducted on 23rd March, 2017 as planned in the tentative schedule.
- ii. In a team consisting of three members, the member designated as Researcher shall take part in the test.
- iii. Participants are requested to write only the Team Code on the question paper.
- iv. The Researcher's Test shall be objective based on the applicable law, precedents and facts pertaining to the Moot Proposition.
- v. The duration of the Researcher's Test shall be 30 minutes.
- vi. No additional material such as the bare text of Acts, Memorandum, etc. apart from stationery may be brought by the participant to the test and no such material shall be provided by the Organising Committee.
- vii. The highest scorer of the Test shall be determined as the Best Researcher. In case of tie, the marks of the Memorandum shall be taken into consideration.
- viii. There shall be no negative marking.

The awards, certificates of winners and certificates of participation to the team shall be given only during the Valedictory Ceremony to be conducted on 25th March, 2017.

No certificate will be given to the team before or after the Valedictory Ceremony.