



BHARAT SWABHIMANI LEGAL CELL



1ST MOCK VIRTUAL COURT COMPETITION
2ND TO 4TH OCTOBER 2020

RULES AND REGULATIONS

RULES FOR THE COMPETITION

I. DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall have the corresponding meanings unless otherwise specified:

- ❖ '*Competition*' shall refer to **The 1st Mock Virtual Court Competition, 2020**.
- ❖ '*Competition Problem*' shall refer to the facts and issues released by the organizers of the Competition with its clarifications and corrections.
- ❖ '*Competition Rules*' shall refer to the official rules of the Competition as may be amended from time to time. '*IST*' shall refer to Indian Standard Time.
- ❖ '*INR*' shall refer to Indian Rupee.
- ❖ '*Knock-out round*' shall refer to the Preliminary, Quarter, Semi-final and Final rounds of the Competition.
- ❖ '*Pleadings*' shall refer to the petition submitted by any Participant as per the Competition Rules.
- ❖ '*Organizing Committee*' (hereinafter to be referred as O.C) shall refer to the committee responsible for the administration and conduct of the Competition.
- ❖ '*Official Email*' shall refer to the official email id of the O.C.

II. GENERAL RULES

a) Eligibility

- ❖ All students pursuing a 3 year or a 5 year L.L.B. course or an L.L.M. course from a recognized Law School, University or Institution in India shall be eligible to participate.
- ❖ The participation shall be on individual basis only.
- ❖ No faculty member, coach, or a designated observer will be allowed to join the video-conferencing or chat room during the session.
- ❖ Participation will be considered valid only if the registration is complete on or before **September 20, 2020(23:59 Hours IST)** including making payment of registration fee.

b) REGISTRATION

- ❖ Participants are required to complete the registration on or before **September 20, 2020 (23:59 Hours IST)**. The registration would be deemed to be complete only if

the registration form is submitted and payment of registration fee is made by the aforesaid time.

- ❖ The Registration Fee is **Rs. 200 (RUPEES TWO HUNDRED ONLY) per participant**. The payment can be made through 'PAYTM' OR 'GOOGLE PAY' to the following number: **9815077269**. The payment receipt/screenshot of receipt has to be uploaded in the registration form and only then will the registration be deemed to be complete
- ❖ The Registration shall be done by filling up the Application form available at this link: <https://forms.gle/yWKC9EUZEcs7shQJ7>
- ❖ Once the application form is filled; the O.C shall send a confirmation mail to the Participants within 24-36 hours, which shall consist of their Participant Code. The Participants shall quote this Participant Code in all further communications with the O.C
- ❖ Registration fees once paid is neither refundable nor transferable.

c) PLEADINGS

- ❖ Each participant in the Competition is required to prepare a petition on behalf of the **petitioner only**, based on the problem released by the O.C The said petition is required to be submitted to the O.C on or before **27 September, 2020 (23:59 Hours IST)**.
- ❖ The Participants will not have any opponent, thus **no exchange of petitions** will take place.
- ❖ All pleadings are required to be sent through e-mail in **both pdf and word** format to the following e-mail id: **bstmvcc@gmail.com**. The subject of the email must mention **"MVCC (PARTICIPANT CODE) PLEADINGS SUBMISSION"**. Please note that **NO HARD COPIES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED**.
- ❖ Any pleading submitted after the deadline will not be accepted for the participation.
- ❖ The pleadings are required to be prepared as if the same are being submitted in courts and **not in the format of a memorial**.
- ❖ The pleadings must be prepared *strictly* in the format of the sample draft enclosed with the competition problem.

d) FORMATTING SPECIFICATIONS

- i. FONT TYPE : VERDANA
- ii. FONT SIZE : 11
- iii. MARGINS
 - TOP : 1.2 INCH
 - BOTTOM : 1.2 INCH
 - RIGHT : 1.2 INCH
 - LEFT : 1.6 INCH
- iv. LINE SPACING : 1.5
- v. BODY OF TEXT : JUSTIFIED
- vi. PAPER SIZE : LEGAL

e) PARTICIPANT CODE

The Participant code must be ascribed on the right bottom of the cover of the index. *The Pleadings shall nowhere mention any particulars of the Participant, except the Participant Code. **There must be no mention of Name, Contact number, Email id, University name etc. at any place.*** Any material presented to the Panel should be devoid of any identification marks/seal of the Participant. If any such mark/seal exists, it must be rendered unrecognizable.

f) ANNEXURES

The participants are free to annex documents in support of their pleadings (strictly in accordance with the sample format enclosed with these Rules). In case any participant wishes to rely on any judgment, the same may be annexed to the pleadings. Participants will not be allowed to share compendiums during oral hearings; it can only be annexed with the petition.

III. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

- ❖ The **first elimination** will be done on the basis of evaluation of pleadings by eminent Lawyers.
- ❖ Upon short listing of **top 32 Participants**, oral hearings will take place through video-conference on web platform.
- ❖ The Participants are required to present their cases as if they were presenting before a bench.
- ❖ The Participants are required to prepare pleadings and **represent the Petitioner only**.
- ❖ Please note that there will be **no opponent Participant**. All the Participants will represent on behalf of petitioner. Promotion to advance rounds and elimination shall be on knock-out basis.
- ❖ The competition shall consist of four rounds:

- I. **THE PRELIMINARY ROUND;**
- II. **THE QUARTER FINAL ROUND;**
- III. **THE SEMI-FINAL ROUND; AND**
- IV. **THE FINAL ROUND.**

a) PRELIMINARY ROUND

- ❖ The Preliminary round will be conducted on **2nd October, 2020**. In the preliminary rounds, participants will have to present their case before a judge or panel of judges.
- ❖ Each Participant will be allowed a maximum of **20 minutes** to present the case, subject to a minimum of 10 minutes. The said time may be extended by the judge at his own discretion.

- ❖ The winners of the preliminary rounds, i.e. **total top 8 Participants** shall qualify for the Quarter Final Rounds. This shall be a knock-out round and for the purposes of qualification from the Preliminary Rounds to the Quarter Finals, the scores of the Participant shall be considered as first criteria. In case there is a tie, the decision shall be taken on the basis of the Pleading marks.
- ❖ The announcement of results of preliminary rounds will take place on **2nd October, 2020.**
- ❖ *The decision of the judges would be final and would not be questioned or changed in any circumstances.*

b) QUARTER-FINAL ROUND

- ❖ The Quarter-Final round will be conducted on **3rd October, 2020.** In the quarter-final rounds, participants will have to present their case before a judge or panel of judges.
- ❖ Please note there will **not be any exchange of pleadings** as participants are only required to represent the Petitioner. The Participants may improvise their case and change their arguments or prepare the case for the oral rounds on **3rd October, 2020.**
- ❖ Each Participant will be allowed a **maximum of 20 minutes** to present the case, subject to a **minimum of 10 minutes.** The said time may be extended by the judge at his own discretion.
- ❖ The winners of the quarterfinal rounds, i.e. total **4 Participants** shall qualify for the Semi Final Rounds. This shall be a knock-out round and for the purpose of qualification from Quarter Final Rounds to the Semi-Finals, the scores of the Participant shall be considered as first criteria. In case there is a tie, the decision shall be taken on the basis of the marks in the Pleadings.
- ❖ The announcement of results of quarter-final rounds will take place on **3rd October, 2020.**

c) SEMI-FINAL ROUND

- ❖ The Semi-Final round will be conducted on **3rd October, 2020.** In the semi-final rounds, participants will have to present their case before a judge or panel of judges.
- ❖ Please note there will **not be any exchange of pleadings** as participants are only required to represent the Petitioner. The participants may improvise their case and change their arguments or prepare the case for the oral rounds on **3rd October, 2020.**
- ❖ Each Participant will be allowed a maximum of **30 minutes** to present the case, subject to a minimum of 15 minutes. The said time may be extended by the judge at his own discretion.
- ❖ The winners of the semi-final rounds, i.e. total **2 Participants** shall qualify for the Final Rounds. This shall be a knock-out round and for the purposes of qualification from the Semi Final Rounds to the Finals, the scores of the Participant shall be considered as first

criteria. In case there is a tie, the decision shall be taken on the basis of the Pleading marks.

- ❖ The announcement of results of semi-final rounds will take place on **3rd October, 2020**.

d) **FINAL ROUND**

- ❖ The Final round will be conducted on **4th October, 2020**. In the final rounds, participants will have to present their case before a panel of judges.
- ❖ Please note there will **not be any exchange of pleadings** as participants are only required to represent the Petitioner. The participants may improvise their case and change their arguments or prepare the case for the oral arguments on **4th October, 2020**.
- ❖ Each Participant will be allowed a maximum of **45 minutes** to present their case, subject to a minimum of 20 minutes. The said time may be extended by the judge at his own discretion.
- ❖ The Winner of the Final Round shall be declared Winner of the Competition.

IV. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- ❖ **PLEADINGS**

Following would be the criteria for judging the Pleadings:

S. No.	PARAMETERS	MARKS
1.	KNOWLEDGE OF LAW AND FACT	20
2.	INTERPRETATION OF LAW AND APPLICATION OF FACTS	20
3.	EXTENT AND USE OF RESEARCH	20
4.	PRESENTATION AND ARTICULATION OF THE PLEADINGS	20
5.	ADHERENCE TO NORMS WITH RESPECT TO STYLE, GRAMMAR AND DRAFTING	20
	TOTAL MARKS	100

- ❖ **DEDUCTION OF MARKS FOR LATE SUBMISSION**

Late submission, if any, of the pleadings may be permitted by the Organizing Committee in exceptional circumstances on case to case basis upon prior request of the participants subject to deduction of 5 marks per day for late submission and subject to a maximum limit of 2 days after which it won't be accepted.

Note: Participants are requested to strictly adhere to the rules concerning time limit for submission of the pleadings.

- ❖ **PRESENTATION**

The criterion for the scoring of the presentation of case during oral hearings has been given herein below:

S. No.	PARAMETERS	MARKS
1.	KNOWLEDGE OF LAW	20
2.	APPLICATION OF LAW TO FACTS	20
3.	INGENUITY AND ABILITY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS	20
4.	STYLE, POISE, COURTESY AND DEMEANOR	15
5.	TIME MANAGEMENT & COURT CRAFT	10
6.	COORDINATION AND TEAMWORK	10
7.	ADEQUACY OF THE PRAYER	05
TOTAL MARKS		100

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

- ❖ Courtroom decorum is to be maintained at all times.
- ❖ **LANGUAGE** - The competition shall be in English.
- ❖ Since the oral hearings will take place through video-conference, participants which are not speaking are required to mute their microphones.
- ❖ The participating teams shall be responsible for internet connectivity issues at their end. The O.C shall not be responsible for poor internet connectivity of the participating teams.
- ❖ The O.C reserves the right to amend, modify, change or repeal any of the competition rules at any stage. The O.C shall communicate any changes made in the competition rules to the participants.
- ❖ If a participant believes that violation of the rules of the competition has taken place at any stage of the competition, the participant(s) within half an hour after the completion of the round in which violation has allegedly occurred should inform the O.C through email. *Team(s) under no circumstances shall approach the Judges with any complaints.*
- ❖ Dress Code for the Oral Rounds shall be according to the rules of The Advocates Act, 1961 without band and gown. If a team does not have the prescribed uniform with them due to Covid-19 pandemic, then they can wear strict **Western Formals**.
- ❖ The background of the participating teams should be plain and shall not contain any symbols or any representations.
- ❖ The O.C's decision shall be final in all matters concerning the competition.

VI. AWARDS

The competition embraces following awards:

WINNER
INR 2000/-

1ST RUNNER-UP
INR 1000/-

BEST PLEADING
INR 500/-

E-Certificate of participation will be provided to all participating teams and E-Certificates for advanced rounds will be provided to qualifying teams.

VII. CLARIFICATIONS

Communications regarding any clarification may be sought through contact numbers given below **by or before 24th September, 2020.**

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

ADVOCATE UMESH NARANG STATE COORDINATOR, BHARAT SWABHIMAN LEGAL CELL	9815077269
MS. LAKSHI NAGPAL STUDENT COORDINATOR	8283099354
MR. PARIT AGGARWAL STUDENT COORDINATOR	9914114618
MS. ISHITA ARORA STUDENT COORDINATOR	7589111667
MS. DOLSY STUDENT COORDINATOR	9779651489

FOR ANY QUERIES FOR BHARAT SWABHIMAN LEGAL CELL

FEEL FREE TO EMAIL AT bstlegalcellchd@gmail.com

FOR QUERIES FOR COMPETITION

EMAIL ONLY AT bstmvcc@gmail.com

OFFICIAL SCHEDULE

COMMENCEMENT OF ONLINE REGISTRATION	9TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
RELEASE OF PROBLEM	12TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
LAST DATE OF REGISTRATION	20TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
LAST DATE FOR SEEKING CLARIFICATION	25TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF PETITION	27TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
SHORT LISTING OF SPEAKERS	30TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
PRELIMINARY ROUNDS FOR ORAL HEARINGS	2ND OCTOBER, 2020
QUARTER- FINAL ROUNDS FOR ORAL HEARINGS	3RD OCTOBER, 2020
SEMI-FINAL ROUNDS FOR ORAL HEARINGS	3RD OCTOBER, 2020
FINAL ROUND FOR ORAL HEARINGS & VALEDICTORY CEREMONY	4TH OCTOBER, 2020