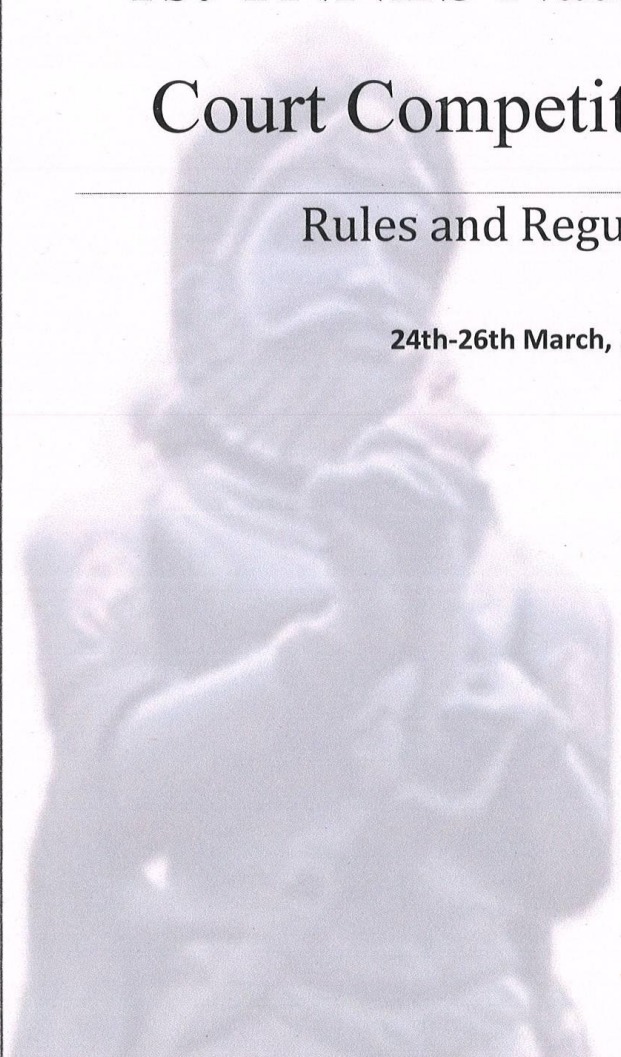


# 1st TNNLS National Moot Court Competition, 2017

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Rules and Regulations

24th-26th March, 2017



## **1<sup>st</sup> TNNLS National Moot Court Competition, 2017**

### **1. GENERAL**

**1.1** The 1<sup>st</sup> TNNLS National Moot Court Competition [“Competition”] shall be held from March 24th to 26th, 2017 at Tamil Nadu National Law School, Tiruchirappalli [“Host University”].

The Moot Court Committee along with the designated Faculties-in-charge of TNNLS shall be the “Organizers”.

### **1.2 Eligibility**

Students pursuing three (3) or five (5) year law courses from any recognized Law School/College/University in India are eligible to participate.

### **1.3 Team Composition**

**1.3.1** One team, comprising a minimum of two (2) and not more than three (3) members, per institution shall be eligible to participate in the Competition, subject to completion of Registration formalities as detailed in the ‘Invite’ to the Competition.

**1.3.2** Each team shall be composed either of two (2) speakers and one (1) researcher or two (2) speakers. No change in team composition shall be permitted once the team composition is communicated to the organizers. In any unanticipated or unexpected circumstance, the team composition can be changed ONLY if permitted by the Organizers. The team must communicate the request for change in the composition to the Organizers via email prior to the dates of the Competition.

### **1.4 Registration**

**1.4.1** Registration for the Competition shall open on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 and will close by 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.

**1.4.2** All teams must register themselves by sending an email to [tnnls.mcc@gmail.com](mailto:tnnls.mcc@gmail.com) with the subject of the mail stating “Registration-



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(Name of the Institution)". The email must contain details of the team composition.

**1.4.3** The registration shall be accepted on first come first serve basis subject to a cap of 24 teams.

**1.4.4** Upon confirmation of registration via email from the Organizers, the participating team must send a scanned copy of the Demand Draft (DD) towards the registration fee (₹ 3000/-) to the Organizers within three days of receiving the confirmation email from the Organizers.

**1.4.5** The DD must be issued in favour of "**The Registrar, Tamil Nadu National Law School**", payable at Tiruchirappalli.

**1.4.6** The DD must reach the Organizers latest by 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2017. The DD must be posted to the following address:

Tamil Nadu National Law School,  
Dindigul Main Road, Navalurkuttappattu, Sri Rangam(TK)  
Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu-620009

**1.4.7** Failure to comply with above rules shall result in cancellation of registration.

### 1.5 Dress Code

Men: Formal - White Shirt, Black Trousers, Black Blazer, Black Tie and Black Shoes.

Women: Formal - White Shirt, Black formal trousers/skirts, Black Blazer and Black Shoes

(or)

Indian formals- Black Salwar with white Kurta and black vest coat/Blazer

### 1.6 Submission of Memorials

Each team should prepare one Memorial for each side, (ie) the Petitioner(s)/Appellant(s) and the Respondent(s). The soft copy of the Memorials must reach the following e-mail address: [tnnls.mcc@gmail.com](mailto:tnnls.mcc@gmail.com), on or before 11:59 PM, 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. One hard copy of each Memorial must reach the Organizers on or before 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 to the same address stated above.

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### **2. ORAL ROUNDS**

#### **2.1 General Rules for Oral Rounds:**

- 2.1.1.** The language of the proceedings shall only be in English.
- 2.1.2.** The teams must strictly adhere to the time limit specified for each round.
- 2.1.3.** The time split between the speakers must be communicated to the Court Clerks prior to the commencement of each Round.
- 2.1.4.** There will be no extension of time. In an event where the judges are of the opinion that a certain exigency does require an extension of time, they may extend the cumulative speaking time for a team.
- 2.1.5** There shall be no oral communication between team members seated on the table and the speaker making oral submissions. However, the teammates can write a note to the speaker which shall be passed on by the Court Clerk.
- 2.1.6.** No use of electronic gadgets shall be permitted inside the Court room.
- 2.1.7.** The teams shall not disclose to the judges, in any manner whatsoever, for the entire duration of the Rounds, either their own individual identities or the identity of the institution that they represent.
- 2.1.8.** Teams can pass on a compendium of the sources they cite in their Memorial via the Court Clerks if required.
- 2.1.9.** Sur-rebuttals are allowed based on the discretion of the judges.



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### **2.2. The Preliminary Rounds**

- 2.2.1.** There shall be two (2) Preliminary Rounds to ensure that each team is given the opportunity to argue from both sides of the Proposition.
- 2.2.2.** The fixtures for the Preliminary Rounds shall be prepared by the Organizers. The Team codes for the preliminary rounds shall be decided by way of draw of lots.
- 2.2.3** The time limit for oral submissions shall be 25 minutes for each team including rebuttals. Only one speaker from the team shall be permitted to rebut/sur-rebut.
- 2.2.4** If two or more teams have the same cumulative points (Memorial scores + Oral round scores), the team with the higher cumulative oral rounds scores shall be ranked higher.
- 2.2.5** If two or more teams have the same cumulative points and also the same cumulative oral rounds marks, then the team with the higher gross Memorial score shall be ranked higher.

### **2.3. The Quarter Final Rounds**

- 2.3.1.** The highest ranked eight (8) teams from the Preliminary Rounds, as determined by the Rules stated above, shall qualify for the Quarter Final Rounds. In accordance with the ranks ascertained above, the fixtures for the Quarter Final Rounds shall be decided by draw of lots.
- 2.3.2** For the Quarter Final Rounds, each team shall argue ONCE for the side allotted by draw of lots.
- 2.3.3** The time limit for oral submissions shall be 25 minutes for each team including rebuttals. Only one speaker from the team shall be permitted to rebut/sur-rebut.
- 2.3.4** Four (4) teams shall qualify for the Semi Final Rounds on a 'knock out' basis, i.e., the winner of each Quarter Final Round shall qualify to the Semi Final Rounds. The team with more points shall proceed to the next round.

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**2.3.5** The winner of each Quarter Final Round shall be determined on the basis of the round point system based on speaker marks only.

### **2.4 The Semi Final Rounds**

**2.4.1.** The four (4) teams that proceed to the Semi Final Rounds, as determined by the Rules above, shall each argue only ONCE for the side allotted by a draw of lots.

**2.4.2** The time limit for oral submissions shall be 45 minutes for each team including rebuttals. Only one speaker from the team shall be permitted to rebut/sur-rebut.

**2.4.3.** Two (2) teams shall qualify for the Final Round on a 'knock out' basis, i.e., the winner of each Semi Final Round shall qualify to the Final Round. Qualification of the teams shall be on a knock out basis.

**2.4.4.** The winner of each Semi Final Round shall be determined on the basis of the round point system based on speaker marks only.

### **2.5. The Final Round**

**2.5.1.** The two (2) teams that proceed to the Final Round, as determined by the Rules above, shall each argue only ONCE for the side allotted by a draw of lots.

**2.5.2.** The time limit for oral submissions shall be 60 minutes for each team including rebuttals. Only one speaker from the team shall be permitted to rebut/sur-rebut.

**2.5.3.** The team which wins in the Final Round shall be declared as the 'Winning Team'. The other team shall be declared as the 'Runners-Up Team'.



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### 2.6 Evaluation of Oral Submissions:

Criteria Marks	Maximum Marks
Knowledge of Law	25
Knowledge of Fact	15
Language	15
Time Management and Organization	10
Court Etiquettes	15
Interpretation and use of Authority/ Precedents/ Statutes	20
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3. MEMORIAL

3.1. Each Memorial shall necessarily consist of the following and only the following sections:

- a) Cover Page
- b) Table of Contents
- c) List of Abbreviations
- d) Statement of Jurisdiction
- e) Statement of Facts (Must be restricted to 1 page)
- f) Issues for Consideration
- g) Summary of Arguments (Must be restricted to 2 pages)
- h) Written Submissions (Must be restricted to 20 pages)
- i) Prayer

3.2. The Cover Page of the memorial shall have only the following:

- a) The unique code on the top right hand corner of the cover page
- b) The name and place of the forum

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- c) The relevant legal provision under which filed
- d) Name of parties and their status
- e) Memorials Filed on Behalf of..

3.3. A unique code shall be assigned to each of the participating teams at the culmination of Registration formalities. Names of the participants 'or' of the institution being represented ought not to be mentioned anywhere in the Memorials. Any other mark, character or text that reveals the identity of the team members or of the institution being represented would also be considered a violation of this Rule. Violation of this Rule shall attract severe penalty at the sole discretion of the Organizers.

3.4. The hard copies of the Memorial must bear a cover page in conformity with the following scheme:

Petitioner(s)/Appellant(s): Blue

Respondent: Red

3.5. The soft copy of each Memorial must reach the following e-mail address: [tnnls.mcc@gmail.com](mailto:tnnls.mcc@gmail.com) on or before 11:59 PM, 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. Both the Memorials must be attached in a single e-mail ONLY, with the subject of the e-mail being 'Memorial for Unique Code\_'. Also, ONE hard copy of each Memorial must be sent the Organizers on or before 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 to the University's address as stated above.

3.6. The Memorial must only be in '.doc' or '.docx' format. The file names of the soft copies of the Memorial must contain only the unique code and the side being represented in the following format: NLS-T01.

3.7. Six (6) hard copies of the Memorials for each side of the Proposition must be submitted to the organizers upon arrival for Registration for the Competition.

3.8. All Memorials submitted must strictly conform to the following general requirements. Non-conformity may attract negative marking in a manner as indicated below:



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- a) Memorial must ONLY be printed on plain white A4 paper with black ink.
- b) The font used in all parts of the Memorials must ONLY be Times New Roman, Size 12, with 1.5 line spacing.
- c) The font used in the footnotes must ONLY be Times New Roman, Size 10, with single line spacing.
- d) Footnotes must not be explanatory in nature.
- e) Illustrative example of an acceptable footnote: X v. Y, AIR 1973 SC 22, 23-24 [hereinafter X].
- f) Illustrative example of an unacceptable footnote: X v. Y, AIR 1973 SC 22, 23-24 [hereinafter X] (holding that the Right to Information Act was in fact against the express provisions of Art. 14 of the Constitution of India).
- g) The uniform citation style to be followed shall be the **Bluebook (19<sup>th</sup> Edition) Citation** format.
- h) Each page of the Memorials must have a margin of one (1) inch on all sides. No text must be placed within this margin of the page, other than the page numbers, header and the footer.

3.9. The Index of Authorities must contain a list of all legal authorities cited in any section of the Memorial. The Index must contain the page number(s) of the Memorial where the authorities are so cited.

3.10. If two or more Memorials are found to be substantially similar and the Organizers, is of the opinion that there has been plagiarism between the two Memorials, the Organizers may impose such penalty on the total marks awarded towards Memorial evaluation as given below.

3.11. No amendments can be made to the Memorial after submission. Any distinction or difference between the soft and hard copies of the Memorial would attract a penalty, as determined by the Organizers. The Organizers reserve the right to determine which of such differing Memorial would be considered for evaluation purposes.

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### 4. EVALUATION OF MEMORIALS

4.1 The maximum score for each memorial shall be 100 marks. The memorials shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

Marking Criteria	Maximum Marks
Knowledge of Law and Research	25
Interpretation and Application of Law	25
Formulation of Arguments (Clarity of thoughts and Articulation of arguments)	20
Adherence to the Format and Correctness of Citations	15
Language and Grammar	15
Grand Total	100

### 4.2 PENALTIES

S. No.	Description	Penalty
4.2.1	Failure to include all sections of the Memorials.	Two (2) marks for each such section.
4.2.2	Failure to include necessary information on the cover page of the Memorials, or the use of a colour on the cover page contrary to the scheme provided	Two (2) marks for each such section.
4.2.3	Delay in submission of Memorial.	Two (2) marks on the first day of delay, with one (1) mark per day for every day thereafter



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4.2.4	Use of incorrect font, font size or line spacing.	One (1) mark per violation, subject to a maximum cumulative penalty of fifteen (15) marks.
4.2.5	Excessive length of any section of the Memorials.	Five (5) marks for every page exceeded.

### 5. DELAY IN APPEARANCE/PRESENTATION

5.1 If a team scheduled to participate in the oral submissions of a round does not appear for ten (10) minutes after the scheduled commencement of such round, the other team shall have to make oral submissions ex-parte.

### 6. SCOUTING

6.1. Scouting by the speakers, researcher or any other person affiliated with a team will lead to the immediate disqualification of such team.

6.2. Scouting shall be deemed to have happened if any person affiliated with a team is found:

- a) Witnessing, hearing, observing, etc. the oral submissions in a round, except where the round is one in which the team to which he/she is affiliated is participating in; or
- b) Reading a Memorial of a team except where:
  - It is of the team to which he/she is affiliated; or
  - The Memorials have been obtained on account of an exchange of Memorial prior to a Round of the team to which he/she is affiliated.
- c) Disclosure of identity during the oral rounds to the judges.

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### **7. MISCELLANEOUS**

- 7.1. If any one of the members of a team is notified or informed of any detail or information concerning the Competition, it shall be deemed as if the said team as a whole has been duly notified or informed.
- 7.2. Any reference to time will be construed as a reference to Indian Standard Time.
- 7.3. The Proposition is neither intended to nor does it attempt to resemble any incident or any person, living or dead. Any such resemblance is purely coincidental. The Proposition is a fictitious factual account prepared for the purposes of the present Competition only and it does not attempt to influence or predict the outcome of any matter whatsoever.
- 7.4. In case of any doubt in the understanding or interpretation of any matter concerning the Competition, the decision of the Organizers shall be final and binding.
- 7.5. The Organizers shall resolve unanticipated or unexpected contingencies, if any, and the decision of the Organizers in this regard shall be final. The acceptance of any such decisions of the Organizers is a precondition to participation in the Competition.
- 7.6. The Rules governing the conduct of the Competition should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation thereof can attract penalties or disqualification at the sole discretion of the Organizers.
- 7.7. The Organizers reserve the right to amend, alter, vary or change, in any manner whatsoever, the Rules governing the Competition, which would be communicated to the teams within a reasonable period of time.