



ALLIANCE UNIVERSITY

Private University established in Karnataka State by Act No.34 of year 2010
Recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi



Alliance School of Law

RULEBOOK

1. Short Title

- 1.1. The event shall be called “Justice N. Santosh Hegde National Moot Court Competition, 2024”

2. Important Terms

- 2.1. **Appellant:** “Appellant” shall include Appellant, Plaintiff, Petitioner, Complainant, Prosecution, Informant, etc.
- 2.2. **Clarifications:** “Clarifications” refer to the clarifications and corrections to the Moot Problem issued pursuant to Rule 6 of the Rulebook. They shall form part of the Moot Problem.
- 2.3. **Compendium:** “Compendium” means a compilation or collection of legal or other authorities that a Team seeks to rely upon during the Oral Pleading Session.
- 2.4. **Competition:** “Competition” means the “Justice N. Santosh Hegde National Moot Court Competition, 2024”
- 2.5. **Identity:** “Identity” means any fact pertaining to the identity of the Team, its members, or the Institution/College/University represented by the Team and the state or region where such Institution/College/University is located, and includes any identification marks/ seal of the Team or the Institution/ College/University represented.
- 2.6. **Members:** “Members” refer to the Faculty Members and Student Members of the Alliance Moot Court Society.
- 2.7. **Memorial:** “Memorial” refers to the memorandum of written submission, which shall be submitted by the participating teams according to the Rulebook.
- 2.8. **Moot Proposition:** “Moot Proposition” means the Proposition released by the Organizers and shall include any subsequent clarification(s) as and when released by the Organizing Committee.
- 2.9. **Oral Score:** “Oral Score” means the scores given by the judge to a particular orator/speaker of the participating team pleading before the panel during the round of oral assessment.
- 2.10. **Oral Pleading Session:** “Oral Pleading Session” means the oral pleadings before a Panel as explained in Rule 12 of the Rulebook.

- 2.11. **Orator:** “Orator” refers to two members of a participating team designated as speaker.
- 2.12. **Organizing Committee:** “Organizing Committee” or “OC” means the Alliance Moot Court Society, including any other authorized persons, appointed for the administration and conduct of the Competition and of all events leading to the Competition.
- 2.13. **Panel:** “Panel” refers to the Panelists in an Oral Pleading Session collectively.
- 2.14. **Panelist:** “Panelist” means an adjudicator of an Oral Pleading Session collectively who are appointed for the evaluation of the participating team’s performance.
- 2.15. **Participating Team:** “Participating Team” means the team which is eligible to participate in the Competition after completion of the registration procedure.
- 2.16. **Penalties:** “Penalties” refer to the marks which shall be deducted in case of violation of the rules and regulations of the event.
- 2.17. **Researcher:** A “researcher” means the member of a Team who is not an Orator.
- 2.18. **Respondent:** “Respondent” shall include Defendant, Respondent, Defense, etc.
- 2.19. **Rebuttals:** “Rebuttals” refer to the set of arguments/challenges that the Petitioner/Appellant/ Prosecutor shall raise at the end of the main pleadings of all the Orators, where no attempts can be made to introduce new arguments.
- 2.20. **Rules and Regulations:** The “Rules and Regulations” refer to the guidelines which have been made by AMCS for successfully conducting the event.
- 2.21. **Student Members:** “Student members” refer to the students of the Alliance School of Law who have been attached to the event in any capacity.
- 2.22. **Sur-Rebuttals:** “Sur-Rebuttals” means the defense presented by the Respondent in response to the Rebuttals.
- 2.23. **Team:** “Team” means the registered representatives of any College/Institution/University participating in the Competition and shall include only those members as specified in Rule 3.6 of the Rulebook.
- 2.24. **Team Code:** “Team Code” means the code allotted to a Team through a draw of lots.
- 2.25. **Written Submission:** “Written Submission” means the memorandum of written submissions submitted by any Team as per Rule 7 of the Rulebook.
- 2.26. **Written Submission Score:** “Written Submission Score” means the score determined in accordance with Rule 9 of the Rulebook.

3. About the Competition

- 3.1. **AMCS: Alliance Moot Court Society** shall be having the responsible for organizing the competition. They shall be releasing the schedule of the event, moot problem, guidelines and shall look after all the relevant matters pertaining to the event.
- 3.2. **About the Competition:** The Pre-Qualifier round will be conducted via online platform

on **24th February, 2024** which will be followed by Octa-Final Round (16 Teams qualified from Pre-Qualifier Round) **offline at Alliance University Campus from 21st to 23rd March, 2024.**

- 3.3. **Language:** The official language of the competition shall be in English.
- 3.4. **Interpretation:** The organizers of the event will have the final authority to interpret the rules.
- 3.5. **Eligibility:** Students enrolled in either the 5-year Integrated course or the 3-year LLB course are eligible to participate in this competition.
- 3.6. **Team Composition:** Each team shall constitute a minimum of two members and maximum of three members. In a team of three members, two of the members shall be designated as Orators and the third member shall be designated as the Researcher. Whereas, in a team constituting of two members, both the members shall be designated as Orator and one of the members may be designated as researcher. Once registered, the team will not be permitted to vary the team composition, except with the express permission of the Organizers.
- 3.7. **Dress Code:** The Participants, particularly for the Inauguration, Researcher's Test, Oral Rounds and Valedictory & Prize Distribution, are to adhere to the following dress code only:
 - a. Gentlemen: Black trousers, White shirt, Plain Black Blazer, Black Tie
 - b. Ladies: Black trousers, White Shirt, White Kurta and Black Churidar pants, Plain Black Blazer

4. Registration

- 4.1. Interested teams must register themselves for the competition by 27th January, 2024 (before 11:59 PM IST) by registering on the Google Form provided in the Google Drive. In case of incomplete registrations, the team's application **shall get rejected automatically.**
- 4.2. Each Team is required to upload a bona-fide letter issued by the appropriate authority along with the seal of their College/ Institution/ University along in the duly filled Registration Form. [Registration Link](#)
- 4.3. Registration Fee is Rs. 2000/- per team which shall be paid through the payment link provided on the official website before 5th February, 2024.

5. Allotment of Team Codes

- 5.1. **Team Codes:** Each team which has successfully completed the Registration requirements under the Rules shall be allotted a unique Team Code. Once the Code is allotted, every team must use this team code for any further communication(s) with the Organizers during the entire course of the Competition.

6. Clarifications to the Moot Problem

- 6.1. In case of any clarification regarding the Moot Proposition, the team can write to mootcourt@law.alliance.edu.in on or before 31st January, 2024 (11:59 PM IST).
- 6.2. The Clarifications to the Moot Problem will be released on 6th February, 2024.

7. Memorial Submission

- 7.1. Each team participating in the competition must prepare two memorials one on behalf of the Appellant and one on behalf of the Respondent.
- 7.2. Each team must send a soft copy (in MS Word .doc/.docx and pdf format) of their memorials for evaluation before **13th February, 2024 (11:59 PM IST)** in the link provided. [Memorial Submission Link](#)

The file names of the electronic copies of the memorials must contain only the team code and the side being represented in the following format:

e.g. (for Team Code 001) 001P or 001R, 'P' being for 'Appellant' memorial and 'R' for 'Respondent' memorial, and so forth.

- 7.3. Memorials submitted beyond the deadline shall be evaluated with penalties or may be subjected to disqualification if submitted after **17th February, 2024**.
- 7.4. Each Team qualified for Octa-Final Round must send three hard copies from both the sides of their Written Submissions via registered post to the address provided at the end of the Rule Book. The hard copies submitted by the Team must be exactly the same as the soft copies of the Written Submissions sent by the Team. Any violation of this rule shall attract penalty as determined by the OC.
- 7.5. The hardcopy must reach the OC on or before **16th March, 2024 (11:59 PM IST)**.

8. Format of the Memorial

- 8.1. The Memorial shall be drafted only on A4 size paper.
- 8.2. Memorial Content: The Memorial should contain the following sections:
 - a. Cover Page for Appellant and Respondent should be colored differently, "**BLUE**" Cover for **Appellant** and "**RED**" Cover for **Respondent**,
 - b. Table of Contents
 - c. Index of Authorities
 - d. Statement of Jurisdiction
 - e. Statement of Facts (not exceeding one page)
 - f. Statement of Issues
 - g. Summary of Arguments (not exceeding two pages)
 - h. Arguments Advanced (not exceeding twenty pages)
 - i. Prayer (not exceeding one page)
- 8.3. No memorial shall exceed the maximum limit of 40 pages, including the Arguments Advanced and Cover Page.

- 8.4. Each memorial shall have the following on its cover page the full cause title:
- The team code on the upper right-hand corner of the cover page
 - The name and place of the forum resolving the dispute
 - The relevant legal provision under which it is filed
 - Name of parties and their status
 - Memorial submitted on behalf of
- 8.5. **Other Important Rules:** Teams shall cite authorities in the memorial using footnotes following the Bluebook 21st Edition format.
- 8.6. The Written Submission shall not contain any annexure, photograph, diagrams, or other representation of like nature.
- 8.7. The Written Submission shall adhere to the following mandatory specifications:
- Font: Times New Roman
 - Font Size: 12
 - Line Spacing: 1.5
 - Margins: 1 inch on each side.
 - Body of text: Justified
- For footnotes, the formatting specifications are:
- Font type: Times New Roman
 - Font size: 10
 - Line spacing: 1.0
 - No additional space between 2 footnotes
 - Body of text: Justified
- 8.8. Plagiarism shall not exceed more than 15% of the overall content of the memorial.

9. Memorial Evaluation

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

Sl. No.	Parameter	Maximum Marks
1.	Identification and Articulation of Issues and Jurisdiction	15
2.	Knowledge of Law and Depth of Research	15
3.	Interpretation and Application of Law to Facts	15
4.	Authoritativeness and Persuasiveness	10
5.	Organization of Arguments	10
6.	Clarity of Thought	10
7.	Originality and Innovation	10
8.	Grammar and Presentation Style	10
9.	Relief Sought	5
	Total	100

- 9.2. The total marks for the Written Submissions shall be calculated by deducting marks for penalties if any, in accordance with Rule 10 of the Rulebook, from the total marks obtained by the team under Rule 9 of the Rulebook.

10. Memorial Penalties

10.1. Any Written Submission violating any of the specifications enumerated from Rule 7 to Rule 9 of the Rulebook will be penalized according to the scheme provided below:

Sl. No.	Summary of Penalty	Marks Deducted
1.	Tardiness in submitting Soft Copy of the Memorial i.e., violation of Rule 7.2. & Rule 7.3.	5 marks for the first day, 3 marks per day thereafter.
2.	Resubmission of Soft copy of the Memorial	2 marks for each re-submission
3.	Tardiness in submitting Hard Copy of the Memorial i.e., violation of Rule 7.4.	5 marks for every day delayed; 3 marks for every missing copy
4.	Omission of heads under Rule 8.2.	1 mark for every head omitted; 1 mark for every page in excess of page limit
5.	Failure to adhere to Rule 8.3.	1 mark for every page exceeded
6.	Failure to adhere to Rule 8.4.	1 mark for every violation
7.	Failure to adhere to Rule 8.5.	0.5 mark for every violation
8.	Failure to adhere to Rule 8.6. & Rule 8.7.	0.5 mark for every violation for every page containing such violation
9.	Failure to adhere to Rule 8.8.	5 marks from each side or disqualification

11. Exchange of Written Submissions

11.1. The exchange of Memorial shall take place prior to the Oral Pleading Rounds. The opponent's Written Submissions shall be returned to the Court clerks after the completion of each Round.

11.2. For the Qualifying Rounds, the teams shall be receiving the opponent's memorial on their Mail-id as provided in the Registration Form.

11.3. Teams are prohibited from making any marks on the opponent's Written Submissions thus exchanged. Teams are also prohibited from making any copies of the opponent's Written Submission, electronically or otherwise.

12. Oral Pleadings

12.1. The Moot Court Competition shall comprise of the following four rounds:

- a. Qualifier Rounds - (Online)
- b. Octa-Final Round - Day 1
- c. Quarter-Final Round - Day 1
- d. Semi-Final Round - Day 2
- e. Final Round - Day 2

12.2. The Qualifier Rounds of the competition shall be hosted online via Zoom Meeting or Google Meet or Teams which shall take place on **24th February, 2024.**

- 12.3. Teams shall submit their oral pleading throughout the Competition in the following order:
- a. Orator 1/Speaker 1 for Appellant
 - b. Orator 2/Speaker 2 for Appellant
 - c. Orator 1/Speaker 1 for Respondent
 - d. Orator 2/Speaker 2 for Respondent
- 12.4. The Rebuttals or Sur-rebuttals, as the case may be, shall be presented by only one Speaker of the Team. The Rebuttals of the Appellant shall be limited to responding to the oral pleadings of the Respondent. The Sur-rebuttals of the Respondent shall be limited to responding to the Rebuttals of the Appellant.
- 12.5. Rebuttals shall be permitted only at the discretion of the Panel.
- 12.6. 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. Such notes shall be passed through the court masters present in the court room.
- 12.7. Team members may pass research material, other written materials or notes to the Orator who may be speaking, in a discreet manner.
- 12.8. Before the Oral Pleading Session of a Team begins, the Orators of the Team shall inform the court master regarding the following, after which this information shall not be amended:
- a. Order of speaking of the Orators.
 - b. The Orator delivering the Rebuttals or Sur-rebuttals, as the case may be.
 - c. Time reserved by each speaker for Oral Pleadings, as well as for Rebuttals or Sur-rebuttals, as the case may be, in accordance with Rule 12.
 - d. Extensions of time may be granted only in extraordinary circumstances at the discretion of the Panel, and is strongly discouraged.
- 12.9. In case any opponent Team fails to appear in an Oral Pleading Session, the round shall be conducted ex-parte and the scoring shall be done as if the defaulter Team had been present and arguing.
- 12.10. Any Compendium that the Team seeks to rely on shall be submitted to the court master prior to any Oral Pleading Session. Such Compendium must contain a cover page specifying the Team Code. Further, the Compendium must comply with Rule 5 of the Rulebook. The court master shall provide such Compendium to the Panel.
- 12.11. Any further legal or technical authorities not included in the Compendium may be passed only at the discretion of the Panel, provided that such authorities were submitted to the court master prior to the Oral Pleading Session for verification of compliance with Rule 5 of the Rulebook.
- 12.12. Teams are not permitted to raise issues in the Oral Rounds that have not been submitted in the Written Submissions.

- 12.13. The use of mobile phones, laptops, or any other electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited during the Oral Rounds, subject to the discretion of the judges.
- 12.14. Participants may use their own bare acts, print outs and commentaries provided that anonymity is not violated during the Rounds.
- 12.15. Any Team which violates any of the Rules with respect to the Oral Pleading Sessions may be penalized. The decision of the Panel shall be final in this regard.
- 12.16. The decision of the Judges as to the marks allotted to each team shall be final and binding.

13. Structure of Oral Rounds

13.1. Qualifier Round:

- 13.1.1. Every team shall argue twice in the Qualifier Round, once for the Appellant and once for the Respondent.
- 13.1.2. No two teams shall face each other more than once in the Qualifier Round.
- 13.1.3. The fixtures of teams in Qualifier Round shall be determined on the basis of draw of lots. Draw of lots shall take place on **23rd February, 2024**.
- 13.1.4. Each side shall get a maximum time of 15 minutes to present their arguments of which no Speaker shall be permitted to address the bench for more than 10 minutes. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively.
- 13.1.5. The maximum time for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals is 2 minutes which shall be reserved from the allotted 15 minutes. Each speaker is required to speak for a minimum of 5 minutes exclusive of time taken for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals.
- 13.1.6. The timings and fixtures shall be intimated to the team on **23rd February, 2024** to their Mail-id.
- 13.1.7. The teams must adhere to the joining time, if fails, the teams may get disqualified. Following this, if a team is not present, no additional time will be granted by the OC. The other team present at the round, will be heard ex-parte.
- 13.1.8. The team must keep their cameras switched on throughout the course of the rounds and will remain muted unless it is their turn to speak. During the entire duration of the rounds, the participants are requested to ensure that they are within the camera's view and maintain adequate distance from the desktop/ laptop used for this purpose. (No Mobile Phones are Allowed)

13.2. Scoring in the Qualifier Round:

- 13.2.1. For the Qualifier Round, the winner of each such round shall be determined on the basis of the criteria of evaluation of the memorials scores under Rule 9 and the speaker scores under Rule 14 of the Rules of Competition, as mentioned in the Rules below.

- 13.2.2. Each Round shall be decided through the allocation of a total of 9 round points, with 6 points being awarded on the basis of Oral Scores of the Teams and 3 points being awarded on the basis of the Written Submission Scores of the Teams.
- 13.2.3. If the difference in memorial scores of the teams facing each other is equal to or exceeds seven percent (7%) of the maximum obtainable score (100 marks being the maximum obtainable score, 7% of 100 marks is 7 marks), then three (3) points are to be awarded to the team with the superior memorial scores.
- 13.2.4. If the difference in memorial scores is less than seven percent (7%) of the maximum obtainable score, then two (2) points are to be awarded to the team with the superior memorial scores and one (1) point is to be awarded to the other team.
- 13.2.5. If there is no difference in memorial scores of the two teams then the teams will be awarded 1.5 points each.
- 13.2.6. If the difference in cumulative speaker scores of the teams facing each other as awarded by each judge in the Qualifier Rounds is equal to or exceeds seven percent (7%) of the maximum obtainable score (200 marks being the maximum obtainable score, 7% of 200 marks is 14 marks), then three (3) points are to be awarded to the team with the superior speaker scores.
- 13.2.7. If the difference in cumulative speaker scores is less than seven percent (7%) of the maximum obtainable score, then two (2) points are to be awarded to the team with the superior speaker scores and one (1) point is to be awarded to the other team.
- 13.2.8. If there is no difference in speaker scores between the teams, then the teams will be awarded 1.5 points each for that judge.

Illustration:

In a round between Team A and Team B, Panelist 1 gives a cumulative Oral Score of 170 marks to Team A and 165 marks to Team B. The difference is 5 marks. Since this difference is less than 7% (200 marks being the maximum obtainable score, 7% of 200 marks is 14 marks), for Panelist 1, Team A will be awarded 2 points and Team B will be awarded 1 point. In the same round, Panelist 2 gives a cumulative Oral Score of 160 marks to Team A and 175 marks to Team B. Here, the difference of 15 marks is more than 7% and hence, Team A will be awarded 0 points and Team B will be awarded 3 points. If the Written Submission Score of Team A is 75 marks and the Written Submission Score of Team B is 75 marks, there exists a tie and hence, the 3 points will be split equally, Team A will be awarded 1.5 points and Team B will be awarded 1.5 points. The total round points for that round are therefore:

Team A: 2 (Panelist 1) + 0 (Panelist 2) + 1.5 (Written Submission) = 3.5 points

Team B: 1 (Panelist 1) + 3 (Panelist 2) + 1.5 (Written Submission) = 5.5 points

- 13.2.9. The Team with the higher cumulative round points determined in accordance with above rules will be adjudged as the winner of that particular round. Hence, in the

illustration above, Team B will be adjudged the winner.

13.2.10. The top sixteen (16) Teams will qualify to the Octa Finals happening offline. The Teams will be ranked as per the following scheme:

- a. Firstly, on the basis of the total round points earned after the two Rounds.
- b. If there is a tie in the total round points, the rank will be determined on the basis of the number of wins in the Qualifier Rounds.
- c. If a tie persists, the rank will be determined on the basis of the total score earned by both the orators in the Oral Pleading Sessions in the Qualifier Rounds.
- d. If a tie still persists after the above, it will be resolved on the basis of the Written Submission Scores of the Teams.

13.3. Octa-Final Round:

13.3.1. The sixteen (16) teams that proceed to the Octa-Final Round, as determined by the Rules above, shall each argue only ONCE for the side allotted by a draw of lots. The fixtures for the Octa-Final Rounds shall be determined based on the draw of lots. Draw of lots shall take place on **21st March, 2024**.

13.3.2. Each side shall get a maximum time of 25 minutes to present their arguments of which no Speaker shall be permitted to address the bench for more than 15 minutes. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively.

13.3.3. The maximum time for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals is 3 minutes which shall be reserved from the allotted 25 minutes. Each speaker is required to speak for a minimum of 10 minutes exclusive of time taken for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals.

13.3.4. Eight (8) teams shall qualify for the Quarter-Final Rounds on a knock out basis, i.e., the winner of each Octa-Final Round shall qualify to the Quarter-Final Rounds. The knockouts will be decided on the basis of the rules mentioned above, i.e., based on the score of the oral rounds only.

13.3.5. In case of a tie, the team with higher memorial score shall be ranked higher.

13.4. Quarter-Final Rounds:

13.4.1. The eight (8) teams that proceed to the Quarter-Final Round, as determined by the Rules above, shall each argue only ONCE for the side allotted by a draw of lots. The fixtures for the Quarter Final Rounds shall be determined based on the draw of lots. Draw of lots shall take place on **22nd March, 2024**.

13.4.2. Each side shall get a maximum time of 25 minutes to present their arguments of which no Speaker shall be permitted to address the bench for more than 15 minutes. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively.

13.4.3. The maximum time for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals is 3 minutes which shall be reserved from the allotted 25 minutes. Each speaker is required to speak for a minimum of 10 minutes exclusive of time taken for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals.

13.4.4. 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 knockouts will be decided on the basis of the rules mentioned above, i.e., based on the score of the oral rounds only.

13.4.5. In case of a tie, the team with higher memorial score shall be ranked higher.

13.5. Semi-Final Round:

13.5.1. The four (4) teams that proceed to the Semi-Final Round, as determined by the Rules above, shall each argue only ONCE for the side allotted by a draw of lots. The fixtures for the Semi-Final Round shall be determined based on the draw of lots. Draw of lots shall take place on **22nd March, 2024**.

13.5.2. Each side shall get a maximum time of 30 minutes to present their arguments of which no Speaker shall be permitted to address the bench for more than 18 minutes. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively.

13.5.3. The maximum time for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals is 5 minutes which shall be reserved from the allotted 30 minutes. Each speaker is required to speak for a minimum of 12 minutes exclusive of time taken for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals.

13.5.4. Two (2) teams shall qualify for the Final Round on a knock out basis, i.e., the winner of each Semi-Final Rounds shall qualify to the Final Round. The knockouts will be decided on the basis of the rules mentioned above, i.e., based on the score of the oral rounds only.

13.5.5. In case of a tie, the team with higher memorial score shall be ranked higher.

13.6. Final-Round:

13.6.1. 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. The team which wins the Final Round shall be declared as the 'Winning Team'. The other team shall be declared as the 'Runners-Up Team'. The winner of the Final Round shall be determined on the basis of the rules mentioned above, i.e., based on the score of the oral rounds only. In case of a tie, the team with higher memorial score shall be ranked higher. The bench strength for the Final Round shall be an odd number but not one (1).

13.6.2. The fixture for the Final Round shall be determined based on the draw of lots. Draw of lots shall take place on **23rd March, 2024**.

13.6.3. Each side shall get a maximum time of 40 minutes to present their arguments of which no Speaker shall be permitted to address the bench for more than 24 minutes. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively.

13.6.4. The maximum time for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals is 6 minutes which shall be reserved from the allotted 40 minutes. Each speaker is required to speak for a minimum of 16 minutes exclusive of time taken for Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals.

14. Oral Pleadings Evaluation

14.1. The following shall be the marking criteria and the marks allotted to each Speaker. Each Speaker shall be marked out of 100.

Sl. No.	Parameter	Maximum Marks
1.	Knowledge of Law and Facts	10
2.	Appreciation and Application of Facts	15
3.	Interpretation and Application of Law	15
4.	Use of Authorities and Reference to Memorials	10
5.	Organization and Flow of Argument	15
6.	Clarity of Thought and Expression	10
7.	Ingenuity and Ability to Answer Questions	10
8.	Argumentative Skills, Creativity and Innovation	10
9.	Style, Poise, Demeanor and Court Mannerism	5
	Total	100

14.2. The total marks for the Oral Pleadings shall be calculated by deducting marks for penalties if any, in accordance with Rule 15 of the Rulebook, from the total marks obtained by the team under Rule 14 of the Rulebook.

15. Oral Pleadings Penalties

15.1. The Administrator shall impose a Moot Penalty, if necessary, after consultation with the judges, bailiff, teams, and/or observers.

Sl. No.	Summary of Penalty	Marks Deducted
1.	Improper Courtroom Communication	3 Marks from the Speaker
2.	Scouting	10 marks from each speaker or disqualification
3.	Violation of Anonymity	5 marks from the Speaker

16. Researcher's Test

16.1. The researcher's test shall be conducted on **23rd February, 2024** via Online Platform.

16.2. In a team consisting of three members, the member designated as Researcher shall be appearing the test.

16.3. The test shall be objective with the questions based on the applicable law, precedents and facts pertaining to the Moot proposition.

16.4. The duration of the test shall be 30 minutes. The test shall consist of 50 (fifty) objective type questions carrying 1 mark each. The winner of the test shall be determined by the highest score attained.

16.5. The researcher has to switch on their camera and keep the camera on for the whole session.

17. Awards

- 17.1. **Best Team:** The Team winning the final round of the Competition shall be given a trophy and a cash prize of INR 1,00,000/- (Indian Rupees One Lakh Only).
- 17.2. **Runners Up:** The runners up team in the final round of the Competition shall be given a trophy and a cash prize of INR 60,000/- (Indian Rupees Sixty Thousand Only).
- 17.3. **Best Orator:** The Orator having the highest oral score in the preliminary rounds shall be given a cash prize of INR 15,000/- each (Indian Rupees Ten Thousand Only).
- 17.4. **Best Written Submission:** The team having the highest written submission score from Appellant and Respondent side shall be given a cash prize of INR 15,000/- each (Indian Rupees Fifteen Thousand Only).
- 17.5. **Best Researcher:** The participant having the highest researcher's score shall be given a cash prize of INR 15,000/- (Indian Rupees Fifteen Thousand Only).
- 17.6. Certificates of merit shall be given to all the teams qualifying for Octa-finals and beyond.
- 17.7. Certificate of participation shall be given to all the participating teams. The awards, certificates of merit and certificates of participation shall be given during the valedictory ceremony to be conducted on 23rd March, 2024. No certificate will be given to the team before or after the valedictory function.

18. Miscellaneous:

- 18.1. The OC reserves the right to amend, modify, change, or repeal any of the Rulebook. The OC shall communicate any changes made in the Rulebook to the Teams.
- 18.2. The OC reserves the right to take decisions on any matter not mentioned in the Rulebook. Any such decision taken by the OC shall be final and binding.
- 18.3. If a Team believes that the Rules have been violated at any stage of the Competition, the Team shall, within half an hour after the completion of the round in which the alleged violation has occurred, register a complaint with the Student Convenors of the Competition.
- 18.4. Team(s) shall not approach the Panel with any complaints, under any circumstances whatsoever.
- 18.5. If any one member 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.
- 18.6. **Travel Details:** The 16 teams who qualify for the Octa-Final Round will be required to inform their travel plan by filling the travel form provided. Any changes in the given plan should be intimated to the Organizers well in advance.
- 18.7. **Food:** Food will be provided from 20th March, 2024 to 24th March, 2024 (afternoon).

19. Important Dates:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Dates
1.	Last Date of Registration	27 th January, 2024
2.	Last Date for seeking clarifications	31 st January, 2024
3.	Release of Clarifications	6 th February, 2024
4.	Deadline for submission of Soft Copy of Memorials	13 th February, 2024
5.	Researchers Test (Online)	23 rd February, 2024
6.	Qualifier Round (Online)	24 th February, 2024
7.	Deadline for submission of Hard Copy of Memorials	16 th March, 2024
8.	Last Date to send the Travel Details	17 th March, 2024
9.	Opening Ceremony & Orientation	21 st March, 2024
10.	Octa-Final Rounds	22 nd March, 2024
11.	Quarter-Final Round	22 nd March, 2024
12.	Semi-Final Round	23 rd March, 2024
13.	Final Round	23 rd March, 2024
14.	Valedictory & Prize Distribution Ceremony	23 rd March, 2024

Postal Address:

To:

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MOOT PROPOSITION

The state of Nahira is an island country situated in south Asia. It is a socialist republic with written constitution which is same as that of India. The population of Nahira is ten billion. There are five main ethnic groups in Nahira. The names and their estimated population in the state is given as:

1. Naku: 65%
2. Bolam: 15%
3. Bayal: 10%
4. Horan: 8%
5. Others: 2%

The Naku community is involved in all different sectors in the state. Bolam community is generally seen as the fishermen community owing to its original occupations. However, the younger population has been migrating to cities mostly for employment, majorly as manual laborers. People from this community are naturally taller and physically stronger. Most of the people from this community are not as educated as people from other communities. The recent census shows that 50% of the people from this community are impoverished as against the national average of 30%.

This community, however, has produced a few of the most accomplished wrestlers over the years. Mr. Quankar Bolam is one of the most recognized wrestlers from the community. Mr. Quankar won almost all prestigious wrestling competitions around the world before his retirement at the age of 45 in the year 2005. His biography which was written by one of the most acclaimed sports authors of Nahira, described his journey to the top in the face of all the social, economic, and political stigma and discrimination on the basis of his origin, which served as the source of inspiration for many others in the Bolam community. Mr. Quankar with an aim and zeal to bring the Bolam community at par with the other communities in Nahira, in terms of opportunity and recognition has ever since his retirement, been involved in coaching and training young Bolam wrestlers.

Mr. Haruki Naku is a wrestler from Naku community who was seen as the next Quankar and has grown to stature and recognition quite rapidly as in comparison to Mr. Bolam. He approached Mr. Quankar in the year 2006 for training him and other wrestlers in National

Wrestlers Training Center (NWTC) situated in Zahura which is the capital city of Nahira, for wrestling competitions. Mr. Quankar refused the offer stating that he is concentrating on setting up his own training center in Bolara which is a coastal city in Nahira. 80% of the total population of Bolam reside in this state. Mr. Pinau Naku the father of Haruki, who was also the chairman of National Wrestling Board (NWB) wrote a letter to Quankar as below:

“Dear sir,

Hope this letter finds you in good health. I am writing you to serve the country as a coach of the national wrestling team. Your vast experience will definitely help the athletes reach greater heights. I have had the opportunity to be captained by you as a wrestler when we went as a team on multiple occasions, and I know the discipline and the quality that you can bring to the team. Hoping for a positive reply,

Yours faithfully,

Pinau Naku,

Chairman (NWB)”

Mr. Quankar replied to the same as follows:

“Dear Pinau,

I am thankful for the generous offer. However, I must deny the same. I believe that people of Bolam need me more so that I can help them grow in sports. I believe that people from Bolam are naturally talented and require assistance in technicalities so that they are able to achieve their potential. I will be happy to assist any person who may want to train with me in Bolam.

Always yours,

Quankar”

In the year 2015, during the national games of Nahira, 3 athletes namely Sother Bolan, Ether Bolan, and Nover Bolan, all from Bolan community representing Bolam out of 15 Bolara wrestlers participating were caught on charges of using disbanding drugs. 10 of these athletes including the three caught for doping were prodigies of Quankar. All three were suspended awaiting inquiry.

In the meanwhile, on a complaint received by NWB, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) registered a case of Drug peddling against Mr. Quankar. NCB conducted raids on the premises

belonging to Mr. Quankar, including his house, office, and training center. They also checked the phones and laptop of Mr. Quankar.

Several WhatsApp messages from Mr. Quankar's phone were leaked to the media. Among these messages, a subset reveals Mr. Quankar expressing apparent prejudice against the Naku athletes and suggesting wrestlers. Also, specifically from the Bolan community to visit a particular doctor who was formerly the medical officer at National Wrestling Board (NWB).

Few of the WhatsApp messages from Mr. Quankar's phone were leaked to media, the excerpts are as follows:

"Naku Athletes are seemingly incapable; I have always had my reservations about their commitment and skills."

"But don't you think Haruki Naku is doing quite well."

"He is an exception; we should not ignore the overall lack of dedication and discipline; they are not talented."

"You are a talented young man; I suggest you visit Dr Tamtum he will help you."

"Dr Tamtum isn't he the ex-medical officer at NWB."

"Yes, he is but you can meet him for assistance and guidance."

"Do you think Naku Athletes should also meet him?"

"Well let's just say they need a lot more than Dr. Tamtum."

"All I want is the best for my country."

However, declaring these WhatsApp messages inadmissible and stating the lack of evidence, the NCB dropped the charges against Mr. Quankar.

After three days a news report surfaced highlighting an alarming increase in crime rates within the Bolam Community. The report emphasizes a high conviction rate for crimes committed by the members of this community. The news report has significantly impacted the public perception of the Bolam Community, leading to increased stigmatization.

Next day Mr. Quankar issued a public statement stating that this news report is very demeaning and hurts the sentiments of the Bolam community and instead of stigmatization of the Bolam community, works of development and social upliftment should be done, which has been absent

till now. The only reason there is an increased rate in conviction of Bolam community is due to lack of quality education and high poverty rate, thus making them victims of frivolous cases. They are not able to defend themselves because of lack of resources.

The NWB, adhering to the National Anti-Doping Rules, has implemented stringent consequences for its violation. Three wrestlers namely Sother Bolan, Ether Bolan, and Nover Bolan of Bolan community have been issued lifetime suspensions as they were accused of using 'Actoprotectors' in low quantities. The athletes stated that they have only taken 'Batavari Srahmi Ras' which is a combination of antipyretic, blood purifying, fresh cell regenerating elements. The drug is known to be an indigenous alternative medicine of the Bolan culture, facilitating quick muscle recovery, and fighting fatigue. The drug was tested after the suspension to have Actoprotectors.

The wrestlers filed a Writ Petition in the High court of Zahura stating consumption of 'Batavari Srahmi Ras' is a customary practice, an age-old tradition having no effects on performance of the athletes and therefore suspension order by the NWB was bad in law. This medicine has been recommended by Mr. Tamtum ever since his tenure at NWB.

The new elected president of the NWB Mr. Orry Naku; on 15th November 2021, aimed to implement a state-of-the-art drug testing program to detect and deter the use of performance enhancing substances among wrestlers; after a thorough evaluation process; sought to collaborate with a specialized company Catcher Pvt Ltd., with expertise in drug testing and anti-doping measures.

Catcher Pvt Ltd. employed AI algorithms to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of drug testing. The AI system was designed to analyze complex patterns and identify potential signs of drug abuse based on facial features and bodily functions, providing a more sophisticated and nuanced approach to detection. The AI algorithm would require a multitude of data and samples to work with and give a result. Most of these data were provided by the NWB and others collected through behavioral examinations of the athletes during their performances.

Although the integration of AI in drug testing became a subject of legal scrutiny, with debates surrounding the admissibility of AI-generated evidence in anti-doping cases. Critics argued that there seemed to be a pattern of selective testing that disproportionately affected athletes from specific ethnic communities, particularly the Bolan community. Data analysis indicated a higher frequency of drug tests being administered to Bolan athletes compared to athletes from other communities and one of the major reasons for the same being their naturally dominant

physical features. This has gradually affected the morale of the athletes from Bolan community and discouraged them from pursuing wrestling as a career. It became an impediment to the cause that Mr. Quankar has pursued over the years, of leading the Bolan community towards better social and economic status. Mr. Quankar, expressing his view on this in a television interview, has also said that it is time when someone from Bolan community heads the NWB so as to ensure that the wrestling community is more representative of all communities of Nahira.

The alleged racial profiling stirred public outcry, with athletes and advocacy groups from the Bolan community expressing their concerns about being unfairly targeted. A writ petition was filed in the High court of Zahura against Catcher Pvt. Ltd. And NWB, claiming that the increased scrutiny of Bolan athletes perpetuated stereotypes and undermined the principles of equality and non-discrimination. The Hon'ble High Court of Zahura dismissed the petition on grounds that Catcher Pvt. Ltd. is not an appropriate authority to exercise writ jurisdiction against and NWB having acted within the powers conferred upon it is not in violation of the principles of equality.

Sother Bolan, Ether Bolan, and Nover Bolan has approached the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Nahira against the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Zahura. Simultaneously, Quankar has approached the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Nahira for violations of fundamental rights of athletes from Bolan community. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of Nahira has agreed to hear both the matters together.

Note: The Constitution and Laws including the institutions are *pari materia* to that of Republic of India.