

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The present rules only govern the procedure of the Intra-RIC Moot Court Competition (hereinafter “the Competition”) organized by the Executive Committee of the Law Students Association of RIC (hereinafter “the Organisers”).
- 1.2 Teams must refer to the following Official Website for the Timeline and Schedule; www.thevictorsmoot.com (hereinafter “the website”).
- 1.3 The tentative timeline shall be published at the announcement of the competition and specifies the important dates and deadlines leading up to the competition. It shall specify the programme of events of the competition and shall be published no less than one week prior to the commencement of the Competition.

2. ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to teams composed of students:

- 2.1 Enrolled in the undergraduate laws programme of RIC; *and*
- 2.2 Who have not received their undergraduate qualification or any other professional qualification in the legal field (Attorney at law, Barristers, Solicitors, etc.) at the time of oral hearings.

3. TEAM COMPOSITION

Each team shall consist of a minimum of two (2) members and a maximum of five (5) members. All members may present oral submissions, the selection process for the two speakers per round is the sole responsibility of each team.

4. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The Competition, including all forms of oral and written submissions, shall be in English.

5. REGISTRATION

- 5.1 The duly completed registration form must be submitted on or before the deadline date as specified in the Timeline. Substitution of names shall not be permitted after the registration deadline.
- 5.2 Teams may participate in the Competition by making an application to the Organisers via email to **lsaric@ric.lk**
- 5.3 Upon completion of registration, each team shall be given a team number. Thereafter, all correspondence shall be in reference to the team number, through the nominated email address on registration.
- 5.4 The same team code must be used by the teams during the submission of Memorandums and during all the Rounds of the Competition.

6. DRESS CODE

The dress code for the rounds of the competition shall be formal. The dress code for all the functions during the competition shall be smart casual.

7. THE MOOT PROBLEM

- 7.1 The Organisers will distribute the Moot Case on the date specified in the timeline via the website and the same Moot Case will be used throughout the competition. If the release of the Moot Case is delayed for any reason, a notice will be emailed and teams will be given extra time for the submission of Memorandums.
- 7.2 Teams are to identify the subject matter of the moot based on the Moot Case and all literature provided with it.
- 7.3 Teams cannot introduce new facts outside what is available in the Moot Case.
- 7.4 Requests for clarifications regarding the Moot Case or its interpretation shall be made by email to **lsaric@ric.lk**

8. WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS (MEMORIALS)

- 8.1 Each team must prepare written submissions in support of the legal position of both the Claimant party as well as the Respondent party.

- 8.2 Each team is to submit an electronic version of both their written submissions in **both** PDF and Microsoft Word (.docx/ .doc) with only the
- 8.2.1 Team code for Claimant
- 8.2.2 Team code as Respondent
- through email to lsaric@ric.lk on or before 12 p.m on the date specified in the Timeline.
- 8.3 Any team that fails to submit written submissions (softcopy) by the deadline (0000h) will not be eligible for the Memoranda Awards (Best and Runners-Up memoranda) and will be disqualified from the tournament.
- 8.4 The Cover Page of the Memoranda must have the following colour scheme:
- Blue: Appellant Cover Page
- Red: Respondent Cover Page
- 8.5 All teams will receive the Memorandums of the teams they are scheduled to meet in the Preliminary Rounds no less than one week prior to the competition by email.
- 8.6 Each individual Memoranda shall not exceed a limit of 30 pages, excluding the Cover Page, and pages containing the Table of Contents, and Bibliographical Lists (cases, legal texts, statutory instruments etc.).
- 8.7 The Memoranda shall be formatted according to the following specifications:
- 8.7.1 Typed on standard A4 size page.
- 8.7.2 Font type: Times New Roman.
- 8.7.3 Font size for body text: 12; the text of the written submission must have one and a half spacing (1.5"). Font size for footnotes: 10; text of footnotes may be single-spaced. However, two separate footnotes must be double-spaced.
- 8.7.4 Margin: 1 inch (2.54cm) margin on each side of the A4 size page
- 8.7.5 Footnotes must follow the Oxford Standard for Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA).
- 8.7.6 Quotations of sources outside of the Memoranda of fifty words or more in any part of the Memoranda shall be block-quoted and must be in italics.
- 8.7.7 The Memoranda must not contain any annexure/photographs/sketches/exhibits/affidavits etc.
- 8.8 Any Written Submission failing to adhere to any of the specifications enumerated will be penalized according to the scheme below;

Rule	Marks deducted
8.4	2 marks each
8.6	1 mark for each additional page
8.7.1	1 mark
8.7.2	1 mark
8.7.3	0.5 marks each
8.7.4	1 mark
8.7.5	4 marks
8.7.6	1 mark each
MAXIMUM DEDUCTIBLE FROM TOTAL	15 MARKS

8.9 The following will be the marking criteria and the marks allocated to each category:

Marking Criteria	Marks Allocated
Knowledge of the law and extent of research	30
Proper and articulate analysis, clarity and organization	25
Knowledge of facts	15
Evidence of original thought	20
Grammar and style	10
TOTAL	100

9. ORAL HEARING

- 9.1 Depending on the number of Teams that apply the organisers shall decide on the format of the completion.
- 9.2 Each team shall argue for both sides (Claimant and Respondent), In case of a tie the team with the higher Memoranda Score will advance to the Semi-finals.
- 9.3 Only two (2) speakers of the maximum allowed four (5) speakers may present Oral Submissions in any given round.
- 9.4 Teams need not restrict their Oral Submissions to the Memoranda.
- 9.5 Teams must submit in writing an Outline of Arguments to both their opponents as well as the Panel prior to the commencement of the Oral Hearing.

- 9.6 Each team will have a maximum of 40 minutes to present their Oral Submissions. The Speaking order and time allocations must be determined by Teams and conveyed to the Panel prior to the Commencement of each round.
- 9.7 Each speaker will be marked on a total of hundred (100) marks by each Member of the Panel. The average of the marks of the entire panel will be taken as the final score.
- 9.8 The following will be the Marking Criteria and the Marks allocated to each speaker by each Member of the Panel:

Marking Criteria	Marks Allocated
Knowledge of the law and facts	25
Application of law to the facts	20
Use of authorities	10
Ingenuity and ability to answer questions	15
Clarity of thought	10
Style, poise, courtesy, & demeanour	10
Time management & organization of arguments	10
TOTAL ORAL SUBMISSION SCORE PER SPEAKER	100

10. SUBMISSION OF ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

- 10.1 All teams will be expected to carry along any case law(s) and authorities to which they intend to refer.
- 10.2 Any additional material intended to be submitted to the Panel must be submitted to the opponent.
- 10.3 During the course of oral submissions, the participants cannot submit to the Panel any material containing pictorial representations whatsoever.
- 10.4 Further, the participants will not be permitted to make any audio/visual representation nor will they be allowed to use personal computers, laptops, mobile phones and/or any other technical or mechanical device during their oral submissions. However, with permission from the Panel, participants may use an electronic device to assist in timing their oral submissions.
- 10.5 If at any instance a submission is made with any material in violation of the above rules and if any picture, sketch, photo, cartoon, caricature, audio film, video film, projector-slide

or a computer-generated image is submitted or presented to Panel, the teams shall be disqualified from the competition forthwith.

11. AWARDS

- 11.1 A Trophy for the Best Team.
- 11.2 An award for the Best Memoranda (Claimant and Respondent) .
- 11.3 An award for the Best Speaker, an award for the Runner-Up Best Speaker. The Best Speaker and Runner-Up Speaker Awards will be determined by the highest aggregate score of all Preliminary rounds that the contestant has argued divided by the number of rounds.
- 11.4 All participants will receive Certificates of Participation.

12. PENALTIES

- 12.1 Any Team where at least one of its members, including the Coach or Faculty Adviser, is found in the Preliminary Rounds to be
 - 12.1.1 viewing Moots with the intention of affording their team an unfair advantage ; or,
 - 12.1.2 engaging in any other form of scouting shall be liable for a maximum penalty of up to 50% deduction of the total oral submission score in all subsequent Preliminary Rounds.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

- 13.1 Extra-Ordinary Power of the Drafters
 - 13.1.1 All participants are expected to maintain decorum in during the competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession. The Drafters reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and immoral conduct.
 - 13.1.2 If a Team believes that the Rules of the Competition 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 Organisers.
 - 13.1.3 Team(s) shall not approach the Panel with any complaints, under any circumstances whatsoever.

- 13.1.4 The Drafters' decision as regards the interpretation of the rules or any other matter related to the competition will be final and binding.
- 13.1.5 In case of a situation which is not contemplated in the rules, the Drafter's decision on the same shall be final and binding.
- 13.1.6 The Drafters reserve the right to vary, alter, modify, or repeal any of the above rules without any prior notification, if so required, as they may deem appropriate.