

A First-of-its-Kind International Competition Focused on Mediation Advocacy



Virtual Mediation Advocacy Competition

*You have been trained to **argue**.*

*You have been taught to **defend**.*

*But have you been trained to **resolve**?*

What is *VMAC*?

Virtual Mediation Advocacy Competition has been conceived as a structured and professional platform dedicated exclusively to the evaluation of mediation advocacy as a core legal skill.

While mediation has become increasingly central to dispute resolution in practice, the role of lawyers in mediation including client counselling, strategic negotiation, and settlement design is rarely taught or assessed in structured academic formats. VMAC is designed to address this gap by training and evaluating participants in mediation advocacy through a multi-stage simulation format.

OUR PREMISE

"VMAC brings together law students from all around the world, carefully designed commercial problem scenarios, and experienced dispute resolution professionals to simulate the realities of contemporary mediation practice."

OUR APPROACH

We Don't Just Assess You. *We Build You First.*

PHASE ONE

Training & Orientation

1

All registered participants receive curated resources covering fundamentals of mediation advocacy the role of counsel, pitching mediation to clients, drafting effective mediation briefs, closing deals and using a mediator.

PHASE TWO

Preliminary Rounds- Online

2

Three structured rounds assess distinct skills deal-making, mediation pitching, and preparation of a mediation brief. The third round includes a real-life mediator presiding.

PHASE THREE · FINALS

Live Sessions with Real Mediators

3

Quarterfinals, Semifinals, and Grand Final hosted in-person in Hyderabad. Sitting mediators preside. Advocacy, negotiation, and conduct assessed in real time.

COMPETITION STRUCTURE

The *Rounds*

ROUND	DATES	WHAT YOU ARE ASSESSED ON
PRE - 1 Deal-Making	4th July to 5th July	Live negotiation and settlement design. Counsel manages competing interests, makes strategic decisions, and constructs a durable, interest-based outcome.
PRE - 2 Mediation Pitch	6th July to 10th July	Counsel assesses the client's interests, priorities, and position, and provides a reasoned recommendation on whether mediation is the appropriate course.
PRE - 3 Mediation	11th July to 12th July	A full mediation session conducted exactly as it would be in professional practice, with professional mediators presiding.
QF / SF / FINAL Mediation • Offline Hyderabad	7th to 9th August	Full mediation sessions with experienced mediators in person in Hyderabad, India in a professional mediation space. Advocacy, negotiation, and conduct assessed in real time by senior practitioners.

The *Trainings*

Training

WHAT YOU LEARN

Training – 1

Certificate course on mediation advocacy

A self-paced learning module designed to give every participant a thorough grounding in mediation advocacy covering its principles, practice, and professional standards. Developed and provided by SettleWiseNow, ASCL, and PACT

Training – 2(Live)

Pitching Mediation to Clients

A live session on how to advise and persuade clients toward mediation covering how to present it as a strategic choice, address resistance, and align the recommendation with client goals and interests.

Training – 3(Live)

Drafting Effective Mediation Briefs

A live session walking participants through the structure, language, and strategy of a professional mediation brief from articulating client objectives to framing a compelling settlement position.

Training – 4(Live)

Closing Deals & Using a Mediator

A live session on the final and most consequential stage of mediation — how to move parties toward agreement, leverage the mediator's role effectively, and close on terms that serve the client's real interests.

Six Reasons This *Changes* How You Practice

01

A Skill Set That Sets You Apart

Mediation advocacy is a distinct professional discipline. Most of your peers will graduate without ever having been assessed on it. You will not.

02

Real Mediators. Real Exposure.

The preliminary round three, quarter final, semi-final and the final rounds involve sitting mediators presiding over live sessions. The feedback and pressure are as close to real practice as a student will encounter.

03

Trained Before You Are Tested

VMAC provides structured training before assessment begins. You come as a student you leave with instincts that last.

04

A Global Platform of Its Kind

VMAC is not a rebranded moot. It is a practice-facing intervention at the exact point where professional habits are formed. Open to law students worldwide.

05

Certificate of Mediation Advocacy

All participants receive recognition and training certificates..

06

Multi-Dimensional Assessment

Across six rounds, assessed on pitching, brief writing, deal making, negotiation strategy, and live advocacy building a comprehensive professional profile.

Win Big. *Grow Further.*

1.5L+

Prize Pool

Cash prizes across all winning positions

₹30K

Worth of Courses

For every registered participant



Internship Opportunities

Exclusive internship opportunities with Tier 1 law firms such as Polaris Legal and Samvad Partners, with many more to come.

VMAC SCHOLARSHIP

Financial constraints should never stand between you and this opportunity. Apply for the VMAC Scholarship directly through the registration form.

COMPETITION DATES · HYBRID MODE

Your Journey, *Mapped Out.*

REGISTRATION

11th April
Opens

ONLINE ROUNDS

3rd July- 12th July

TRAINING PHASE

5th June onwards
Structured Training

OFFLINE FINALS

7th August – 9th August
In-Person · Hyderabad

Competition conducted in Hybrid Mode · Online Preliminaries · Offline Finals in Hyderabad

ORGANISED BY

The *Organisations* Behind VMAC

SettleWiseNow
RESOLVE. RESTORE. MOVE FORWARD

x

MIAMC
HYDERABAD

Co- Hosts

a ASIAN SCHOOL
OF CYBER LAWS

x

cert  juris

Knowledge and Training Partner

OUR PARTNERS

The *Partners* Behind VMAC



Resource Partner



Media Partner



Outreach Partners

OUR PARTNERS

The *Partners* Behind VMAC

SAMVĀD:
PARTNERS

Proposition Drafting Partner



POLARIS LEGAL

Supporting Partner

Exciting new partnerships to be announced soon...

REGISTRATION

The First Generation of *Mediation Advocates Starts Here.*

Open to law students worldwide across all years and institutions. No prior experience in mediation required.

₹ 6,500

per person · teams of 2-3

\$80

per person · approx. USD

Registration fee inclusive of all training resources(₹30,000 value), competition access, and certification

REGISTRATIONS OPEN

11th April 2026

FOR QUERIES

official.vmac@gmail.com
+91 7508125527

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.vmaccompetition.com

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