



19th NALSAR

JUSTICE BODH RAJ SAWHNY
MEMORIAL MOOT COURT
COMPETITION

2026

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TIMES

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RULEBOOK

We the People
of the United States, in Order
to establish Justice, insure domestic
Tranquillity, promote the general
Welfare, defend the Rights of
Liberty to ourselves and our
Posterity, do hereby adopt and ordain
this Constitution for the United States
of America.

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, seven Years and a Day, and who shall not, when elected, have been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen. Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to all free Persons, male or female, above the Age of sixteen, three fifths of all other Persons, except Indians not taxed, in each State. There shall be no more than one Representative for every thirty Thousand Persons, but each State shall have at least one Representative. And until such Enumeration shall be made, the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia shall have three Representatives each, and the other States shall have such Number of Representatives, not exceeding three fifths of all other Persons, except Indians not taxed, in each State. There shall be no more than one Representative for every thirty Thousand Persons, but each State shall have at least one Representative. And until such Enumeration shall be made, the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia shall have three Representatives each, and the other States shall have such Number of Representatives, not exceeding three fifths of all other Persons, except Indians not taxed, in each State.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for a Term of six Years; and each Senator shall have the Qualifications requisite for Representatives. No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and who shall not, when elected, have been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen. The Senate shall have the sole and exclusive Power of Impeachment.

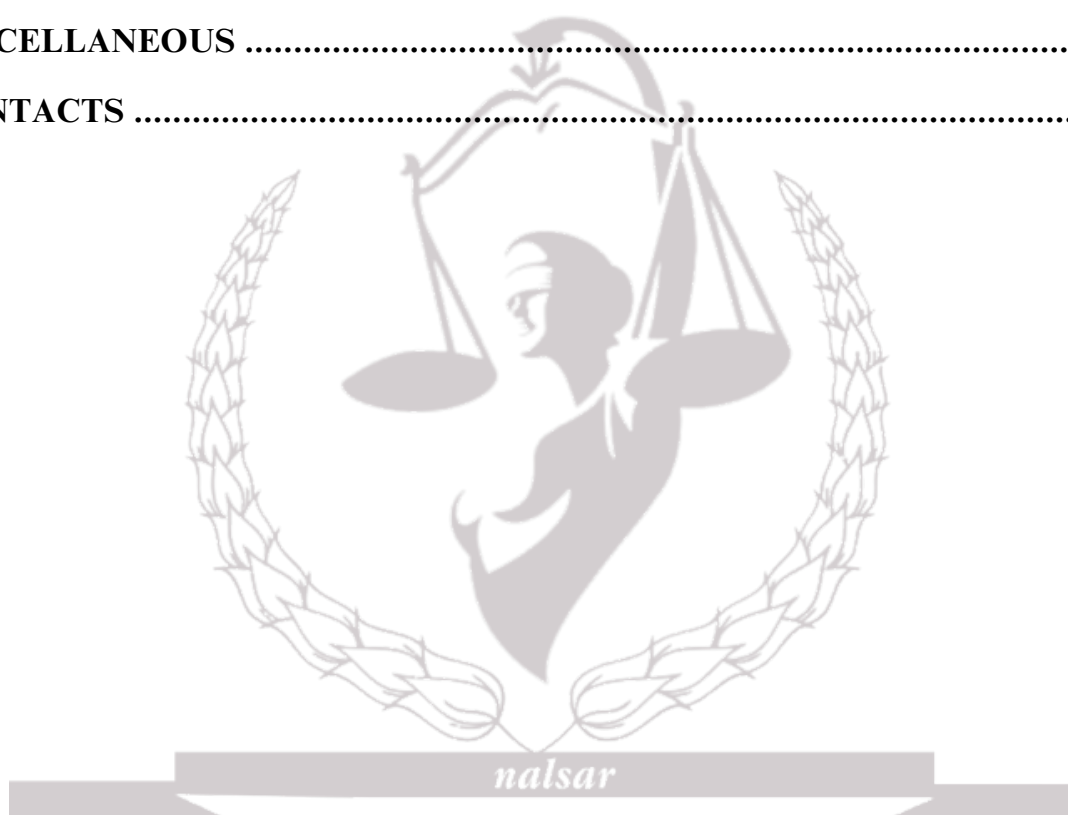
Section 4. The Judges, both of the supreme and of the inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at any time during their Continuance in Office, be removed by Impeachment.

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[I] O R G A N I S A T I O N O F T H E C O M P E T I T I O N

1 A D M I N I S T R A T I O N

- a. The NALSAR–B.R. Sawhny Memorial Moot Court Competition shall be administered by NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, India.
- b. The Competition is scheduled to be held between the **2nd and 4th of October, 2026** in an offline format.
- c. Professor Nimushakavi Vasanthi, Registrar, NALSAR University of Law, shall be the ‘National Coordinator’ of the Competition.
- d. The Organising Committee, as duly authorised by the Moot Court Committee of NALSAR, shall be responsible for the conduct of the Competition.

2 L A N G U A G E

- a. All oral and written submissions are required to be made in English, which shall be the official language of the competition.

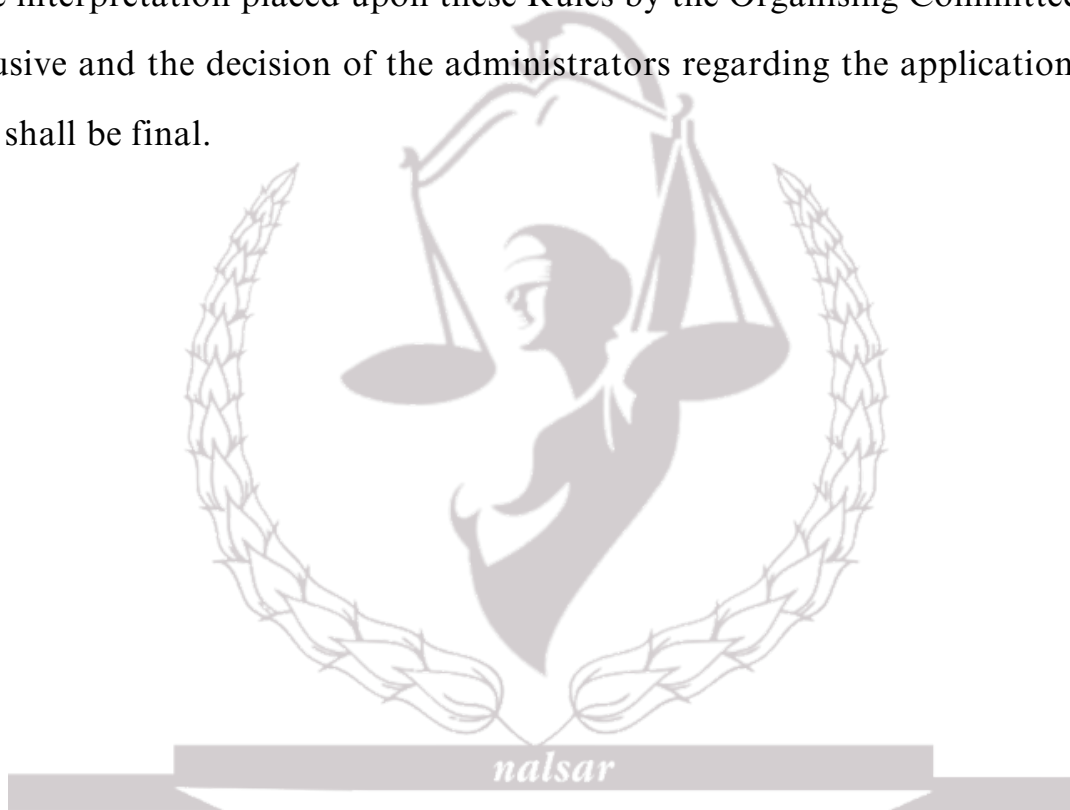
3 S T R U C T U R E O F T H E C O M P E T I T I O N

The Competition shall comprise of two stages.

i. Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round This shall be open to all teams which register for the competition. The results of this round shall be based on the evaluation of memorials and shall determine the 24 teams which will proceed to Stage II.

ii. Stage II: Oral Rounds The teams which qualify Stage I shall be eligible to participate in the Oral Rounds, which shall comprise of Preliminary Rounds and Advanced Rounds viz. Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Finals.

- a. The Organising Committee will have exclusive authority to interpret the Rules in instances of interpretational conflict. Such interpretation will be performed according to appropriate procedure and be guided by interests of fairness and equity.
- b. The interpretation placed upon these Rules by the Organising Committee shall be conclusive and the decision of the administrators regarding the application of these Rules shall be final.



[III]

PARTICIPATION & ELIGIBILITY

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ELIGIBILITY

- a. The Competition is open to students currently enrolled in LL.B. Degree Courses (3 year/5 year) or LLM Postgraduate Degree Courses.
- b. A team is not permitted to have members from more than one institution.
- c. A maximum of **four** teams per institution will be permitted to register for the competition.

6

TEAM COMPOSITION

- a. Each team shall comprise of a minimum of two members wherein both the members will be required to perform the role of speaker.
- b. Teams may comprise of a maximum of three members, wherein two members shall perform the role of a speaker and one member shall perform the role of a researcher.
- c. In case the team comprises of two members only (as mentioned in Rule 6a above), the team will have to forgo the Researcher's Test.
- d. The substitution of any Team Member is not allowed after the registration deadline except in extenuating circumstances and only with permission of the organizers.
- e. A researcher may be allowed to argue instead of a speaker only with the permission of the court.
- f. Any additional members, including observers, will not be recognised as part of the team for the purposes of the Competition.

- a. Interested teams can register for the competition by filling up the registration form. The link to the registration form can be found [here](#).
- b. While filling the Registration Form, the teams have to choose a primary contact person, alternatively called a 'Point of Contact' ("POC"). All communications concerning the Competition will be sent by an e-mail to the nominated contact person.
- c. The nominated contact person shall convey all the information to the team. The teams must also mention the e-mail of either the respective committee or the head/dean of the institution in the Registration Form.
- d. After submission of the Registration Form, a mail confirming the provisional registration will be sent to the team and/or respective committee or head/dean of the institution.
- e. Prior payment of Registration Fees is required in order to fill out the Final Registration Form.
- f. The last date for completion of all the registration formalities is before **28th August, 2026 (11:59 P.M. IST)**.
- g. The confirmation of Registration will be notified to the teams by the Organizers, after the completion and verification of all the Registration formalities.
- h. The team will also be provided with a Team Code. In any stage of the competition, a team must be identified only by the allotted team-code.
- i. All team members must refrain from disclosing the identity of their institution at any time in any manner during the course of their participation in the competition. Non-compliance to this rule shall lead to severe penalty or disqualification as determined by the organizers. The decision of the National Coordinator in this regard shall be final.

- a. All the teams shall be required to make a payment of INR 8,500 via online bank transfer in order to register for the competition. Payment details must be attached to the registration form.
- b. The account details are:

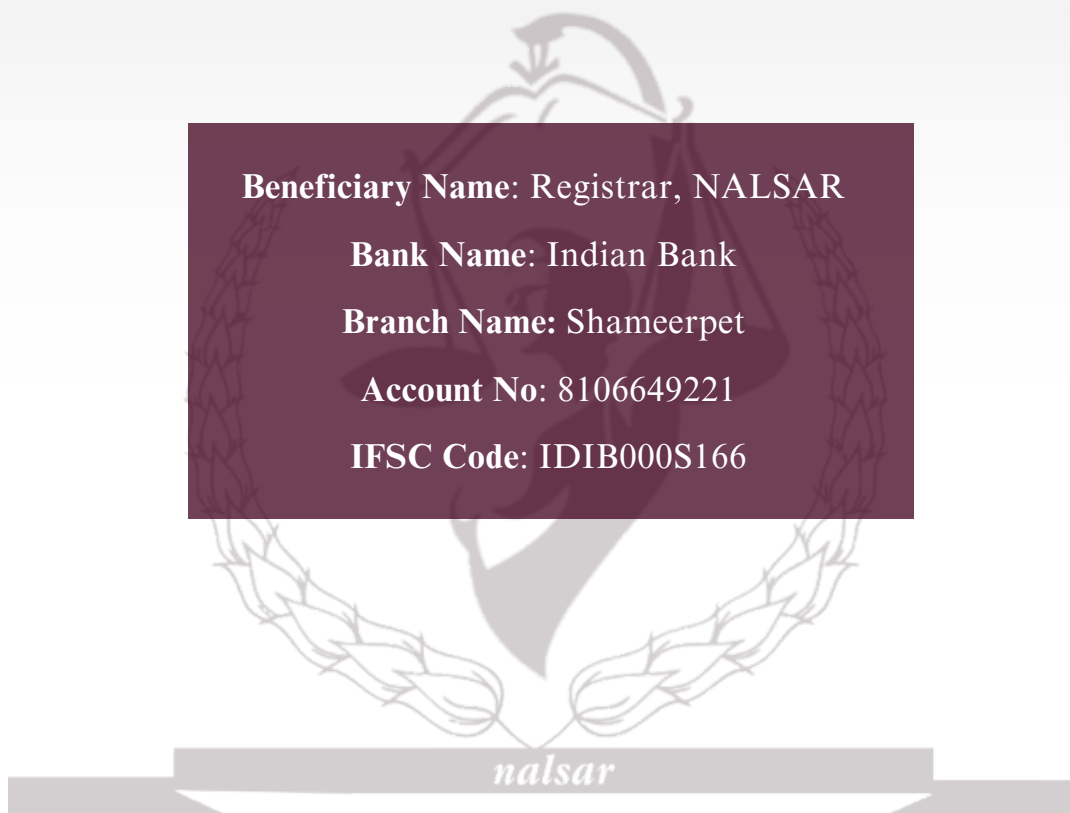
Beneficiary Name: Registrar, NALSAR

Bank Name: Indian Bank

Branch Name: Shameerpet

Account No: 8106649221

IFSC Code: IDIB000S166



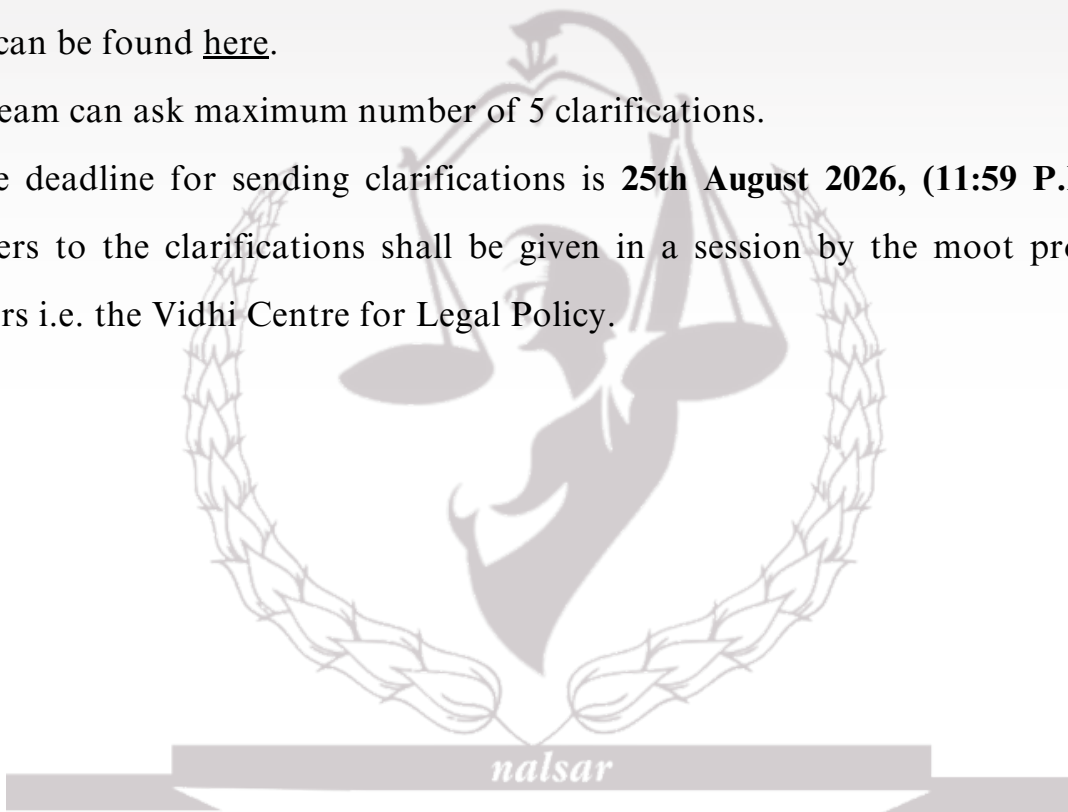
[III]

C L A R I F I C A T I O N S

[III]

C L A R I F I C A T I O N S

- a. Participants can fill out the Google form using this link for the purpose of seeking clarifications regarding the moot proposition. The link for the clarifications form can be found [here](#).
- b. A team can ask maximum number of 5 clarifications.
- c. The deadline for sending clarifications is **25th August 2026, (11:59 P.M. IST)**. Answers to the clarifications shall be given in a session by the moot proposition drafters i.e. the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy.



[I V]

M E M O R I A L E V A L U A T I O N R O U N D

9

M E M O R I A L S U B M I S S I O N

a. Every team which has successfully registered for the competition is required to prepare two memorials:

- i. Memorial on behalf of the Petitioner/Appellant(s)
- ii. Memorial on behalf of the Respondent(s)

b. All teams are required to send soft copies of their memorials for Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round before **8th September, 2026 (11:59 P.M. IST)** to **brsmoot@nalsar.ac.in** via mail with the Subject “Memorials (Team Code) – NALSAR BRS Moot Court Competition 2026”.

c. A penalty of 1 point per hour on each memorial shall be imposed for any submission made post the deadline specified. Memorials submitted 12 hours beyond the specified deadline shall not be evaluated.

d. The memorials which are submitted for the memorial elimination round shall be considered final. After completing the Competition, the Organizers reserve the right to use the memorials as they deem appropriate.

- a. All soft copies of the Memorial submitted must be in Microsoft Word Document format (.doc/.docx). The teams are allowed to submit the PDF format along with the MS Word Document format, but not solely.
- b. Each memorial should be contained in a single file with the name of the file being the allocated team code followed by the first letter of the party whose arguments are presented in that Memorial, i.e., an 'R' for Respondent(s) and 'P' for Petitioner/Appellant(s). For instance, the respondent(s) memorial of team code 10 should be named as '10R'.
- c. All pages of the Memorial must be of A4 size, with 1-inch margin on each side.
- d. The font style and size of the text of all parts of the Memorial, excluding the Cover Page shall be Times New Roman, size 12, 1.5-line spacing, justified alignment. The Footnotes shall be in Times New Roman, size 10, single (1) line spacing.
- e. Non-compliance with sub-rule (a) and (b) shall result in a penalty of 5 points per memorial
- f. Non-compliance with sub-rule (c) and (d) shall result in a penalty of 1 point per page.
- g. Plagiarism of more than 20% will attract a penalty of 1 point, on every 5% plagiarism. Plagiarism of more than 50% will lead to disqualification of the team.

a. The Memorials are required to contain the following sections:

- i. Cover Page
- ii. Table of Content
- iii. Table of Abbreviations
- iv. Index of Authorities
- v. Statement of Jurisdiction
- vi. Statement of Facts
- vii. Issues Raised
- viii. Summary of Arguments
- ix. Arguments Advanced
- x. Prayer

b. The section on Arguments Advanced shall not exceed 30 pages. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 1 point for every additional page.

c. The memorial as a whole shall not exceed 50 pages including the cover page. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 3 points for every additional page.

d. The citation format should follow the 20th edition of the Bluebook. Speaking footnotes and endnotes are not allowed. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 1 point for each error.

e. The Cover page of the memorial must contain the team registration code in the upper righthand corner, followed by a 'P/A' for the Petitioner/Appellant(s) Memorial, or an 'R' for the Respondent(s) Memorial. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 2 points.

12 M E M O R I A L E V A L U A T I O N

a. The memorials shall be evaluated out of 100 marks and the basis for evaluation shall be as follows:

Parameters	Maximum Points
Knowledge of Law and Facts	25 Marks
Proper and Articulate Analysis	25 Marks
Extent and Use of Research	20 Marks
Clarity and Organization	20 Marks
Grammar and Style	10 Marks

b. There shall be a cap on maximum penalties which shall not transcend 33 marks in any case.

13 Q U A L I F I C A T I O N O F M E M O R I A L S

a. After evaluation of the memorials submitted, the top 24 teams on the basis of their total scores in Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round shall qualify to Stage II: Oral Rounds.

b. The results of Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round shall be declared on **18th September, 2026**.

c. The teams that qualify Stage I will be required to confirm their participation in Stage II by filling the confirmation form sent to them by an e-mail **before 20th September, 2026 (11:59 P.M. IST)**. In the event where a team fails to confirm participation within the specified timeline, invitations to other teams will be issued on the basis of the scores of Stage I.

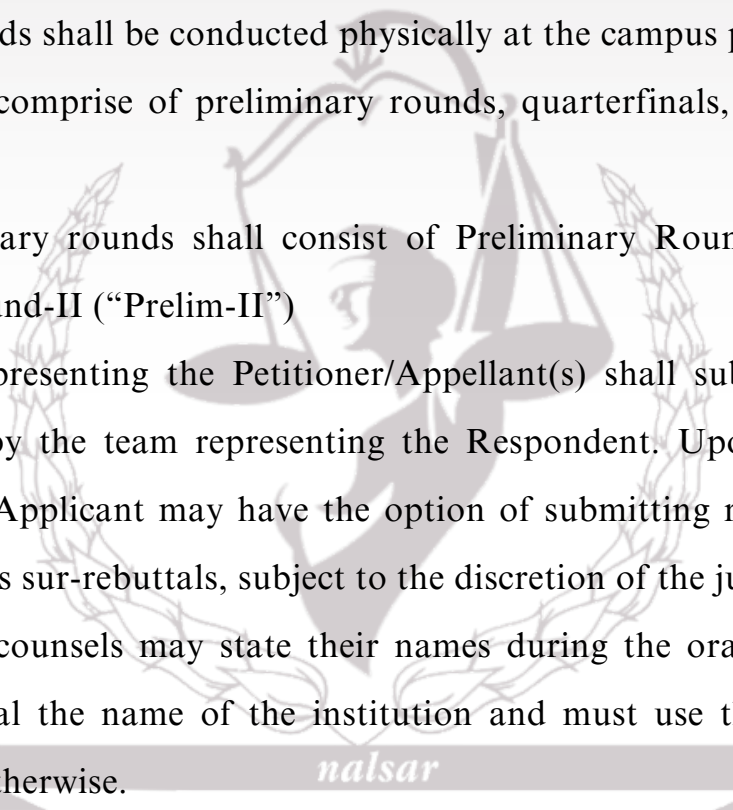
[V]

O R A L R O U N D

P R O C E D U R E

14

G E N E R A L P R O C E D U R E

- 
- a. The oral rounds shall be conducted physically at the campus premises of NALSAR University and comprise of preliminary rounds, quarterfinals, semi-finals and final rounds.
- b. The preliminary rounds shall consist of Preliminary Round-I (“Prelim-I”) and Preliminary Round-II (“Prelim-II”)
- c. The team representing the Petitioner/Appellant(s) shall submit their arguments first, followed by the team representing the Respondent. Upon completion of the arguments, the Applicant may have the option of submitting rebuttals, followed by the Respondent’s sur-rebuttals, subject to the discretion of the judges.
- d. The student counsels may state their names during the oral rounds but are not allowed to reveal the name of the institution and must use the Team Code in all circumstances otherwise.
- e. The memorials shall be exchanged after the Inaugural Ceremony for the preliminary rounds. Memorial exchange for further rounds shall be done a reasonable time ahead of each advanced round, as the Organising Committee decides.

- a. In the preliminary rounds and quarter finals, each team will be allotted 30 minutes to present their case. This shall include time allotted for arguments advanced, rebuttals and sur-rebuttals.
- b. In the semifinals and finals, each team will be allotted 45 minutes to present their case. This shall include time allotted for arguments advanced, rebuttals and sur-rebuttals.
- c. The division of time between the two speakers is up to the discretion of the team, however, each speaker must speak for a minimum of 10 minutes.
- d. Before the Oral Round begins, the team must inform the manner in which the team wishes to divide its total time between its (i) first speaker, (ii) second speaker, and (iii) the rebuttal (for Petitioner/Appellant) or surrebuttal (for Respondent).
- e. The oral arguments should not extend beyond the issues in the memorials.
- f. Teams are not allowed to use any electronic device during the Rounds.
- g. The researchers are also required to attend the oral rounds.
- h. Dressing: The Participants may be dressed in a formal courtroom attire. If any participant cannot access formal dress code, they may be allowed to be dressed in appropriate formal outfit which can be reasonably considered to the occasion. No marks shall be reduced for not wearing a full formal courtroom attire.

i. It is not mandatory to submit a compendium, but if you do so it is mandatory to submit it in a PDF format and the guidelines for it are:

i. To avoid unnecessary bulk, the compendium for the book/case or any other resource that a team is citing should include only the first page of the resource and the relevant pages.

ii. Compendium soft copies must be submitted by **24th September, 2026 (11:59 P.M. IST)** and hard copies to be submitted at the time of registration.

For example, if you are citing a paragraph(s) from a case, say X v. Y, for this part of the compendium, you should have the first page of the case, followed by relevant pages.

ii. The responsibility of making a coherent, accessible compendium folder lies with the teams. An index for the compilation (at the beginning of the file/folder) is also mandated.

iii. The teams are required to name their files in the following format: C- 'Team Code'-Side. For example, the Respondent compendium of team code 10 should be named as 'C10R'.

j. The organizing committee bears no responsibility for any issues caused to judges in finding a relevant document or page.

15 PROCEDURES FOR ORAL SUBMISSIONS

k. The oral rounds shall be evaluated out of 100 marks and the basis for evaluation shall be as follows:

Parameters	Maximum Points
Knowledge of Law and Facts	20 Points
Application of Law to Facts	20 Points
Ingenuity and Ability to Answer	20 Points
Style, Poise, Courtesy & Demeanour	20 Points
Time Management	10 Points
Organization	10 Points

l. The decision of the judges with regard to the outcome of the rounds shall be final.

16 PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

- All the teams that qualify Stage I: Memorial Evaluation Round shall be eligible to participate in the preliminary rounds.
- There shall be two preliminary rounds. Each team shall argue in both the rounds, once as Petitioner/Appellant(s) and once as Respondent.
- In the Preliminary rounds, the memorial scores of the teams will be used to determine the match-ups; a power match-up system (Team 1 v Team 24, Team 2 v Team 23...) and a slide match-up system (Team 1 v Team 13, Team 2 v Team 14...) shall be used for the first and the second round respectively.

- d. Each round shall be decided through the allocation of a total of 6 round points, with all points being awarded on the basis of the Oral Scores of the teams.
- e. A bench of two-judges will judge each round in the Preliminary Rounds.
- f. No team shall face the same bench more than once in the preliminary rounds.
- g. A total of 3 points per judge will be allocated for the Preliminary Rounds. For each judge, if the cumulative Oral Score of one Team exceeds the cumulative Oral Score of the other Team by 10% of the higher cumulative Oral Score, then the Team with the higher cumulative Oral Score will be awarded 3 points and the other team with 0 points. If such difference is less than 10%, then the Team with the higher score will be awarded 2 points and the other Team will be awarded 1 point. In the case of a tie, the teams will be awarded 1.5 points each for that judge.

Example: In a round between Team A and Team B, Judge 1 gives a cumulative Oral Score (Speaker 1 + Speaker 2) of 170 marks to Team A and 165 marks to Team B. The difference is 5 marks. Since this difference is less than 10% of 170 (which is 17) for Judge 1, Team A will be awarded 2 points and Team B will be awarded 1 point. In the same round, if Judge 2 gives a cumulative Oral Score of 155 marks to Team A and 175 marks to Team B. Here, the difference of 20 marks is more than 10% of 175 (which is 17.5) and hence, Team A will be awarded 0 points and Team B will be awarded 3 point. In the same round, say if Judge 1 or 2 gives a cumulative Oral Score of 155 marks to Team A and 155 marks to Team B. Here, both the teams will be awarded 1.5 points. The total round points for that round will be: Team A: 2 (Judge1) + 0 (Judge 2) + 1.5 (judge3) = 3.5 Points and Team B: 1(Judge1) + 3 (Judge 2) + 1.5 (judge 3) = 5.5 points. On adding the points given by each respective judge, the total team score shall be derived.

17

Q U A T E R F I N A L S

- a. Top 8 teams with the most points shall qualify in the Quarter-finals. In case of any tie, the memorial marks shall be referred.
- b. For the Quarter Final Rounds, the rankings of the Preliminary Rounds shall be used for the match - ups (Team 1 v. Team 5; Team 2 v. Team 6; Team 3 v. Team 7; Team 4 v. Team 8).

18

S E M I F I N A L S

- a. The winning team in each of the four Quarter Final Rounds shall advance to the Semi Final Rounds.
- b. In Semi Final Rounds, the pairings shall be as follows, with reference to the match numbers: the winner of Match 1 versus the winner of Match 4; and the winner of Match 2 versus the winner of Match 3.

19

F I N A L S

- a. The winning team from each of the two semi-final rounds shall advance to the final round. The winner of the final round shall be declared the winner of the competition.

[V I]

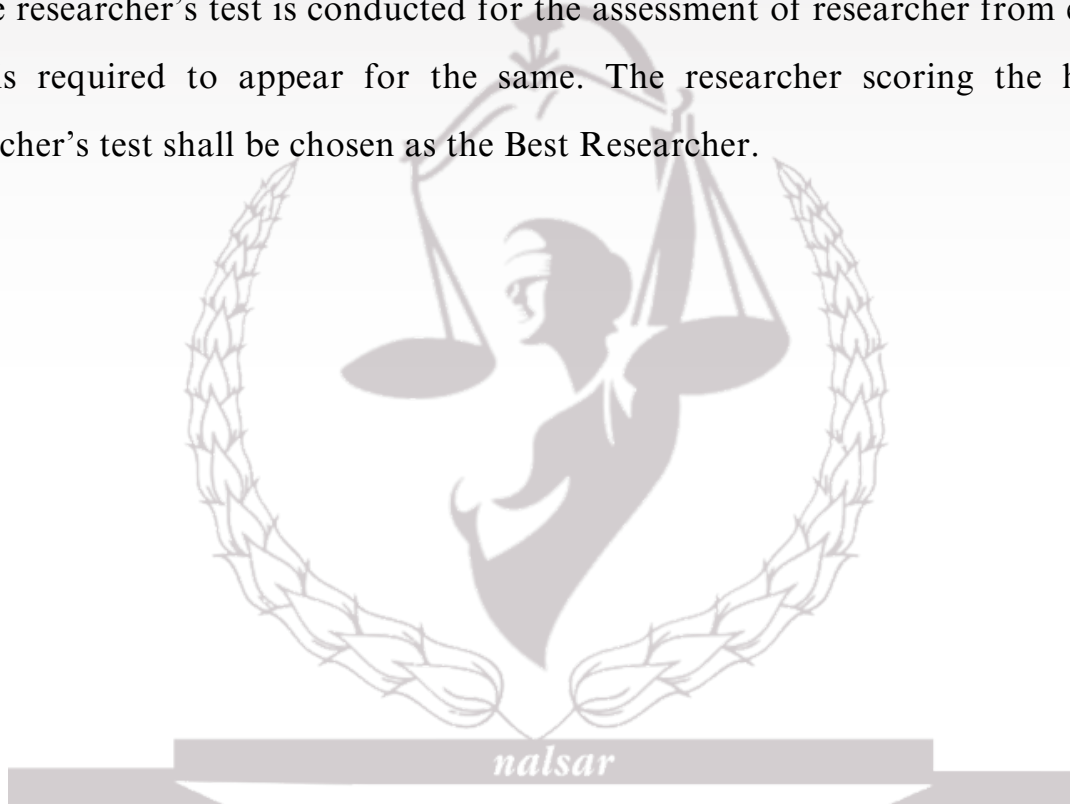
R E S E A R C H E R ' S

T E S T

[VI]

R E S E A R C H E R ' S T E S T

- a. The researcher's test is conducted for the assessment of researcher from each team who is required to appear for the same. The researcher scoring the highest in researcher's test shall be chosen as the Best Researcher.



[V I I] A W A R D S

[VII]

A W A R D S

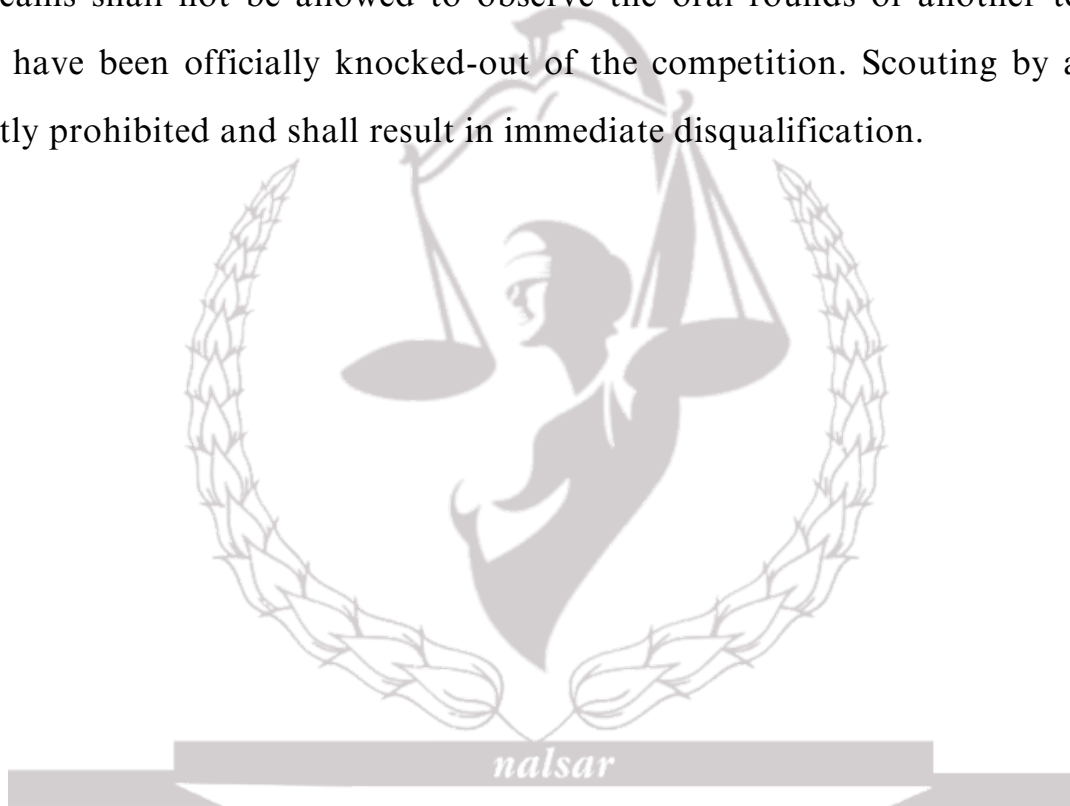
- a. **Winning Team Award:** The winning team will receive a trophy and cash prize of INR 75,000.
- b. **Runners-Up Team Award:** The runners-up team will receive a trophy and cash prize of INR 50,000.
- c. **Nani Palkhivala Award for Best Speaker:** The Best Speaker will receive a trophy and cash prize of INR 50,000.
- d. **Nani Palkhivala Award for Second-Best Speaker:** The Second Best Speaker will receive a trophy and cash prize of INR 20,000.
- e. **Nani Palkhivala Award for Best Speaker in Finals:** The Best Speaker of Finals will receive a trophy and cash prize of INR 10,000.
- f. The team with the Best Memorial (Petitioner/Appellant) will receive a trophy and a cash prize of INR 10,000.
- g. The team with the Best Memorial (Respondent) will receive a trophy and a cash prize of INR 10,000.
- h. Best Researcher will receive a trophy and a cash prize of INR 10,000.
- i. Second-Best Researcher will receive a trophy and a cash prize of INR 7,500.
- j. All participating teams will be provided with a certificate of participation or a certificate of merit, in accordance with the performance of the team.

[VIII] SCOUTING

[VIII]

SCOUTING

a. Teams shall not be allowed to observe the oral rounds of another team, unless they have been officially knocked-out of the competition. Scouting by any team is strictly prohibited and shall result in immediate disqualification.



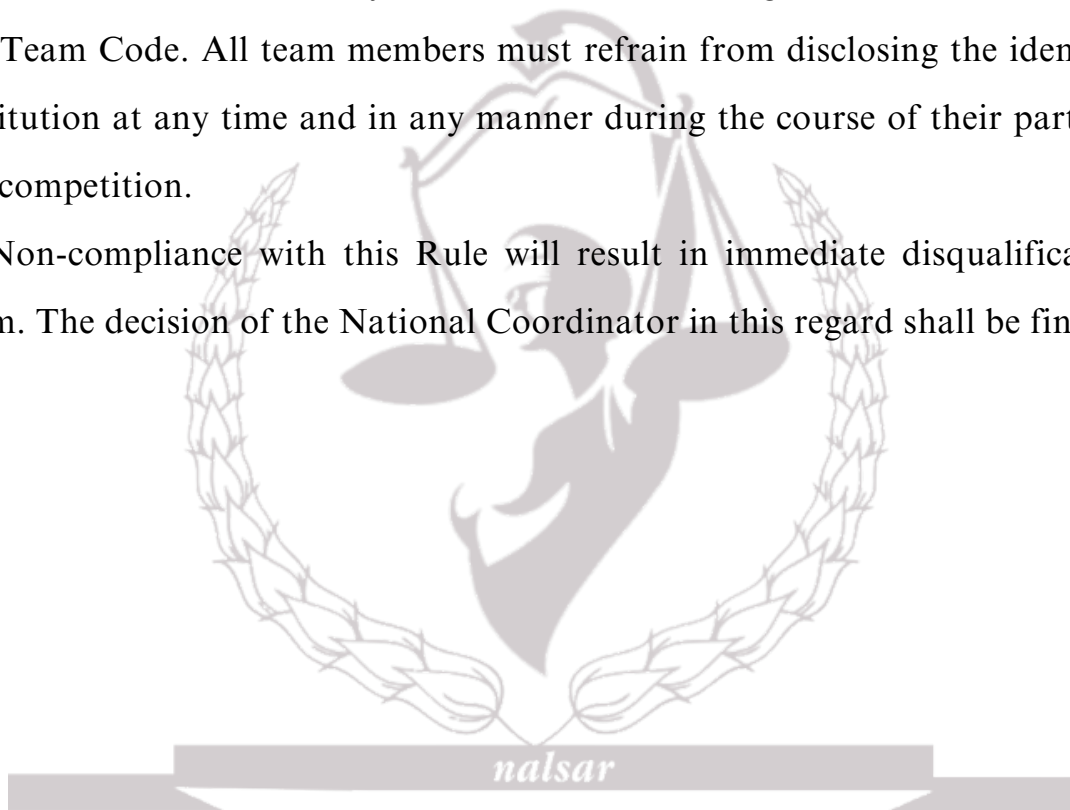
[IX]

A N O N Y M I T Y

[IX]

A N O N Y M I T Y

- a. The student counsels may state their names during the oral rounds and must use the Team Code. All team members must refrain from disclosing the identity of their institution at any time and in any manner during the course of their participation in the competition.
- b. Non-compliance with this Rule will result in immediate disqualification of the team. The decision of the National Coordinator in this regard shall be final.



[X]

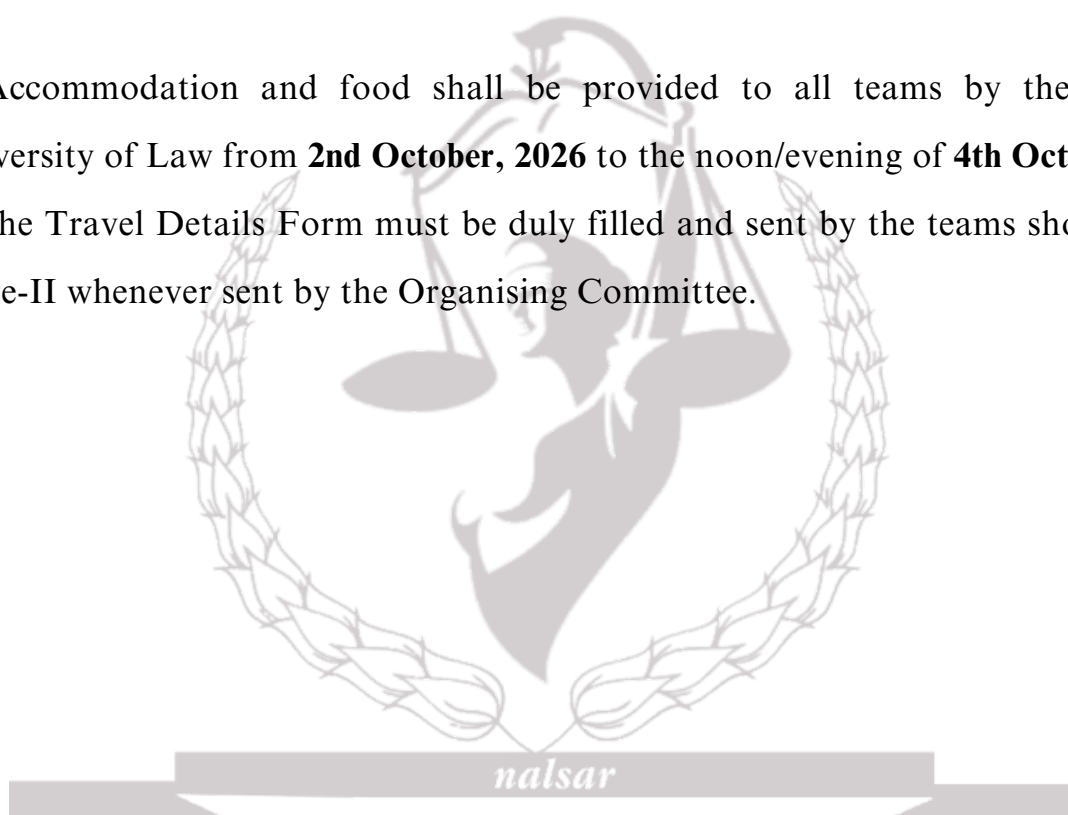
A C C O M M O D A T I O N

F O O D A N D T R A N S P O R T

[X]

A C C O M M O D A T I O N , F O O D & T R A N S P O R T

- a. Accommodation and food shall be provided to all teams by the NALSAR University of Law from **2nd October, 2026** to the noon/evening of **4th October, 2026**.
- b. The Travel Details Form must be duly filled and sent by the teams shortlisted for Stage-II whenever sent by the Organising Committee.



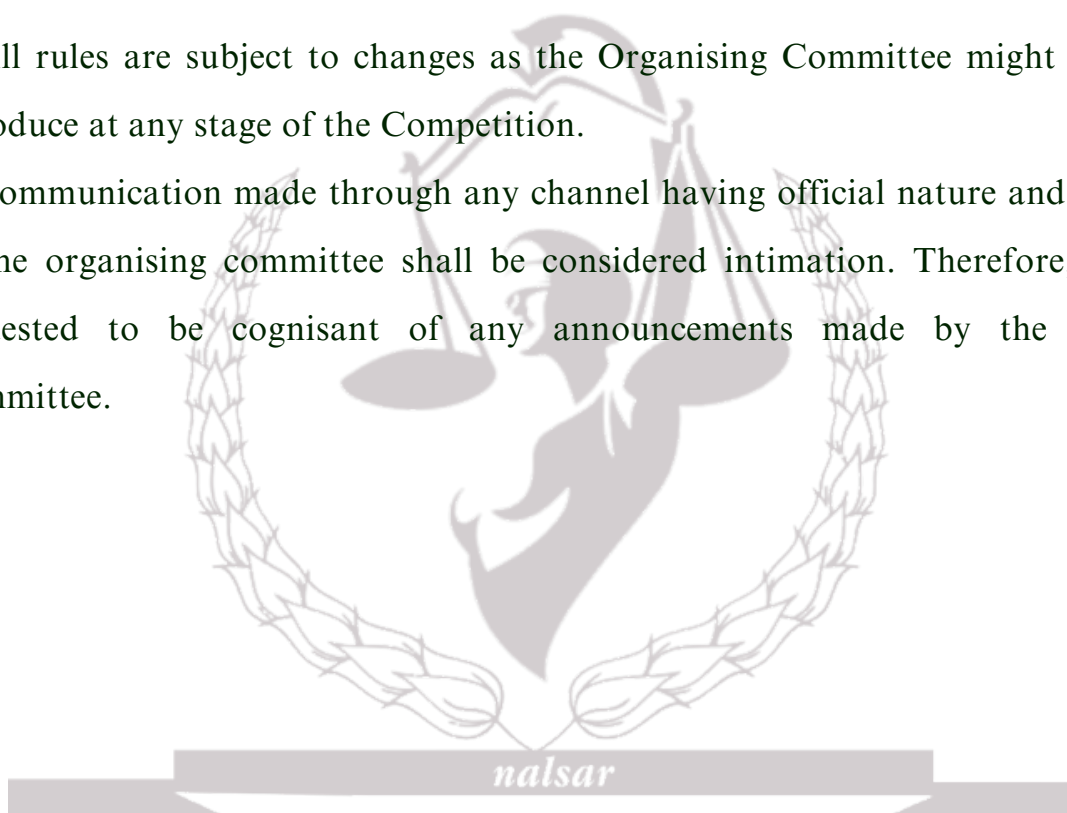
[XI]

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

[XI]

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

- a. All rules are subject to changes as the Organising Committee might deem fit to introduce at any stage of the Competition.
- b. Communication made through any channel having official nature and attribution to the organising committee shall be considered intimation. Therefore, teams are requested to be cognisant of any announcements made by the Organising Committee.



[X I I]

C O N T A C T I N F O R M A T I O N

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