

ICFAI UNIVERSITY DEHRADUN

presents

3RD EDITION OF THE ICFAI MEDIATION COMPETITION 2026

18TH - 19TH APRIL 2026



Letter of Invitation



ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University, Dehradun is pleased to announce its 3rd National Mediation Competition to be held from 18th April – 19th April 2026. This competition is organized in synchronization with the vision and objective of The ICFAI University i.e. acquiring domain knowledge, developing professional skills, and its application in the practical world. With participants from across the country, this event aims to foster a culture of peaceful resolution and enhance students' understanding of Alternative Dispute Resolution methods. The competition will not only test participants' mediation techniques but also provide a valuable learning experience, promoting the significance of mediation in today's legal landscape. With immense pleasure, we take this opportunity to invite your esteemed organization to participate in the Mediation Competition actively. We solicit your presence in our competition by sending a team and enhancing the process. A copy of detailed rules and regulations is attached herewith for your kind reference.

It would be an honor to have students participate from your esteemed institute.

We thank you in anticipation.

We are looking forward to your engagement in the event.

With warm regards

ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University, Dehradun

Table of Contents

Content	Page no
About us	04-06
Organizing committee	07-09
Objective of the Competition	10-11
Definitions	12-14
Registration process	15-16
Structure of the Competition	17-21
About the Competition	22-27
Marking Criteria	28-29
Awards	30
Important dates	31
Contact Us	32-33



ABOUT US



❖ About the University

The ICFAI University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand (hereinafter referred to as the University) was established under The ICFAI University Act 2003 (Act No.16 of 2003) passed by the Uttaranchal Legislative Assembly and assented to by the Governor on July 08, 2003.

The ICFAI University secured 44th rank in the World Universities with Real Impact (WURI) Rankings 2020 released by United Nations Institute for Training and Research. ICFAI is the only non-governmental institution among two Indian Universities in this list. The University has also been awarded the certificate for E-Learning Excellence of Academic Digitization (e-LEAD).

❖ About ICFAI Law School

The ICFAI Law School (formerly known as Faculty of Law), a constituent of the ICFAI University, Dehradun, is established to develop a new generation of legal professionals through the comprehensive and contemporary body of knowledge integrating law with Management/Humanities. The Bar Council of India has accorded its approval for imparting three-year and five-year Law Courses at ICFAI University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, and awards degrees in law. The ICFAI Law School, Dehradun offers B.B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), LL.B. and B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) integrated five-year courses, One Year LL.M in Corporate, Constitution law, Cyber law and PhD full-time and part-time programs.

The ICFAI Law School, Dehradun held the 1st Rank in the Category of “Top Law School in the State of Uttarakhand” by CSR-GHRDC Law Schools Survey 2022. It also secured 1st position in Uttarakhand & 13th among Top Law Colleges (Pvt.) in India -IIRF. The ICFAI Law School, Dehradun ranked 11th, by India Today under the category Best College in North India- Law MDRA Best Colleges Survey- 2021.



❖ About CEADRL

The Centre for Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution Law (CEADRL) has been instituted within the framework of ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University, Dehradun, in the year 2021. Under the guidance of Associate professor Dr. M. Madhuri Irene, Assistant professor Ms. Monika Kothiyal, serving as Faculty Co- Convenor and Ms. Surbhi Goyal as Faculty member, the centre adheres to the university's guidelines and regulations. Dedicated to fostering education on Alternative Dispute Resolution Laws (ADR), the centre emphasises a comprehensive, research-driven exploration of this field.

The logo of the Centre bears the Sanskrit phrase "वक्ष्यामि ते हितम्" ; taken from the Bhagawat Gita, which translates to "**I speak for your benefit**". This encapsulates the core ethos of the Centre, emphasizing its commitment to resolving disputes with a focus on the well-being and interests of all parties involved.

Committed to the convergence of academia and expert perspectives, the Centre is poised to embark on innovative projects that showcase the intersection of theory and practice in ADR. Through advocacy, research initiatives, and policy-oriented discussions, the Centre seeks to facilitate a nuanced understanding of ADR law, providing a platform for individuals to enhance their knowledge in this dynamic legal domain. The Centre envisions becoming a hub for fostering excellence in ADR, promoting informed discourse and contributing to the broader legal landscape.

The Centre for Excellence Alternative Dispute Resolution Law (CEADRL) is a dynamic and proactive student body comprising enthusiastic and committed students from B.B.A./B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) programmed, dedicated to promoting peaceful conflict resolution within the academic environment.

The background is a solid red color. In the upper right corner, there is a white halftone pattern consisting of a grid of dots of varying sizes, creating a gradient effect. Overlaid on the red background are several large, semi-transparent white circles of different sizes, some of which are partially cut off by the edges of the frame.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Our Guiding Lights



Patron-in-Chief
Prof. (Dr.) Ram Karan Singh
Vice Chancellor
The ICFAI University, Dehradun



Patron
Dr. Ramesh Chand Ramola
Registrar
The ICFAI University, Dehradun



Prof. (Dr.) Arun Kumar
Dean
ICFAI Law School Dehradun



Dr. Monica Kharola
Associate Dean
ICFAI Law School, Dehradun



Dr. M. Madhuri Irene
Associate Professor
Convenor



Dr. Monika Kothiyal
Assistant Professor
Co-Convenor



Ms. Surbhi Goyal
Assistant Professor
Faculty Member

Student Body



Mr. Aditya Patwal
Student Convenor



Ms. Mansi Rawat
Student Co-convenor



Mr. Sahil Singh
Treasurer



Mr. Yash Jauhari
Secretary



Mr. Vipul Singh
Secretary



Ms. Hitakshi Sharda
Secretary



Ms. Riya
Secretary



Mr. Shikhar Thakur
Secretary

The background is a solid red color. In the upper right corner, there is a rectangular area filled with a white halftone dot pattern. Overlaid on the red background are several large, semi-transparent red circles of varying sizes, creating a layered effect. The text 'OBJECTIVE OF THE COMPETITION' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered in the lower half of the image.

OBJECTIVE OF THE COMPETITION



ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University Dehradun is conducting its 3rd National Mediation Competition to encourage the budding lawyers to understand the rising need for Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms like mediation.

Mediation is where a neutral third party, known as a mediator, assists the parties in resolving their conflicts. A mediator is a bridge for conflicting parties to meet in the middle by facilitating communication, identifying issues, and guiding parties toward a mutually acceptable solution. The objectives of a mediation competition are multifaceted, encompassing skills development, education, promotion of ADR, networking, cultural advancement, standardization, recognition, and public awareness. These goals collectively contribute to the growth and acceptance of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in the legal landscape.

Through this competition, The Centre of Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution Law (CEADRL) aims at promoting a much achievable choice to resolve the issues of families and preparing future lawyers with the skills required for them to be active cog to smooth functioning of justice in our society.



DEFINITIONS

❖❖ Breakout Rooms

refers to the virtual sub-meeting rooms on the designated virtual platforms (as agreed by the organizing committee) that are used for the main rounds, confidential information distribution, and caucus breakout sessions.

❖❖ Caucus

refers to a confidential, private meeting held by the mediator with the individual parties to discuss options with the intent to find a resolution.

❖❖ Competition

refers to the 3rd Edition of the ICFAI National mediation competition 2026

❖❖ Competition Problems

refers to the problem provided by the organising committee to be used throughout the competition, in the competition sessions/rounds.

❖❖ Confidential Information

pertains to the essential key points provided to the participating teams concerning the party they represent and is confidential.

❖❖ Mediation

refers to the process where a neutral person assists the parties who help them mitigate their dispute and reach a mutually agreed outcome through negotiations.

❖❖ Mediation Session

refers to the scheduled period during which the mediation process takes place, including any caucus.

❖❖ Mediator

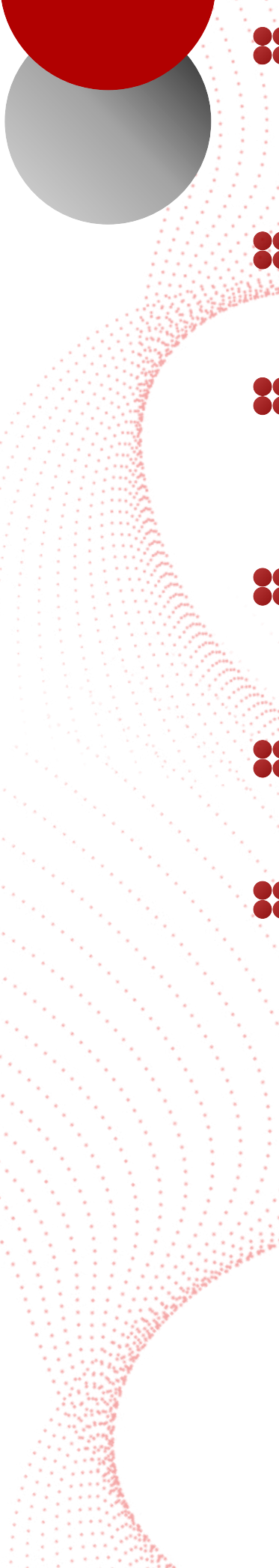
the participant performing the role of the Mediator, who is a neutral person assisting the parties to systematically isolate disputed issues, and consider alternatives to reach a consensual agreement.

❖❖ Negotiating Pair

a pair comprising of two participants - one Counsel and one Client - from the same institution.

❖❖ Organizing Committee

refers to the CEADRL members and the faculty in charge of the Centre.



❖❖ **Penalty**

refers to actions taken by the Organizing Committee (CEADRL) in response to violations of competition rules, which may include point deductions, participant disqualification, or any other disciplinary measures.

❖❖ **Preliminary Rounds**

refers to the initial 2 rounds which will determine the scores and ranks of the participants for the subsequent rounds.

❖❖ **Room Coordinator**

refers to an individual or individuals appointed by the Organizing Committee to oversee the smooth operation of a specific Competition Room, ensuring adherence to the rules and addressing any issues that arise.

❖❖ **Rules**

pertains to individual provisions in document, along with the sub-rules thereunder. The Participants are to understand and submit to these regulations upon their enrollment in the Competition.

❖❖ **Scouting**

refers to the participating teams observing the sessions of other teams.

❖❖ **Team**

refers to the entire participating team from one institution comprising of 3 members- client, counsel and mediator.



REGISTRATION PROCESS

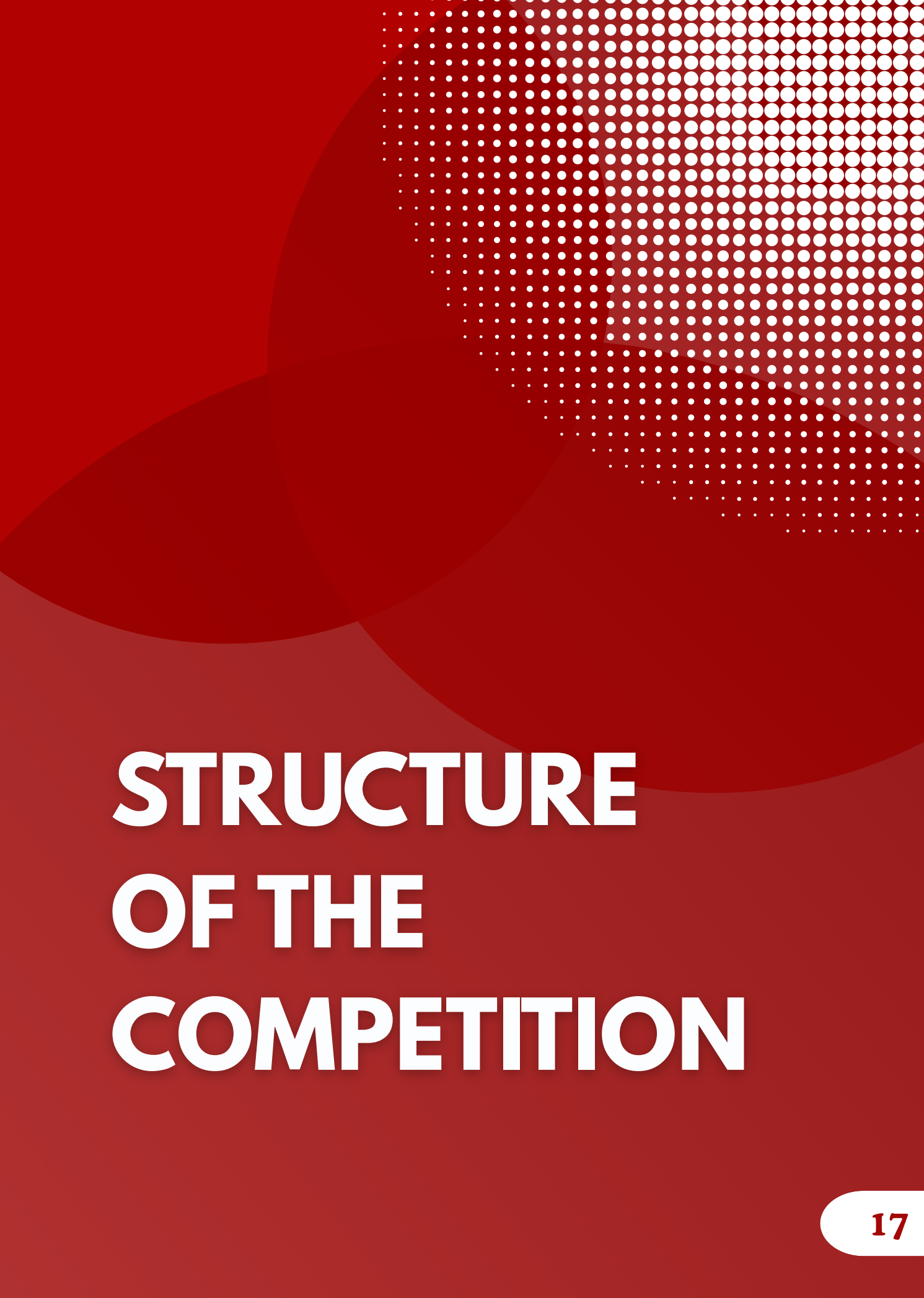


- All interested participants shall fill out the provisional registration form after which, on conformation of their intent to participate, they will be provided a link for payment of the Registration Fee.
- The Registration Fee for the competition is Rs. 1,500.
- The participants shall also submit a NOC (No Objection Certificate) issued by relevant authority of their respective institution that should include the names of the members of the Participating Team.
- On receipt of the payment and NOC the Organizing Committee will provide a Final Registration Form for confirming the registration of the Participating Team.
- No refund shall be granted in case of withdrawal under any circumstances.
- The Last Date for Final Registration is 15th April, 2026.
- Provisional Registration Form Link

<https://forms.gle/vVQcy1LeKpY2MAE77>



Scan to register



STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION



❖ ***Preliminary Round***

- All participating Teams shall complete in the preliminary round.
- Based on the score, the top 8 teams and the top 8 mediators will qualify for the quarter-final round.
- This round will not be a knockout round.
- The total time for the preliminary round will be 40 minutes, including 10 minutes of the caucus.
- To avoid conflict of interest, the organizing committee will shuffle the mediators and ensure that the mediating team and mediator are not from the same institution.
- Participating teams will be informed of the team they would be competing against, venue room link and details, confidential information (CI), and the side they will be representing via mail 1 hour prior to the round.
- In the venue room, participants are expected to follow the code of conduct throughout the competition.
- In times of dispute, the decision of the organizing committee will be considered final.



❖ *Quarter Final Round*

- The top 8 teams qualifying in the preliminary round will be competing in this round.
- This round will be a knockout round.
- A total of 4 teams will qualify for the semi-final round.
- The total time for the quarter-final round will be 45 minutes which is inclusive of 12 minutes of caucus.
- To avoid conflict of interest, the organizing committee will shuffle the mediators and ensure that the meditating team and mediator are not from the same institution.
- Participating teams will be informed of the team they would be competing against, venue room link and details, confidential information (CI), and the side they will be representing via mail 1 hour prior to the round.
- In the venue room, participants are expected to follow the code of conduct throughout the competition.
- In times of dispute, the decision of the organizing committee will be considered final.



❖ *Semi Final Round*

- The top 4 Teams qualifying from the Quarter-Finals Round will be competing in this round will be a knockout round.
- A total of 2 teams will qualify for the final round.
- The total time for the semi-final round will be 55 minutes which is inclusive of 15 minutes of caucus.
- To avoid conflict of interest, the organizing committee will shuffle the mediators and ensure that the mediating team and mediator are not from the same institution.
- Participating teams will be informed of the team they would be competing against, venue room link and details, confidential information (CI), and the side they will be representing via mail 1 hour prior to the round.
- In the venue room, participants are expected to follow the code of conduct throughout the competition.
- In times of dispute, the decision of the organizing committee will be considered final.



❖ ***Final Round***

- Top 2 Teams qualifying from the Semi-Final Round will be competing in this round.
- This round will be a knockout round.
- The total time for the final round will be 60 minutes which is inclusive of 15 minutes of caucus.
- Participating teams will be informed of the team they would be competing against, venue room link and details, confidential information (CI), and the side they will be representing via mail 1 hour prior to the round.
- In the venue room, participants are expected to follow the code of conduct throughout the competition
- In times of dispute, the decision of the organizing committee will be considered the final



ABOUT THE COMPETITION



❖ Eligibility

Only Bonafide students pursuing Law three/five-year degree programs in the Law Colleges/Universities recognized by the Bar Council of India are eligible to participate.

❖ Team Composition

Each participating team shall consist of 3 members and all the team members shall be from the same institute. No Cross Institutional Team is allowed to take part in the competition.

A Team shall comprise a Mediator and a Negotiating Pair; the Mediating Pair shall consist of a Counsel and a Client.

After Final registration is over, no team shall be allowed to change their composition and roles in any of the rounds. If any issue occurs regarding the same, the Organizing Committee shall have the discretion to adjudicate upon the same.

Note: The members' roles shall not be changed throughout the competition. No team shall be accompanied by a coach or an instructor.

❖ Language

The official language of the competition is English and shall be followed strictly.

❖ Dress Code

All the participants are required to adhere to the formal style of dressing i.e. The participants must adhere to standards of conduct and dress as high as those required of a lawyer engaged in the practice of law in India.

For Gentlemen - Business Formals (White formal shirt with black formal pants + black blazer + Tie)

For Ladies - Formals (White formal shirt with black formal pants/black formal skirt and a black blazer).



❖ Code of Conduct

The Participating Teams should mention only their allotted Team Codes for communication with Judges/Organizers. The identity of the Participating Team or Members or the name of their College/University shall not be disclosed to any other person during the Competition in any form, whether directly or indirectly. Disclosure of identity shall lead to immediate disqualification.

In addition to the above rule, sporting any visible or distinguishable badges/card/ uniform by any participant that provides an opportunity to infer/disclose their identity or the identity of the Law College/University being represented, is strictly forbidden. Any violation shall lead to immediate disqualification.

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to disqualify any team for misconduct during the competition. In case of conflict, the decision of the Organizing Committee shall be final.

❖ General Rules and Regulations

Mediation Problem: The problem for the Preliminary round, Quarter Final round, Semi-Final, and Final round shall be different. The problems for the rounds shall be released 1 week prior to the competition and the participating teams will be informed of the problem via mail.

Problem Interpretation: Teams are required to base their strategies solely on the information provided in the Competition Problem. Negotiating Teams and Mediators are prohibited from introducing new facts or modifying existing ones within the Competition Problem. However, they are permitted to draw reasonable conclusions from the given facts. Deviation from a sensible interpretation of the case may lead to penalties. Should there be any uncertainties or questions about the interpretation of any aspect of the competition, the decision of the organizing committee shall be considered final and binding. The Organizing Committee retains exclusive authority over all matters related to the competition's problems.



Ranking and Tie Breakers

The ranking and selection of the Negotiating Teams and the Mediators will be independent of each other.

In case of a tie in the scores of two or more **Negotiating Teams** during the Preliminary or Knock Out Rounds, the advancing team shall be determined by prioritising the score in Criterion 2 (Negotiation Abilities), followed by Criterion 3 (Innovative Problem Solving), and finally Criterion 4 (Strategic Approach).

In case of a tie in the score of two or more **Mediators** during the Preliminary or Knock Out Rounds, the advancing Mediator shall be determined by prioritising the score in Criterion 3 (Mediation Techniques), followed by Criterion 4 (Session Management), and finally Criterion 5 (Resolution Path).



❖ Confidential Information

Confidential information specific to each team will be provided 1 hour before each competition round through email. Along with the confidential information teams will be intimated of the sides they will be representing.

Confidentiality Obligation: Participants must not reveal confidential information to any other participating team during the competition. Any disclosure made to other participants before or after their round will result in immediate disqualification without the possibility of appeal.

❖ Penalties

In the event of a rule violation, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to impose penalties. These may include a deduction of points or, in more severe cases, disqualification of the entire team from the competition.

If a team member fails to adhere to the directives of the Organizing Committee, the team may face penalties as determined by the Expert Assessors overseeing the respective Round.

Teams that are subject to potential penalties will be granted a fair opportunity to present their case and explain why the penalty should not be applied.

Decisions made by the Organizing Committee regarding penalties are conclusive and binding. All participants must familiarize themselves with the rules and follow them diligently to maintain the integrity of the competition .



❖ Private Caucus

During the mediation session, the decision to call for a private caucus rests with the Mediator(s) and the party(ies). A private caucus involves a confidential meeting between the mediator(s) and one of the disputing parties, without the presence of the other party. This setting allows for an open and frank discussion of issues, concerns, and potential solutions.

The mediator(s) have the autonomy to call for a private caucus based on their judgment of what would best serve the interests of the parties involved. The Mediator(s) must conduct at least one private caucus during the session to ensure the progression of the mediation process.

Parties may also express their preference for a private caucus, and such requests should be considered by the mediator(s) in the spirit of facilitating constructive dialogue.

The use of private caucuses is a strategic tool in the mediation process, allowing the mediator(s) to effectively guide the parties toward a mutually acceptable resolution. The mediator(s) should ensure that these sessions are conducted in a manner that respects the confidentiality and integrity of the mediation process.

The caucus will be conducted in a separate breakout room in the same virtual meeting room in which the round will be conducted.

Marking Criteria Mediator

Serial No.	Criteria	Allotted Marks
1.	Opening Statement (cover the introduction of the concept of mediation, clarification of mediator roles, the establishment of basic rules, and a clear outline of the mediation).	/20
2.	Collaboration with Fellow Mediator (Working in harmony with the fellow mediator throughout the session, providing support as needed).	/20
3.	Application of Mediation Techniques (Demonstrates active listening, fosters trust in both joint and private meetings, ask pertinent question, grasps the underlying interest of the parties, and remains impartial at all times)	/20
4.	Management of Private and Joint Sessions (Focus on the confidentiality, time management, effective information collection and facilitating in option generation)	/20
5.	Bridging gaps and advancement in the path towards potential resolution, and Closing Statement	/20

Marking Criteria

Negotiating Pair

Serial No.	Criteria	Allotted Marks
1.	Opening Statement (This encompasses the clear presentation of facts, outlining of interests, objective and the agenda for mediation).	/20
2.	Negotiation Abilities (This includes the capacity for problems resolution, leveraging mediation services to overcome deadlocks, gathering relevant information, and the strategic use of questioning).	/20
3.	Innovative Problem Solving (This involves the generation of creative options and solutions, testing the viability of proposed solutions, and the degree of cooperation with the opposing party)	/20
4.	Strategic Approach to Negotiation (This covers the strategic revelation and application of confidential data, prioritizing the client's interests, and the tactical use of private caucus sessions)	/20
5.	Synchronization within the Team (This refers to the collaboration between the client and counsel, ensuring clear communication within the duo) and Closing Statement	/20

Awards

❖❖ **Winning Negotiating Pair**

The Winning Pair (client & counsel) shall receive a cash prize worth Rs. 10,000/-

❖❖ **Runner-up Negotiating Pair**

The Runner-up Pair (client & counsel) shall receive a cash prize worth Rs. 6,000/-

❖❖ **Winning Mediator**

The Winning Mediator shall receive a cash prize worth Rs. 5,000/-

❖❖ **Runner-up Mediator**

The Runner-up Mediator shall receive a cash prize worth Rs. 3,000/-

Important Dates

1.	3rd April 2026	Registrations Open
2.	15th April 2026	Last date of Registration
3.	16th April 2026	Last date of seeking Clarifications
4.	17th April 2026	Release of Clarifications
5.	18th April 2026	Inauguration, Prelims & Quarter Finals
6.	19th April 2026	Semifinal, Final & Valedictory

The background is a solid red color. In the upper right corner, there is a large, semi-transparent circle. Overlapping this circle is a rectangular area filled with a white halftone dot pattern. Below the circles, the text 'CONTACT US' is written in a large, bold, white sans-serif font.

CONTACT US

❖❖ Clarifications

All queries regarding the competition must be submitted in writing to the designated email address events.ceadrl@gmail.com with the appropriate subject line. Responses to clarification queries will be circulated to all participating teams to ensure transparency.

Clarifications can be sought only by the teams short-listed for the Competition. Clarifications can be requested only for ambiguity or possible errors, but not to inquire about further information, as the Problems are self-contained.

❖❖ Grievance Redressal

We understand the importance of addressing your concerns promptly and efficiently. We are committed to resolving your concerns and providing a satisfactory resolution. For any further information or if you have any grievances, kindly contact the numbers provided:

Aditya Patwal: 9728240724

Mansi Rawat: 7042176125

Hitakshi Sharda: 9833811172

****In case of any ambiguity arising at any stage of the event, the decision of the organizing committee shall be final and binding.**