

*Moot Court Society, School of Legal Studies
CGC University, Mohali*

4TH NATION WIDE MOOT COURT COMPETITION

October 22 – 24, 2026

RULE BOOK



SHORT TITLE

This moot court competition shall be called the “4th Nationwide Moot Court Competition, 2026”.

1. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise stated, the following terms shall have the meanings assigned to them:

- 1.1. **“Bench”** shall refer to the judges of an Oral Pleading Session collectively.
- 1.2. **“CGC”** shall refer to the CGC University, Mohali.
- 1.3. **“Court Officer”** shall refer to an officer appointed by the Organizing Committee to ensure the smooth functioning of the courtroom during the competition and to facilitate communication between the Committee and the Court.
- 1.4. **“Competition”** shall refer to all aspects of the “4th Nationwide Moot Court Competition, 2026”.
- 1.5. **“Compendium”** means a compilation or collection of legal or other authorities that a Participating Team seeks to rely upon during the Oral Pleading Session.
- 1.6. **“Clarifications”** shall refer to the requests for information with respect to the Moot Proposition, to be submitted by **October 1, 2026**.
- 1.7. **“Dispute Addressal Council (DAC)”** shall mean the authority responsible for resolving disputes arising during the Competition. The decisions of the DAC shall be final and binding. No further appeals shall be entertained.
- 1.8. **“ILI”** shall refer to the Indian Law Institute method of citations.
- 1.9. **“MCS”** shall refer to the Moot Court Society of the School of Legal Studies, CGC University, Mohali. The MCS shall bear the sole responsibility to organize the competition.
- 1.10. **“Memorial”** shall refer to the written submissions prepared by teams on behalf of both parties in accordance with the Competition rules.
- 1.11. **“Memorial Evaluation Council”** shall refer to the committee responsible for evaluating memorials and providing feedback and scores to the Organizing Committee.
- 1.12. **“Plagiarism”** shall refer to the direct or substantial duplication of work represented as one’s own, without acknowledgement.

- 1.13. **“Preliminary Rounds”** refer to the rounds conducted at the commencement of the Competition in which each participating team shall argue the Moot Proposition on the side allotted to it via a draw of lots.
- 1.14. **“Participating Team”** shall refer to the team that has registered for the competition in accordance with the rules of registration.
- 1.15. **“Participating Institution”** shall refer to the institution to which a participating team belongs.
- 1.16. **“Registration Fees”** shall refer to the amount payable by all teams participating in the Competition.
- 1.17. **“Rules”** shall refer to the rules governing the “4th Nationwide Moot Court Competition, 2026”.

2. INTERPRETATION OF RULES

- 2.1. The Organizing Committee shall have the sole and exclusive authority to interpret, apply, and enforce these, Rules. Any decision rendered by the Organizing Committee concerning the Competition, including matters relating to the interpretation of these Rules, shall be final and binding on all Participating Teams.
- 2.2. The Competition shall be governed by these Rules and any supplementary or additional notifications, clarifications, or directions issued by the Organizing Committee. By registering for the Competition, each Participating Team shall be deemed to have read, understood, and agreed to follow these Rules in their entirety.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND TEAM COMPOSITION

- 3.1. The Competition is open to only and to all the students who are enrolled, in an undergraduate law programme (BA LLB/B.COM LLB./BBA LLB) and three-year LL.B. programmes under law school/institution/college/university recognized by the Bar Council of India.
- 3.2. Each team shall comprise a minimum of two (2) members and a maximum of three (3) members, consisting of (2) two speakers and one (1) researcher. In a two member team, one member shall take the dual role of speaker and researcher both.

4. REGISTRATION PROCESS

- 4.1. Any interested team can register for the Competition by filling the registration form <https://forms.gle/gHu17wJ4YD9FUnPeA> Registration Fee for the Competition is **₹4500 per team (non-refundable)**
- 4.2. The deadline for completing the final registration by paying the requisite fees is 11:59 PM, IST on **5th October 2026**. Teams must first complete the payment and then attach proof of payment in the form of a screenshot (*.jpeg or .jpg format*) or a PDF file while filling the registration form available.
- 4.3. All teams shall be given a “Team Code” by the Organizing Committee on validation of their Registration Form and confirmation of payment of registration fees. Thereafter, the teams shall use their designated “Team Code” for all correspondence with the Organizing Committee.
- 4.4. The designated “Team Code” must be used by the participating teams during Memorial Submission as well as the Oral Rounds of the Competition. The identity of the teams shall not be revealed or disclosed directly or indirectly at any stage of the Oral Rounds and in the written memorials.

5. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

- 5.1. **Memorial Submission:** Each participating team shall prepare and submit soft copies of memorial (Written Submission) for each side, i.e., the Petitioner and the Respondent. The last date to submit soft copies of memorials for both sides is October 10, 2026. Every one hour of delay in submission of memorials will lead to a penalty of 1 mark per hour. Each Participating Team shall prepare and submit **FOUR (4)** hard copies of memorials for each side, i.e. the Petitioner and the Respondent with spiral binding.
- 5.2. **Researchers’ Test:** There shall be a Researcher’s Test on Day 1 of the competition. The researcher scoring the highest in this test shall be declared as the Best Researcher of this Competition.
- 5.3. The competition shall comprise following rounds:
 - 5.3.1. **Preliminary Rounds:** There shall be two (2) Preliminary Rounds in which each Participating Team has to argue twice. Each Participating Team shall argue once for both sides. The sides shall be decided via draw of lots. The top eight (8) teams on the basis of marks obtained shall qualify for the Quarter Final Round. Each Participating

Team will get a total 25 minutes to present their side during the Preliminary Rounds, with an additional limit for rebuttal and surrebuttal, which can go up to 3 minutes depending upon the discretion of judges. The participants are free to allot time limits within their own team. However, each speaker shall argue for a minimum of 10 minutes during the Preliminary Rounds.

- 5.3.2. Quarter Final Round:** There shall be one (1) Quarter Final Round. At this stage, the qualifications shall be made based on Knockouts. The teams scoring higher marks than their opposing team shall qualify for the Semi-Final Round. Top four (4) teams shall qualify for the Semi Final Round based on Knockouts. The fixtures shall be decided via draw of lots. Each Participating Team will get a total 25 minutes to present their side during the Quarter Final Round, with an additional limit for rebuttal and surrebuttal, which can go up to 3 minutes depending upon the discretion of judges. The participants are free to allot time limits within their own team. However, each speaker shall argue for a minimum of 10 minutes during the Quarter Final Round.
- 5.3.3. Semi Final Round:** There shall be one (1) Semi Final Round. Top four (4) teams of Quarter Final Round shall compete against each other in this round. The fixtures shall be decided via draw of lots. The team scoring higher than its opposing team shall qualify for the Final Round. Each Participating Team will get a total 30 minutes to present their side during the Semi Final Round, with an additional limit for rebuttal and surrebuttal, which can go up to 5 minutes depending upon the discretion of judges. The participants are free to allot time limits within their own team. However, each speaker shall argue for a minimum of 10 minutes during the Semi Final Round.
- 5.3.4. Final Round:** There shall be one (1) Final Round. Top two (2) teams of Semi Final Round, based on knock outs shall face each other in the Final Round. The fixtures shall be decided via draw of lots, and the team scoring higher marks will be declared as the winner of the competition. Each Participating Team will get a total 35 minutes to present their side during the Final Round, with an additional limit for rebuttal and surrebuttal, which can go up to 5 minutes depending upon the discretion of judges. The participants are free to allot time limits within their own team. However, each speaker shall argue for a minimum of 15 minutes during the Final Round.

5.3.5. Scoring Criteria for the Oral Rounds shall be as follows:

Particulars	Weightage of Marks
Application of Facts	10
Application of Legal Principles	10
Use of Precedents	10
Presentation Skills	10
Structure of Arguments	10
Court Mannerism	10
Strategy & Time Management	10
Knowledge of Law	10
Response to Forum Questions	10
Poise & Demeanor	10
Total Marks	100

6. PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

- 6.1. Anonymity:** Teams must not disclose their identity or the name of their institution during any of the rounds. Any violation of this rule may lead to penalties or disqualification, at the discretion of the Organizing Committee.
- 6.2. Court Decorum:** All participants are expected to maintain professionalism and courtroom decorum throughout the Competition. All Participants shall conduct themselves in a professional, respectful, and courteous manner towards Judges, Organizers, Volunteers, and fellow participants. Any act of misconduct, intimidation, harassment, use of abusive language, or behavior detrimental to the integrity of the Competition may result in penalties, including disqualification.
- 6.3. Language of the Competition:** English shall be the sole and official language of the Competition. All Memorials, Written Submissions, Oral Arguments, Clarifications, correspondence, and any other communication made in connection with the competition.

- 6.4. Dress Code:** Participants shall maintain professional standards of appearance and shall be appropriately attired throughout the Competition. The prescribed dress code for Oral Rounds shall be:

FOR MALE PARTICIPANTS:

- White formal shirt;
- Black formal trousers;
- Black tie;
- Black blazer or black suit coat;
- Black formal shoes.

FOR FEMALE PARTICIPANTS:

- White formal shirt, or kurti;
 - Black formal trousers, salwar, or equivalent formal attire;
 - Black blazer or black suit coat;
 - Black formal footwear.
- 6.5.** Participants failing to comply with the prescribed dress code may be subjected to penalties as determined by the Organizing Committee.
- 6.6. Electronic Devices:** The use of laptops, tablets, mobile phones, smartwatches, or any other electronic devices is strictly prohibited during the active rounds of the Competition. Communication with coaches, faculty members, alumni, or third parties during an active round is strictly prohibited. Any participant found receiving external assistance during a round may be disqualified from the Competition.
- 6.7. Recording and Photography:** Participants shall not record, livestream, photograph, or otherwise reproduce any proceedings of the Competition without prior approval of the Organizing Committee. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to photograph, record, and publish Competition-related content for academic, promotional, and archival purposes.

7. MEMORIALS

- 7.1. General Rules for Submission and Compliance:** All rules regarding submission and formatting of memorials must be strictly followed.

- 7.2. Submission Requirements:** Each team must submit two memorials – one for the **Petitioner** and one for the **Respondent**. Soft copies in PDF and DOCX formats must be submitted through the Google form: <https://forms.gle/qLJQob7QffHaZkTE9> with the subject: “Submission of Memorial by [Team Code]” by 11:59 PM IST on **October 10, 2026**. Late submissions incur Penalties. File names must clearly reflect the team code. Example: Memorial P-01 for Petitioner, R01 for Respondent.
- 7.3.** Deadlines are strict; no extensions will be granted. Only the team code is permitted as identification. Any other identifying marks (participant names, institution names) will cause disqualification.
- 7.4. Cover Page Color:** **BLUE** for Petitioner memorials, **RED** for Respondent memorials. In case of multiple submissions, only the latest received before the deadline will be evaluated.
- 7.5.** Teams must submit 8 printed copies (4 each side) upon arrival at the university on 22 of October 2026.
- 7.6. Formatting Requirements:**
- 7.6.1.** Arguments Advanced shall not exceed 25 pages; total memorial (including cover) must not exceed 40 pages.
- 7.6.2. Formatting specs:**
- Font: Times New Roman.
 - Font Size: 12 for body text, 10 for footnotes.
 - Line Spacing: 1.5 for body, single for footnotes.
 - Citation Style: Indian Law Institute
 - Margins: 1 inch on all sides.
 - Pagination: Bottom-right hand corner on each page.
 - Headings: size 12, bold, consistent throughout.
- 7.7. Structure of the Memorial:**
- 7.7.1.** Memorials must include the following sections in order:
- Cover Page (appropriate color and team code at top-right corner)
 - Table of Contents
 - List of Abbreviations
 - Index of Authorities
 - Statement of Jurisdiction
 - Statement of Facts

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- Issues Raised
- Summary of Arguments / Pleadings
- Pleadings/Arguments Advanced
- Prayer

7.7.2 Statement of Facts shall not exceed two pages.

7.7.3 Summary of Arguments shall not exceed two pages.

7.8. *The memorials shall be evaluated based on:*

Particulars	Weightage of Marks
Understanding of Facts and Law	20
Development of Arguments	20
Use of Authorities & Legal Precedents	20
Mode of Citation & Compliance with Rules	20
Language and Presentation	20
Total Marks	100

8. SCOUTING

- 8.1. Scouting by any speaker, researcher, or person affiliated with a team will result in immediate disqualification of that team.
- 8.2. Scouting is deemed to have occurred if any affiliated person is found witnessing, hearing, or observing oral submissions of a round not involving their team.
- 8.3. Reading the memorial of another team, except:
- The memorial belongs to their own team; or
 - The memorial was obtained through an official exchange prior to the round involving their team.

9. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 9.1. Any dispute regarding interpretation or application of competition Rules will be resolved by the Organizing Committee. Their decision is final and binding on all participants.
- 9.2. Any dispute arising out of or in connection with the participation of any team in any round, or its result shall be governed by the Dispute Addressal Council (DAC). The Decision rendered by the DAC shall be final and binding on all Participating Teams.

10. MISCELLANEOUS

- 10.1.** All rules may be amended or revised at any stage by the Organizing Committee at their sole discretion.
- 10.2.** Official communications from the Organizing Committee or its recognized channels shall be considered official notifications. Teams must stay updated and respond promptly.

11. CONTACT DETAILS

- 11.1.** In case of any query/doubt/assistance concerning the rulebook, following officials shall be contacted:

- **Aryan Sharma**(convenor): +91 9592352500
- **Aryan Duggal** (co-convenor): +91 9646189518
- **Krish Bhardwaj** (co-convenor): +91 7814834088
- **Official Email ID:** mcs.clc@cgcuniversity.in

- 11.2.** Follow us on Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/mootcourtsociety_sls?igsh=anB1OG1zNDUyMTZx

