

10TH SGTU MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2026

Organised by the School of Law, SGT University

COMPETITION RULES

These Competition Rules govern the conduct of the 10TH SGTU Moot Court Competition, 2026 organised by the School of Law, SGT University. The Competition is a national, offline moot court competition based on the official Competition Proposition.

The Competition shall be conducted in a knockout pattern of elimination. Dates, deadlines, registration links, and other event-specific particulars shall be notified separately by the Secretariat.

RULE – 1

Definitions

- 1.1. Advanced Rounds refer to the knockout rounds of the Competition, including the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, and Final, as may be applicable according to the number of participating teams.
- 1.2. Bench Memorandum means the memorandum of law and authorities concerning the Competition Proposition prepared by the University for the exclusive use of Competition judges.
- 1.3. Competition refers to the 10TH SGTU Moot Court Competition, organised by the School of Law, SGT University. The Competition includes the Memorial Round, Oral Rounds, and Researcher's Test, if conducted.
- 1.4. Competition Proposition or Proposition means the official proposition of the Competition as supplemented, corrected, and/or clarified.
- 1.5. Competition Rules or Rules refers to the rules contained herein and such other notifications as the Secretariat or the Organising University may make in respect of the conduct of the Competition.
- 1.6. Corrections and Clarifications mean the corrections and clarifications to the Proposition, as published pursuant to Rule 7.1.
- 1.7. Ex-parte Round means an oral round wherein only one team submits its pleadings, in the absence of the opposing team.

1.8. Memorial refers to the written arguments submitted by each team on behalf of both parties to the dispute, according to the Competition Rules. A team shall prepare one (1) memorial for each party.

1.9. Oral Rounds refer to a team's pleadings, comprising oral submissions before the judges on behalf of one of the parties against another team representing the opposing party. The Competition shall consist of knockout oral rounds.

1.10. Parties refers to the parties to the dispute as identified by the Competition Proposition, namely the Petitioners and the Respondents.

1.11. Preliminary Rounds refer to the first knockout oral rounds conducted for the purpose of determining the teams that will proceed to the subsequent knockout rounds.

1.12. Raw Scores refer to the aggregate marks obtained by a team in a particular oral round, as awarded by the judges.

1.13. Recognized Institution includes a university and its constituent colleges, schools, faculties of law, institutes, etc., authorized to enrol students for obtaining a bona fide degree in law as per the applicable legal system.

1.14. Scouting means the act of attending an oral round, except the Final Round, by any member or coach of a team in which the concerned team is not competing.

1.15. Secretariat means the Organising Secretariat or Organising Committee of the Competition, as notified by the Organising University.

1.16. Team Code refers to the unique code allotted to each participating team for the purpose of the Competition.

1.17. Organising University shall mean SGT University, Gurugram.

RULE – 2

Eligibility Criteria

2.1. All students enrolled bona fide on a regular basis in any full-time law course at the undergraduate level conducted by any Recognized Institution shall be eligible to participate.

2.2. More than one (1) team shall be eligible to participate from the same Recognized Institution.

2.3. In a system where a university has constituent colleges, institutes, schools, faculties of law, departments, etc., each such constituent entity may register a team, or the university as such may be represented by a team comprising students from different constituent entities.

2.4. A participant shall be required to produce valid institutional identification and such other documents as may be sought by the Secretariat for verification of eligibility.

2.5. The Secretariat reserves the right to verify the eligibility of any participant at any stage of the Competition.

2.6. A participant shall not be permitted to represent more than one team in the Competition.

RULE – 3

Team Composition

3.1. Each team shall comprise a maximum of three (3) members, out of which two (2) members shall be designated as speakers and one (1) member shall be designated as a researcher.

3.2. The teams may choose to participate without a designated researcher. However, either of the other two members must appear for the Researcher's Test, if conducted.

3.3. A team shall not be permitted to participate with more than three (3) members.

3.4. Once the team composition is communicated to the Secretariat, no change in team composition shall be permitted unless prior permission has been obtained from the Secretariat.

3.5. A team may designate its speakers and researcher at the time of registration or in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretariat.

3.6. A team shall be represented by the same members throughout the Competition, subject to the permission of the Secretariat under Rule 3.4.

RULE – 4

Team Registration

4.1. Registration for the Competition shall be conducted in the manner notified by the Secretariat.

4.2. The Competition shall be open to teams from recognized law institutions across India.

4.3. The registration fee shall be as follows:

Category	Registration Fee
Without accommodation	₹3,000 per team
With accommodation	₹5,000 per team

4.4. The registration fee shall be paid in the manner prescribed by the Secretariat.

4.5. The registration fee shall be non-refundable, except where otherwise decided by the Secretariat.

4.6. The registration fee shall cover the facilities and services specified by the Secretariat for the relevant category of participation.

4.7. Accommodation, where opted for, shall be provided subject to availability and the terms notified by the Secretariat.

4.8. Participants availing accommodation shall abide by the rules and regulations of the accommodation facility.

4.9. The Secretariat may seek such documents as may be necessary to verify the identity and eligibility of participants.

4.10. The Organising University reserves the right to reject or cancel a registration where the information furnished is incomplete, inaccurate, or otherwise inconsistent with the Competition Rules.

RULE – 5

Judges' Responsibility

5.1. Judges shall ensure a thorough adherence to the spirit of judgeship in the Competition.

5.2. Judges shall evaluate the teams on the basis of the Competition Rules and the prescribed scoring criteria.

5.3. Judges shall maintain impartiality and shall not disclose confidential information relating to the Competition.

5.4. Judges shall ensure that the oral rounds are conducted in a fair, orderly, and professional manner.

RULE – 6

No Assistance and Use of Materials

6.1. No Assistance, generally, to be Taken from Non-members:

Every team must research and write its memorial without the assistance of non-members.

Teams may receive general advice from their respective Team Coaches. However, such advice must be limited to general advisory on the area of law concerned, the structure of written arguments, and general commentary on the team's arguments. No advice whatsoever may be taken from any member or team coach of another team.

6.2. No Assistance to be Provided to Another Team:

Team Members and Team Coaches from any team, including teams that have been eliminated from the Competition, shall not provide assistance in any way to any other team.

Prohibited assistance includes, but is not limited to:

- Giving the team's notes or memorials to a team still in the Competition;
- Posting the team's memorials online so that a person who is not a registered team member may access them;
- Engaging in practice moots against a team with whom their oral round has been fixed; and
- Providing video or audio recordings of previous moots, whether practice moots or Competition moots, to a team still in the Competition.

The Secretariat may allow otherwise prohibited assistance if deemed to be in the best interests of the Competition.

6.3. Use of Bench Memorandum and Other Teams' Memorials by Teams:

The Bench Memorandum shall be confidential at all times. Any team found making use of the Bench Memorandum, however acquired, shall be disqualified.

In preparing its memorials, no team may incorporate arguments or other information from the memorials of other teams.

RULE – 7

Clarifications to the Moot Proposition

7.1. Clarifications and Corrections:

Clarifications can be sought and corrections may be requested in the manner notified by the Secretariat.

Based upon the requests received from the teams, corrections and clarifications to the Competition Proposition may be published by the Secretariat. Each team must ensure that it receives and adequately notes the corrections and clarifications in preparation for the Competition.

7.2. Rights over the Memorials:

The Secretariat reserves the right to disseminate and reproduce the memorials for the purposes of the Competition.

The Secretariat shall not be responsible for any mistakes or errors that are a part of the memorial.

RULE – 8

Rules Relating to Memorials

8.1. Each participating team is required to prepare a memorial for each party to the dispute with the following mandatory heads:

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts
- Issues Raised
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced
- Final Submission/Prayer

8.2. The memorial shall be prepared in accordance with the prescribed page limit and formatting specifications notified by the Secretariat.

8.3. Teams shall cite authorities following the Uniform Citation Method using footnotes in accordance with the 21st Edition of the Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation.

8.4. The Cover Page of each memorial must contain only the following information:

- The Team Code in the upper right corner of each memorial;
- The name of the forum resolving the dispute;
- The name of the Competition;
- The Cause Title; and
- The party on behalf of which the memorial is prepared.

8.5. A memorial once submitted shall be considered final and cannot be revised, except with the permission of the Secretariat.

8.6. Memorials shall be named according to the team code and the party for which the memorial is submitted.

8.7. The Secretariat may prescribe the manner of submission of memorials and the number of hard copies required for the Competition.

8.8. All parts of the memorial, including headers, footers, and headings, shall be typed on A4-sized paper/format, with the following formatting specifications:

- Font Type: Times New Roman
- Font Size: 12
- Line Spacing: 1.5
- Margins: 1 inch on each side

8.9. For footnotes, the formatting specifications shall be:

- Font Type: Times New Roman
- Font Size: 10
- Single Spacing between lines
- Margins: 1 inch on each side
- Speaking footnotes or endnotes are not allowed.
- OSCOLA Format

8.10. The memorials shall be spiral-bound or soft-bound, wherever hard copies are required.

8.11. The following colour scheme shall be followed for the cover page of the memorials:

- Petitioners – BLUE
- Respondents – RED

8.12. The memorials shall not contain any annexure, photograph, graph, diagram, or any other representation of such nature.

8.13. The hard copies of the memorials, where required, must be identical to the soft copies submitted by the team.

8.14. A team may prepare a compendium of cases, though the same shall not be a part of the memorial or be used for memorial evaluation purposes.

RULE – 9

Penalties

9.1. Any memorial violating the specifications mentioned under Rule 8 shall be penalized according to the scheme prescribed by the Secretariat.

9.2. The Secretariat may impose penalties for violations relating to memorial submission, formatting, page limits, anonymity, and other applicable requirements.

9.3. The nature and extent of penalties shall be notified by the Secretariat.

9.4. In cases of serious or repeated violations, the Secretariat may impose penalties including disqualification from the Competition.

RULE – 10

Scoring Criteria

10.1. Memorial Scoring Criteria

S. No.	Criterion	Marks
1.	Application of Facts	25 Marks
2.	Reasoning	25 Marks
3.	Use of Authorities and Precedents	20 Marks
4.	Understanding of Law and Procedure	20 Marks
5.	Formatting	10 Marks
	Total	100 Marks

10.2. Anonymity:

There should be no indication of: (a) the institution which the team represents; (b) the name of the members; or (c) any other information that may reveal the identity of the team or its members, in the memorials or any other material carried inside the courtroom.

The teams must also not disclose, or attempt to disclose, any such information at any stage of the Competition to the judges, court clerks, opposing team, or any other person otherwise involved or interested in courtroom proceedings.

The violation of this rule may result in penalties, including disqualification, as determined by the Secretariat.

RULE – 11

Format of the Competition

11.1. Rounds:

The Moot Court Competition shall consist of a Memorial Round and knockout Oral Rounds.

The Oral Rounds shall be conducted in the following manner, subject to the number of participating teams:

- Preliminary Rounds;
- Quarter-Finals Knockout;

- Semi-Finals; and
- Final.

The exact number of knockout rounds shall be determined by the Secretariat according to the number of registered teams.

11.2. Researcher's Test:

A Researcher's Test may be conducted for adjudicating the Best Researcher of the Competition.

The speakers shall not be eligible to participate in the test, except where a team participates without a designated researcher, in which case one of the speakers may appear for the Researcher's Test.

11.3. Oral Rounds:

(A) General:

The mode of communication for the Competition shall be English only.

The dress code to be adhered to for the duration of the Competition shall be courtroom formals.

(B) Format:

- The matchup of teams in the Preliminary Knockout Rounds shall be determined by draw of lots or in such other manner as may be decided by the Secretariat.
- The team with the higher Raw Score in a round shall be deemed to have won that round.
- The winning team shall proceed to the next knockout round.
- The losing team shall be eliminated from the Competition.
- In the event of a tie, the winner shall be determined in accordance with the tie-breaking procedure prescribed by the Secretariat.

(C) Bench Strength:

The Bench for the purposes of the Preliminary Knockout Rounds shall consist of two judges.

For the Advanced Rounds, the Secretariat may constitute a three-judge bench for the Semi-Finals and a five-judge bench for the Final Round.

The Organising Secretariat reserves the right to change the number of judges per bench.

(D) Communication between Members of the Team:

The members of a team are allowed to communicate among themselves during the Oral Rounds. However, the same must be in written form only and must not be in violation of general courtroom practices.

(E) Electronic Devices inside the Courtroom:

During the Oral Rounds of the Competition, oralists at the podium and team members seated at the counsel table are not permitted to operate laptops, tablets, mobile phones, PDAs, etc., for any purposes directly relating to the said oral round.

Violation of the said rule may lead to disqualification from the concerned oral round.

(F) Time Keeping Devices inside Courtroom:

The official time of the match shall be indicated by the bailiff.

No one other than the bailiff may display timecards or otherwise signal to the oralist how much time is left.

(G) Scouting:

There are two types of scouting, both of which are prohibited.

“Direct Scouting” occurs when a team attends a moot involving one or more teams against which it will compete in a future moot.

“Indirect Scouting” occurs when a team attends a moot involving two teams against which it is not scheduled to compete in the Preliminary Knockout Rounds, or when a team, through any other means, obtains or attempts to obtain information about another team, regardless of whether the team seeking the information will compete against the team(s) for which information is sought.

The decision of the Organising Secretariat shall be final with regard to any disciplinary action taken against a team for violation of rules under this clause.

(H) Duration:

The duration of each Oral Round shall be prescribed by the Secretariat.

The teams are to arrive at the designated courtroom before the round is supposed to start.

In case a team fails to report to the designated courtroom within the time prescribed by the Secretariat, the team may be deemed to have forfeited the Competition, and the round may continue as an ex-parte round.

(I) Advanced Rounds:

The party to be represented by the teams in the Advanced Rounds shall be decided by way of draw of lots or in such other manner as may be decided by the Secretariat.

Qualification in the Advanced Rounds shall be determined by the result of the respective knockout round.

RULE – 12

Power to Promulgate Additional Measures

The Organising Secretariat may promulgate any other measures for the orderly conduct of the Competition or to correct deficiencies in the Competition.

It is anticipated that additional measures may be adopted when team registration has been completed.

RULE – 13

Miscellaneous

13.1. The Secretariat reserves the right to make changes in the Rules if the situation so warrants.

13.2. In case of any dispute arising in the interpretation of the Rules, or otherwise, the decision of the Organising Secretary in consultation with the Organising Committee shall be final and binding.

13.3. Scores obtained by the teams/participants shall be kept confidential with the Organising University, subject to the decision of the Secretariat.

13.4. The Secretariat may disclose the results of a team to the requesting institution upon receiving an official written request from the concerned institution.

RULE – 14

Code of Conduct

14.1. A violation of the prescribed Code of Conduct shall invite sanctions, which shall be decided by the Organising Secretary.

14.2. Teams are expected to behave with other team members, judges, organisers, and volunteers in a dignified manner.

14.3. Teams should not attempt to influence judges or organisers in any manner.

14.4. Participants are expected to maintain decorum in the courtroom during the Competition and to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.

14.5. The teams should not engage in any form of unethical, unprofessional, or wrongful conduct during the entire period of the Competition.

14.6. Participants should not indulge in the consumption or carrying of drugs, alcohol, arms or ammunition, or any other illegal activity during the course of the Competition and on the University campus for the entire duration of their stay.