DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

cipam Creative India Innovative India

॥न्यायस्तत्र प्रमाणं स्यात्॥
NLU DELHI

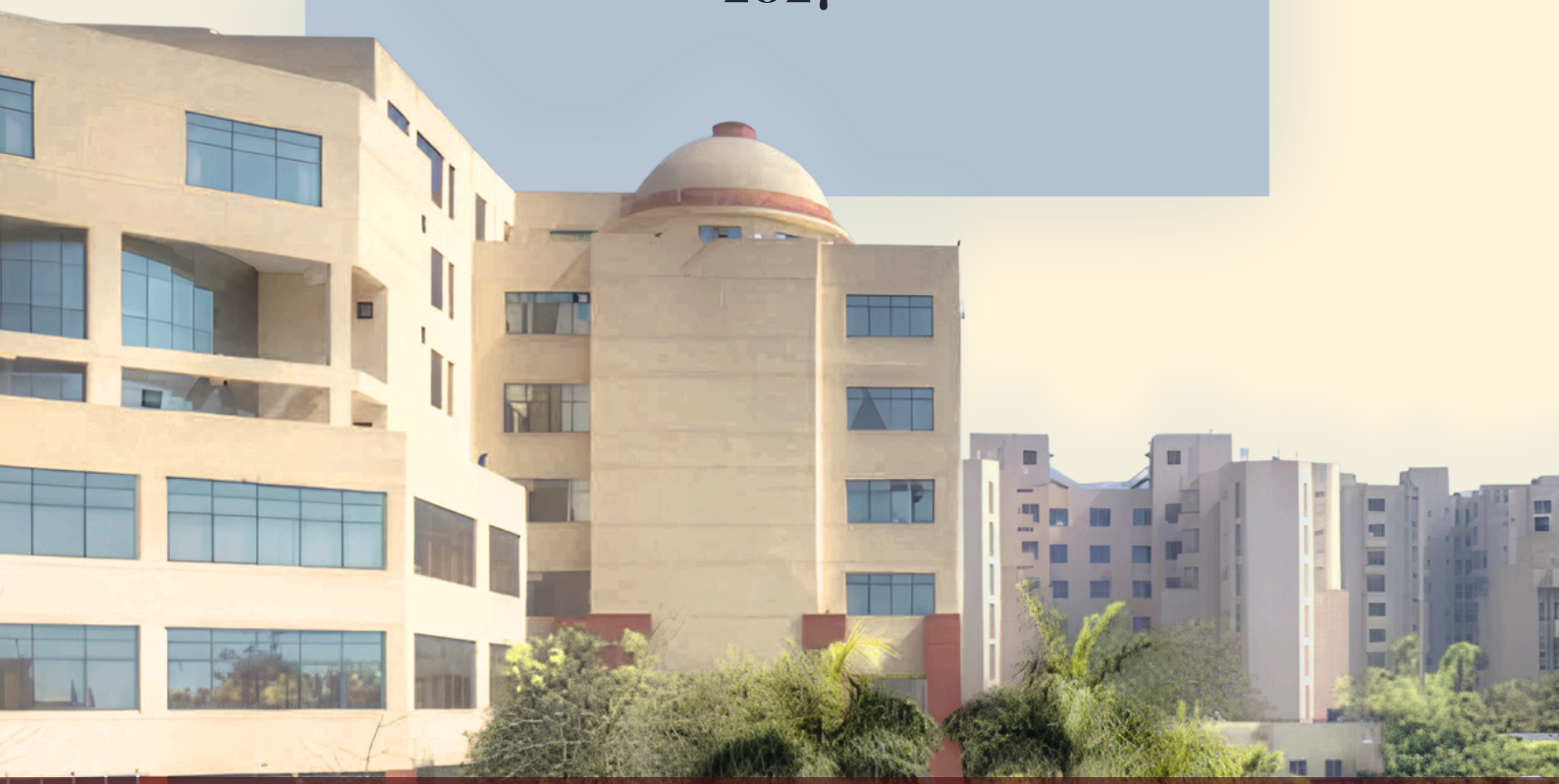
CIIPC Centre For Innovation Intellectual Property & Competition

# RULE BOOK

# VIDHI PRAGATI

## NATIONAL IP MOOT COMPETITION

## 2027



ORGANISED BY
Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India
in collaboration with
Centre for Innovation,Intellectual Property and Competition ,
& IPR Chair, National Law University Delhi

# TABLE OF CONTENT


| SR. NO | CONTENT | PAGE NUMBER |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | INTRODUCTION | 3 |
| 2. | ORGANIZATION OF THE MOOT AND ORGANIZING BODY | 3 |
| 3. | STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION | 5 |
| 4. | PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY | 6 |
| 5. | MOOT PROBLEM AND CLARIFICATIONS | 8 |
| 6. | TEAM COMPOSITION AND SUBSTITUTION | 8 |
| 7. | MEMORIAL | 9 |
| 8. | ORAL ROUNDS | 17 |
| 9. | RESEARCHER'S TEST | 23 |
| 10. | AWARDS | 24 |
| 11. | SCOUTING | 25 |
| 12. | ANONYMITY | 26 |
| 13. | MISCELLANEOUS | 27 |
| 14. | CODE OF CONDUCT AND EQUITY POLICY | 28 |
| 15. | CONTACT DETAILS | 29 |

## 1. INTRODUCTION

**1.1.** The Vidhi Pragati: National IP Moot Court Competition (hereinafter referred to as the 'Competition') is being organized by the DPIIT-IPR Chair, NLU Delhi in association with DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The moot is envisaged to be an annual competition of teams representing law schools throughout India.

**1.2.** The Competition is crafted as a comprehensive educational co-curricular activity with a multifaceted approach, rather than merely a competitive event with incidental educational benefits. The rules and procedures of the moot should be interpreted and applied with this educational objective as the primary guiding principle.

## 2. ORGANIZATION OF THE MOOT AND ORGANIZING BODY

**2.1.** The official language of the competition is 'English', and all oral arguments and memorials must be made in 'English'.

**2.2.** The IPR Chair, instituted by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) at NLU Delhi – Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition (CIIPC), will serve as the Organizing Body (hereinafter referred to as the 'OB') for the event, operating under the auspices of the DPIIT. The OB retains the right and the exclusive authority to:

**2.2.1.** Enforce all competition rules.

**2.2.2.** Interpret the rules as necessary.

**2.2.3.** Settle any disputes that arise during the competition.

**2.2.4.** Address inquiries and provide clarifications regarding the moot problem.

**2.2.5.** Modify the rules or supplement them, if necessary.

**2.2.6.** Modify the moot problem at any stage, provided that prior notice is given to all participating teams.

**2.2.7.** Disqualify any team if their behaviour is deemed to constitute a serious breach of the rules or the overall spirit of the competition.

**2.3.** The OB will not engage in the evaluation of memorial or oral pleadings submitted by the participating teams.

**2.4.** The Student Coordinators and the Student Organising Committee (OC) are part of the OB. The Student Coordinators with support from the OC, will exclusively manage the exchange of memorials, scoresheets, and related tasks to ensure the highest level of confidentiality, acting under the guidance and advice of the Competition Coordinator. Any decision taken by the OC shall be considered as that taken by the entire OB. However, the entire OB will participate in organizing the oral rounds.

**2.5.** All materials relevant to the administration of the competition will be made available on the official website as well as the Instagram and Linkedin profiles of Vidhi Pragati: National

IP Moot Court Competition. Further, the participating teams shall also receive email updates whenever deemed necessary by the OB.

**2.6.** All questions or inquiries regarding the competition must be submitted via Email to **dpiit.ipr@nludelhi.ac.in**, or on the **Vidhi Pragati website**. If a question or inquiry has implications for all participating teams, the query and its response will be shared with all participating teams via email. Clarifications regarding the Moot Proposition are excluded from this process.

## 3. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

**3.1.** The Competition operates on an invitational model. However, if the number of registered teams exceeds 24, selection for participation will be based on the evaluation of their memorials. Thus, the Competition shall comprise of two stages.

**3.2.** Stage I shall be the Memorial Qualifier Round. This shall be open to all teams which register for the competition after receiving the invitation. The results of this round shall be based on evaluation of memorials and shall determine the 24 teams which will proceed to Stage II.

**3.3.** Stage II shall be the Oral Rounds. The teams that qualify Stage I shall be eligible to participate. The Competition shall consist of the following Oral Pleading Sessions:

**3.3.1.** The Preliminary Rounds (I and II);

**3.3.2.** The Quarter-Final Rounds;

**3.3.3.** The Semi-Final Rounds; and

**3.3.4.** The Final Round.

## 4. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

**4.1.** The competition shall be open to all law students currently enrolled in recognised three-year LL.B. or five-year integrated LL.B. programmes. Participation shall be limited to students enrolled in Universities or Institutions which offer a law programme and fall within any of the following categories: (i) IPR Chair Universities; (ii) National Law Universities (NLUs); (iii) Universities or Institutions offering law programmes falling within the NIRF Law category; or (iv) Institutions ranked among the Top 10 Government and Top 10 Private Law Institutions under the IIRF Rankings, 2026; and (v) Institutes of Eminence. Each institution shall be permitted to register only one team for the competition.

**4.2.** Registration Procedure & Fees:

**4.2.1.** Interested teams are required to register for the Competition by filling the registration form. The link of the form is available on the website.

**4.2.2.** Each Team is required to upload a copy of a bona-fide letter, authorizing them to represent their institution at the Competition, issued by the appropriate authority of their Institution/College/University as a part of the Registration Form.

**4.2.3.** 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 E-mail to the POC. The POC shall

be responsible for conveying all the information to the team. The POC shall be required to have WhatsApp on their phone number. The teams are also required to mention the E-mail of either the respective Committee or the Head/Dean of the institution in the Registration Form.

**4.2.4.** Any changes in the contact details of team members must be notified to the OB at the earliest. This obligation to inform shall continue throughout the course of the Competition, unless such a team withdraws or is otherwise disqualified from the Competition.

**4.2.5.** After submission of the Registration Form, a mail confirming the provisional registration will be sent to the respective committee or Head/Dean of the Institution/the POC of the team.

**4.2.6.** The last date for completion of all the registration formalities is before **28.10.2026 (11:59 PM IST)** (subject to any extension notified by the OB later).

**4.2.7.** The confirmation of Registration will be notified to the teams by the OB, after the completion and verification of all the registration formalities.

**4.2.8.** Each team will receive a unique Team Code, which must be used for identification throughout the competition. It is imperative that all team members refrain from revealing their institution's identity at any time or in any form during the

competition. Any violation of this rule may result in disqualification at the discretion of the OB. The OB's decisions regarding compliance are final and binding.

**4.3.** There is no registration fee for the competition.

## 5. MOOT PROBLEM AND CLARIFICATIONS

**5.1.** Theme: The theme of this year's moot problem would be ***Copyright and Trademark.***

**5.2.** The Moot Problem shall be released on the website of the Competition. It is the responsibility of the participants to download and peruse the moot problem. Please note that no individual notifications will be sent regarding this matter.

**5.3.** For the purpose of seeking clarifications, participants can fill the Form on the Website using this link. The deadline for seeking clarifications is 11:59 PM on **19.10.2026**. Answers to clarifications sought shall be released on **30.10.2026**.

## 6. TEAM COMPOSITION AND SUBSTITUTION

**6.1.** Each team shall comprise of three members, wherein two members shall perform the role of a speaker, and one member shall perform the role of a researcher. Only the speakers are allowed to make submissions during the oral rounds.

**6.2.** Substitution of any team member after the registration deadline is prohibited. Exceptions will only be considered in

extenuating circumstances and must receive prior approval from the OB.

**6.3.** Alterations to the team composition as specified at the time of registration are not allowed. Any changes to the team composition will only be permitted under exceptional circumstances and require prior authorization from the OB.

## 7. MEMORIAL

**7.1.** Memorial Submission:

**7.1.1.** Every team which has successfully registered for the competition is required to prepare two memorials: Memorial on behalf of the Plaintiff and Memorial on behalf of the Defendant.

**7.1.2.** All teams are required to submit soft copies of their memorials for Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round before **30.11.2026 (11:59 P.M. IST)** on the Competition's website.

**7.1.3.** A penalty of 1 mark per 1 hour on each memorial shall be imposed for any submission made post the deadline specified. Memorials submitted 24 hours beyond the deadline specified shall not be evaluated.

**7.1.4.** The memorials which are submitted for the memorial qualifier round shall be considered final. No changes can be made to the submitted memorials whatsoever. Failure to comply with the same may result in disqualification, at the discretion of the OB. After the completion of the Competition, the OB reserves the right to use the memorials as they deem appropriate.

**7.2. Memorial Format:**

**7.2.1.** All submissions of the memorial must be provided in both Microsoft Word Document format (.doc/.docx) and PDF format. Teams are required to submit both versions of the memorial: one in Microsoft Word and one in PDF.

**7.2.2.** The files should be named according to the Team Code and the side for which the Memorial is prepared. As an illustration, Team 01 will name its Memorial for the Plaintiff as '01_P' and the Memorial for the Defendant as '01_D'. Use of any other format will be penalized.

**7.2.3.** The citation format must be the 5th edition of OSCOLA. Speaking footnotes and endnotes are not allowed.

**7.2.4.** The cover page of the memorial must contain **ONLY** the following information in the same format and in the same order:

**7.2.4.1.** Team Code in the upper right-hand corner, as per the format specified in sub-rule 7.2.2 (i.e. Team 01 shall write '01_P' and '01_D');

**7.2.4.2.** The name of the Competition and Year;

**7.2.4.3.** The name of the court

**7.2.4.4.** Cause Title; and

**7.2.4.5.** The title of the document (i.e. "Memorial for Plaintiff" or "Memorial for Defendant")

Note: The background colour of the "Memorial for Plaintiff" shall be Blue and that of the "Memorial for Defendant" shall be Red.

**7.2.5.** All pages of the Memorial, including the cover page, shall adhere to the following mandatory specifications:

**7.2.5.1.** Page Size: A4, Page Colour: White

**7.2.5.2.** Font Type: Times New Roman

**7.2.5.3.** Font Size: 12

**7.2.5.4.** Line Spacing: 1.5

**7.2.5.5.** Paragraph Spacing: Before 0, After 6 (the option "don't add space between paragraphs of the same style" should not be selected)

**7.2.5.6.** Margin: 1.5 inch on the left and 1 inch on the remaining sides

**7.2.6.** For footnotes, the formatting specifications are:

**7.2.6.1.** Font Type: Times New Roman

**7.2.6.2.** Font Size: 10

**7.2.6.3.** Line Spacing: 1.0

**7.2.6.4.** Paragraph Spacing: No additional space between 2 footnotes

**7.3.** Teams are required to submit the soft copies of the Memorial within the specified time frame, taking all contingencies into account. Any technical issues such as equipment failure, computer disk failure, internet connectivity issues, etc. shall not be considered as grounds for condoning any penalty imposed due to late submission.

**7.4.** Each team is responsible for ensuring that the soft copy of

the Memorial is accessible and can be opened using Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 8/Microsoft Word 2010 or later. Additionally, the document must be free of viruses and should not be password protected.

**7.5. Memorial content:**

**7.5.1.** The Memorial shall mandatorily contain **ONLY** the following sections in the following order:

**7.5.1.1.** Cover Page

**7.5.1.2.** Table of Contents

**7.5.1.3.** Table of Abbreviations

**7.5.1.4.** Index of Authorities

**7.5.1.5.** Statement of Jurisdiction (Not exceeding 300 words)

**7.5.1.6.** Statement of Facts (Not exceeding 950 words)

**7.5.1.7.** Issues Raised

**7.5.1.8.** Summary of Arguments (Not exceeding 950 words)

**7.5.1.9.** Arguments Advanced (excluding footnotes - 5,500 words)

**7.5.1.10.** Prayer (Not exceeding 400 words)

**7.5.2.** The sections must not exceed the word limit prescribed for each section.

**7.5.3.** The Memorial shall include the headers, footers, footnotes, page numbers, cover page, as well as the empty spaces left in the document.

**7.6.** Penalties:

**7.6.1.** Each memorial can only receive a maximum of 30 penalties,

independent of AI, Plagiarism, and Late submission penalties.

**7.6.2.** The penalties levied are mentioned in the table on the next page:

| Relevant Rule | Reason for Penalty | Penalty levied |
|---|---|---|
| Rule 7.1.3 | Late submission of Memorials. | 1 mark per 1 hour after the deadline, per memorial. (Capped at 24 hours) |
| Rule 7.2.1 or 7.4 | Failure to submit memorials in both Word and PDF formats OR/AND Submission of a soft copy of a memorial which cannot be opened using Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 8/Microsoft Word 2010 or later. | Memorials shall not be evaluated. |
| Rule 7.2.2 | Failure to name the file according to the given format (01_P or 08_D). | 5 marks per document |
| Rule 7.2.3 | Inclusion of speaking footnotes/endnotes. | 1 mark per page |
| Rule 7.2.4 | Any addition or omission in Cover Page or any other violation of the format mentioned including name of Court. | 3 marks one-time |
| Rule 7.2.5 | Failure to adhere to the mandatory formatting specifications including footnote specifications. | 3 marks one-time for each formatting specification |
| Rule 7.5.1 | Any addition or omission in Memorial or any other violation of the order of content. | 5 marks one-time |
| Rule 7.5.2 | Failure to adhere to word limits prescribed | 1 mark for every 50 words exceeded. This penalty shall be calculated independently for each section |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rule 12 | Breach of anonymity as prescribed such as non-removal of Meta Data | 5 marks per memorial |
| - | AI Detection Percentage:<br><br>(i) Up to 30%<br><br>(ii) 31% - 40%<br><br>(iii) 41% - 50%<br><br>(iv) 51% - 60%<br><br>(v) Above 60% | Penalty levied<br><br>(i) No penalty<br><br>(ii) (-3) Marks<br><br>(iii) (-5) Marks<br><br>(iv) (-7) Marks<br><br>(v) Disqualification |
| | Plagiarism Detection Percentage:<br><br>(i) Up to 30%<br><br>(ii) 31% - 40%<br><br>(iii) 41% - 50%<br><br>(iv) 51% - 60%<br><br>(v) Above 60% | Penalty Levied<br><br>(i) No penalty<br><br>(ii) (-3) Marks<br><br>(iii) (-5) Marks<br><br>(iv) (-7) Marks<br><br>(v) Disqualification |

**7.7.** For determining the plagiarism percentage in a Memorial, the following shall be excluded from the calculation, provided that they are properly presented and appropriately cited:

**7.7.1.1.** Table of Authorities.

**7.7.1.2.** Footnotes and citations.

**7.7.1.3.** Other properly cited material ordinarily excluded under the applicable plagiarism-detection parameters.

**7.7.2** The OB reserves the right to review a plagiarism report where the automated percentage does not accurately reflect the nature of the submitted material.

**7.7.3** Please note that the Turnitin class is set up to exclude quotations, bibliographic materials, and small matches at or below 8 words.

**7.8.** Memorial Evaluation: Each Memorial shall be evaluated out of 100 marks by an evaluator. The criteria for evaluation are as follows:

| Parameter | Total Marks Allocated |
|---|---|
| Understanding of Law and Extent of Research | **25 marks** |
| Originality, Articulation and Clarity of Analysis | **25 marks** |
| Knowledge and Integration of Facts | **20 marks** |
| Clarity, Organization and Logical Progression | **20 marks** |
| Grammar, Style and Citation | **10 marks** |
| Total | **100 marks** |

### 7.9. Qualification of Memorials:

**7.9.1.** The final penalties applicable to a memorial shall be deducted from the marks awarded to the memorial to calculate the final memorial scores.

**7.9.2.** The top 24 teams on the basis of their total scores (cumulative scores for both memorials) in Stage I: Memorial Qualifier Round shall qualify to Stage II: Oral Rounds.

**7.9.3.** The results of Stage I: Memorial Qualifier Round shall be declared on **24.12.2026.**

**7.9.4.** 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/Website before **07.01.2027 (11:59 P.M. IST)**.

**7.9.5.** The teams that confirm their participation as per sub-rule

**7.9.6** Participants shall submit **5** hard copies of both "Memorial for Plaintiff" and the "Memorial for Defendant" on the day of Inaugural Ceremony, i.e. **5th February, 2027**. Spiral binding of all hard copies of memorials shall be mandatory.

## 8. ORAL ROUNDS

### 8.1. General Procedure

**8.1.1.** The Oral Rounds shall be conducted physically at the campus premises of National Law University Delhi and comprise of preliminary rounds, quarterfinals, semi-finals and final rounds.

**8.1.2.** The team representing the Plaintiff(s) shall submit their

arguments first, followed by the team representing the Defendant(s).

**8.1.3.** Sur-rebuttals to Rebuttals shall be delivered by only one speaker from each team. The Plaintiff's Rebuttals are limited to addressing the Oral Pleadings of the Defendant, while the Defendant's Surrebuttals is restricted to responding to the Plaintiff's Rebuttals.

**8.1.4.** Teams shall reserve a minimum of 1 minute for Sur-rebuttals to Rebuttals during all Oral Pleading Sessions throughout the Competition. However, no team may reserve more than 5 minutes for this purpose.

**8.1.5.** Student counsels may introduce themselves by name during the oral rounds; however, they are strictly prohibited from disclosing their institution's name. In all other instances, they must use the Team Code without exception.

**8.1.6.** Memorials shall be exchanged 24 hours prior to the start of the preliminary rounds. For subsequent rounds, the exchange of memorials shall occur at a reasonable time determined by the OB before each advanced round.

**8.1.7.** Teams are permitted to submit compendiums to assist the judges during the oral rounds. Compendiums must be submitted in printed form directly to the judges in their courtroom and must maintain confidentiality, the breach of which will result in disqualification of the compendium submitted. The decision of

the OB regarding disqualification shall be final.

**8.1.8.** In the event that any opponent team fails to appear in an Oral Pleading Session, the round shall be conducted ex-parte and the scoring shall be done as if the defaulted team had been present and arguing.

**8.1.9.** Notes may be passed between participants, with only the researcher of the team permitted to do so.

**8.2.** Procedures for Oral Submissions:

**8.2.1.** Each team shall be allotted a maximum time to present its case. This shall include time allotted for arguments advanced, sur rebuttals/rebuttals, and reply to rebuttals. The maximum time is as described.

| Round | Time Allotted |
|---|---|
| Preliminary Rounds | 40 minutes each |
| Quarter Finals | 45 minutes each |
| Semi Finals | 50 minutes each |
| Finals | 55 minutes each |

**8.2.2.** Each speaker may be granted an extension of maximum 2 minutes in addition to the total team time, as per judges' discretion. No speaker may, in any scenario, exceed the maximum extension time. Any speaker found exceeding the maximum extension time shall be penalized as per OB's discretion.

**8.2.3.** Teams may allocate speaking time between their two speakers at their discretion; however the following time limits apply:

| Round | Minimum Speaker Time | Maximum Speaker Time |
|---|---|---|
| Preliminary Round | 16 Minutes | 23 minutes |
| Quarter-finals | 19 minutes | 25 minutes |
| Semi-finals | 22 minutes | 27 minutes |
| Finals | 25 minutes | 29 minutes |

**8.2.4.** Time allocation between team speakers, as well as time reserved for rebuttals or Sur-rebuttals, must be measured in whole minutes only.

**8.3.** 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 Plaintiff) or Sur-rebuttals (for defendant) to both, the judges and the Court Bailiff.

**8.4.** The parties may make submissions during their oral arguments extending beyond the arguments advanced in the memorials.

**8.5.** The researchers are also required to attend the oral rounds.

**8.6.** All participants shall be dressed in formal courtroom attire.

**8.7.** Use of any electronic gadgets is not permitted during the course of oral pleadings. Any team caught using such gadgets during oral pleadings shall be disqualified. However for timekeeping, manual stopwatches are permitted.

**8.8.** The oral pleadings will be marked on a maximum of one hundred (100) points by each of the judges. Each speaker shall be judged on the basis of the following criteria:

| Parameter | Marks Allotted |
|---|---|
| Knowledge of Law, Identification of Legal Principles and Facts | 25 marks |
| Application of Law to Facts | 20 marks |
| Persuasiveness and Ability to Answer | 20 marks |
| Organisation, Presentations, Clarity and Logical Reasoning of Arguments | 15 marks |
| Time Management | 10 marks |
| Style, Poise, Courtesy and Demeanour | 10 marks |
| Total Marks | 100 |

### 8.9. Preliminary Rounds

**8.9.1.** All the teams that qualify Stage I: Memorial Qualifier Round shall be eligible to participate in the preliminary rounds.

**8.9.2.** There will be two preliminary rounds in which each team must argue once as the Plaintiff and once as the Defendant.

**8.9.3.** The fixtures for the preliminary rounds shall be randomized.

**8.9.4.** No team shall face the same bench or the same team more than once in the preliminary rounds.

**8.9.5.** The scores from both preliminary rounds shall be averaged to determine the overall score.

**8.9.6.** For the purpose of determining which teams shall advance to the Quarter-Finals, the scoring will be weighted as follows: 30% of the total points will be based on memorial scores and 70% will be based on oral round scores.

**8.10. Quarter-Finals**

**8.10.1.** The top 8 teams with the highest overall marks will qualify for the Quarter-Finals. In the event of a tie, the combined speaker scores will be used as the first tiebreaker. In case of similar speaker scores, the Researcher Test scores shall be used as the second tiebreaker.

**8.10.2.** The fixtures for the Quarter-Finals shall be decided on the basis of power matchups. To illustrate, the 1st ranked team in the preliminary rounds shall be paired up against the 8th ranked team, the 2nd ranked versus the 7th ranked and so on.

**8.10.3.** Allocation of sides to the teams shall be done via a coin.

**8.10.4.** For the purpose of determining which teams shall advance to the Semi-Finals, the scoring will be weighted as follows: 20% of the total score will be based on memorial scores and 80% will be based on oral round scores.

**8.11. Semi-Finals**

**8.11.1.** The winning team from each of the four Quarter-Final Rounds shall advance to the Semi-Final Rounds.

**8.11.2.** The fixtures for the Semi-Finals shall be randomized and decided on the basis of Draw of Lots.

**8.11.3.** Allocation of sides shall be done via a coin toss.

**8.11.4.** For the purpose of determining which teams shall advance to the Finals, the scoring will be weighted as follows: 10% for memorial scores and 90% for oral round scores.

**8.12. Finals**

**8.12.1.** The winning team from each of the two semi-final rounds shall advance to the final round.

**8.12.2.** Allocation of sides shall be done via a coin toss.

**8.12.3.** There shall be no weightage given to the memorial in the Final Round.

**8.13.** The winner of the final round shall be declared the winner of the Competition.

## 9. RESEARCHER'S TEST

**9.1.** The researcher's test will be conducted on the following date: **5th February, 2027** from **5:00 PM to 6:00 PM**.

**9.2.** The total time limit of the test is one-hour. The syllabus for the same will be communicated closer to the date of the test.

**9.3.** Only the researcher designated by the teams in their

registration form shall be eligible to write the test.

**9.4.** The test comprises both objective and subjective questions, with a total of 60 marks.

**9.5.** The objective questions carry 30 marks and the subjective question carries 30 marks.

**9.6.** The objective questions (MCQs) carry 1 mark each. There is negative marking for which 0.33 mark will be deducted for a wrongly marked MCQ.

**9.7.** Only researchers who score at least 15 marks in the objective section will have their descriptive answers evaluated.

**9.8.** The participants should use any blue or black ball point pen.

**9.9.** Please carefully tick mark the answer only once. If ticked more than once, no marks will be given for that particular answer.

**9.10.** For the subjective questions, the word limit should be strictly adhered to. The indicative word limit is between 300-500 words.

## 10. AWARDS

**10.1.** Award Categories

**10.1.1. Winning Team:** Awarded to the team that is judged to have the highest score in the Final Round.

**10.1.2. 1st Runner-Up:** Awarded to the team that is judged to have the second-highest score in the Final Round.

**10.1.3. 2nd Runner-Up:** Awarded to the team that has the higher score amongst the two semi-finalist teams which do not qualify

to the Final Round.

**10.1.4. Best Memorial:** Awarded to the team with the highest-scoring written submission (memorial) based on the criteria specified in the rules.

**10.1.5. Best Researcher:** Awarded to the individual who attains the highest score in the researcher test.

**10.1.6. Best Speaker:** Awarded to the highest scoring speaker over two preliminary rounds.

**10.2.** Award Determination

**10.2.1.** Award decisions are final and made based on the collective judgment of the competition's panel of judges.

**10.2.2.** The decisions regarding award recipients are not subject to appeal.

**10.3.** Certificate

**10.3.1.** All the award recipients shall be given a Certificate of Merit.

**10.3.2.** All the teams successfully participating in the Oral Rounds shall be awarded a Certificate of Participation.

## 11. SCOUTING

**11.1.** Scouting is the act of attending an oral round (except the final round) by any member/coach of a team in which the concerned team is not competing. Any persons directly affiliated with any team are permitted to attend only those rounds in which their team is competing. Scouting is strictly prohibited.

Scouting by any team shall entail instant disqualification.

## 12. ANONYMITY

**12.1.** Teams shall not reveal their identity in any form, except by means of the Team Code assigned to them.

**12.2.** Teams shall not, in any way, reveal their identity in the Memorial or in the course of the Oral Pleading Session. The Memorial shall not bear the logo, name, etc. of the Team, its members or the Institution/College/University represented by the Team. Additionally, the teams must ensure that the names of the team members, their institutions or any such marking that reasonably reveals the identity of the team must not appear in the meta-details of the memorial.

Note: A document's metadata refers to the data about the document itself, such as author, computer name etc.

**12.3.** Any material, including the Compendium, books, legal texts, or any other reference material, carried during the Oral Pleading Session, whether presented to the Bench or not shall not reveal the Team's identity and will be devoid of any identification marks/seal of the Team or the Institution/College/University represented. If anything on the material carried during the Oral Pleading Session reveals the Team's identity, the Team shall render the same unrecognizable to the satisfaction of the OB prior to joining the Oral Pleading Session. Any violation of this rule shall make the team liable to

be disqualified from the Competition. The OB reserves the right to check a team's compendium to confirm the lack of identification marks.

**12.4.** Any attempts by a Team or a member of the Team to contact, either directly or indirectly, the drafter of the Moot Problem for any reason whatsoever after the release of the Moot Problem and before the Competition closes shall lead to the disqualification of such Team from the Competition.

## 13. MISCELLANEOUS

**13.1. Changes to Rules:** The OB reserves the right to modify any rule as it deems fit at any stage of the competition.

**13.2. Official Communication:** Any communication issued through official channels and attributed to the OB shall be considered formal notification.

**13.3. Food:** Meals will be provided to the participating teams for the entirety of the three-day competition.

**13.4. Team Responsibility:** Participating teams are advised to remain attentive to and promptly acknowledge any announcements or updates issued by the OB. The OB shall not be held responsible for any mishaps arising out of a team's failure to remain attentive to such announcements or updates.

**13.5.Interpretation:** In the event of any ambiguity or uncertainty, all interpretations, as well as any waivers, consents, or other decisions related to the administration of the

competition, shall be made at the sole discretion of the OB. Such decisions will be final and binding on all participants and are not subject to appeal whatsoever.

**13.6. Unfair Means:** If any team is found using any unfair means, the discretion of disqualifying the team will lie with the OB of the competition.

**13.7. Decisions:** The decision of the judges with regard to the outcome of the rounds shall be final and is not subject to appeal.

**13.8. Conflict of Interest:** Teams must disclose any potential conflict of interest and inform the OB if they have any association with a judge, such as being an intern or otherwise, at any point during the competition. If any such conflict is discovered later, it shall lead to instant disqualification of the team from the Competition.

**13.9. Acceptance:** Participation in this Competition by the teams shall be construed to mean an acceptance of the rules laid herein.

## 14. CODE OF CONDUCT AND EQUITY POLICY

**14.1.** All participants are expected to maintain the decorum in the Court and in the university premises during the competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.

**14.2.** The use of any electronic device, including but not limited to smartwatches, mobile phones, laptops, or any other electronic gadgets, is strictly prohibited during the oral rounds. Non-

compliance with this rule may result in penalties, including disqualification, as per the discretion of the OB.

**14.3.** Any violation of the Equity Policy shall be penalized as described in the policy.

## 15. CONTACT DETAILS

**15.1.** Moot Director: Ms. Nishtha Sharma, Research and Programme Coordinator, Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition (CIIPC), National Law University Delhi

**15.2.** Student Coordinators: Ms. Apurva Tayal, Ms. Chaitrali Naik & Mr. Shivank Yadav

**15.3.** Email: dpiit.ipr@nludelhi.ac.in