

Indian National Bar Association

In association with

Maharashtra National Law University,  
Mumbai  
Presents

**THE OFFICIAL RULES  
OF  
1st VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL MOOT  
COURT COMPETITION, 2021**

**27th-29th AUGUST, 2021**



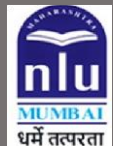
**MEDIA PARTNERS:**



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EMAIL US AT:  
[inbaheadoffice@gmail.com](mailto:inbaheadoffice@gmail.com)

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## DEFINITIONS

1. **Short Title and Commencement:** These rules may be called 'VIMCC Rules, 2021'. They shall come in to force from the date of publication, on the official website of Indian National Bar Association, [www.indianbarassociation.org](http://www.indianbarassociation.org).
2. **DEFINITIONS:** In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, -
  - i. 'Bench' refers to the members duly invited by the institute, to adjudge any of the rounds, collectively;
  - ii. 'Clarifications' means explanation published by INBA on the moot problem, at any point of time of the competition or a query posed by any competing team within the given deadline;
  - iii. 'Competition' means the 'INBA's 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual International Moot Court Competition, 2021';
  - iv. 'Governing Council' means the student-faculty-staff body appointed for the administration and smooth conduct of the competition, including all other members conferred with powers on ad-hoc basis;
  - v. 'Memorial Round' refers to the assessment of memorials, submitted by teams, on the predefined criterion, hereinafter mentioned in these rules;
  - vi. 'Moot Problem' means a set of facts published by the institution for competition;
  - vii. 'Oral Round' refers to the oral pleadings made by the teams before the bench during any of the rounds of assessment, including time given for rebuttal;
  - viii. 'Team Code' means a unique code assigned by the organization to the applied and registered team.

## **I. Organization of the Competition**

### **1. Administration**

- a. The 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual International Moot Court Competition shall be administered by Indian National Bar Association (INBA).
- b. The Competition is scheduled to be held on **27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2021** in an online format.
- c. Ms. Vinakshi Kadan, Senior Advisor, INBA shall be the 'Coordinator' for the Competition.

### **2. Language**

English shall be the language of the Competition; all oral and written submissions are required to be made in English only.

### **3. Structure of the Competition**

- a. The Competition shall comprise of two stages.
- b. Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round

This shall be open to all teams which register for the Competition. The results of this round shall be based on evaluation of memorials and shall determine the 24 teams which will proceed to Stage II.

- c. Stage II: Oral Rounds

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

### **4. Interpretation of Rules**

The Coordinator shall serve as the final arbiter of the implementation and interpretation of the Rules.

## **II. Participation and Eligibility**

### **1. Administration**

- a. The Competition is open to students currently enrolled in LL.B. Undergraduate Degree Courses or LLM Postgraduate Degree Courses.
- b. A team is not permitted to have members from more than one institution.
- c. No more than one team may represent an institution.

### **2. Team Composition**

- a. Each team shall comprise of a minimum of two members wherein both the members will be required to perform the role of a speaker.
- b. Teams may comprise of a maximum of three members, wherein two members shall perform the role of a speaker and one member shall perform the role of a researcher.
- c. All the members of a team should belong to the same institution.
- d. Any team, intending to change the team composition of the team shall intimate the Governing Council by sending an e-mail at **[inbaheadoffice@gmail.com](mailto:inbaheadoffice@gmail.com)**.
- e. The substitution of any Team Member is not allowed after the registration deadline except in extenuating circumstances and only with permission of the Organizers.
- f. A researcher may be allowed to argue instead of a speaker only with the permission of the Court.

### **3. Registration**

#### **A. Procedure for Registration**

- a. Interested teams are required to register for the Competition by filling the online provisional registration form. The provisional registration form can be accessed here –  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1N3XUK86bTVGS4V2D4kmMCsBC6qW4c7n0nTLWnpObcmc/edit?usp=forms\\_home&ths=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1N3XUK86bTVGS4V2D4kmMCsBC6qW4c7n0nTLWnpObcmc/edit?usp=forms_home&ths=true)

- b. All the participants are additionally required to send the scanned copy of the Registration Form in Annexure B separately at **inbaheadoffice@gmail.com** to complete the process of provisional registration.
- c. There are limited slots for participating teams and hence, the registrations will be done on first come first serve basis.
- d. While filling the online Provisional Registration Form, the teams have to choose a primary contact person. All communications concerning the Competition will be sent by an e-mail to the nominated contact person. It is that person's responsibility to convey and distribute all relevant information to the team.
- e. After submission of the Provisional Registration Form, a mail confirming the provisional registration will be sent to the respective committee or head/dean of the institution.
- f. A Final Registration Form will then be sent to the e-mail id of the nominated contact person once the provisional registration has been confirmed.
- g. Prior payment of Registration Fees for Stage I is required in order to fill the Final Registration Form.
- h. The teams are also required to notify the Organizers after submitting the final registration form by sending the names of the team members at **inbaheadoffice@gmail.com** with the Subject, "Registration – 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual International Moot 2021".
- i. The last date for completion of all the registration formalities (Provisional + Final) is before **15<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 (11:59 P.M. IST)**.

- j. The confirmation of Registration will be notified to the teams by the Organizers, after the completion and verification of all the Registration formalities.
- k. The team will also be provided with a Team Code. In any stage of the competition, a team must be identified only by the allotted team code.
- l. All team members must refrain from disclosing the identity of their institution at any time in any manner during the course of their participation in the competition. Non – compliance to this rule shall lead to severe penalty or disqualification as determined by the Organizers.

#### **B. Payment of Registration Fee**

- a. All the Indian teams shall be required to make a payment of INR 2500 via online transfer (NEFT) and all the overseas teams shall be required to make a payment of USD 125 via wire transfer before **15th June, 2021 (11:59 P.M. IST)** in order to register for the competition. Details of the same must also be attached to the Final registration form.
- b. Refer to Annexure C for payment details.

#### **4. Clarifications:**

- a. Clarifications can be sought on any part of the moot proposition and must be clear. These clarifications are to be sent via e-mail at [inbaheadoffice@gmail.com](mailto:inbaheadoffice@gmail.com).
- b. It is at the discretion of the Governing Council to decide whether a clarification sought for is valid and is to be clarified.
- c. The clarification e-mails are to be sent on or before **1<sup>st</sup> July, 2021**.

### **III. Stage I: Memorial Evaluation Round**

#### **1. Memorial Submission**

- a. Every team which has successfully registered for the competition is required to prepare two memorials:
  - i. Memorial on behalf of the Applicant.
  - ii. Memorial on behalf of the Respondent.
- b. All teams are required to send soft copies of their memorials for Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round before **15th July 2021 (11:59 P.M. IST)** to **inbaheadoffice@gmail.com** with the Subject "TEAM CODE - MEMORIALS SUBMISSION".
- c. A penalty of 1 point per hour shall imposed for any submission made post the deadline specified.
- d. Memorials submitted 12 hours beyond the deadline specified shall not be evaluated.
- e. The memorials which are submitted for the memorial elimination round shall be considered final.
- f. After the completion of the Competition, the Organizers reserve the right to use the memorials as they deem appropriate.
- g. A Compendium has to be submitted on the given e-mail at the time of memorial submission. The Compendium must be in PDF Format. The guidelines for the same are:
  - i. To avoid unnecessary bulk, it is required that in the compendium for the book/case or any other resource that you are citing, you shall have the first page of the resource and the relevant pages only. For example: if you are citing a paragraph(s) from a case say X v. Y, for this part of the compendium you should have the first page of the case, followed by relevant pages.



- ii. The responsibility of making a coherent, accessible compendium folder lies with the teams.
- iii. You are required to also make an index for your compilation (at the beginning of the file/folder).
- iv. The teams are required to name their files in the following format: **C-‘Team Code’- Side**. For example, the Applicant compendium of team code 10 should be named as ‘C10A’.
- v. The organizing committee bears no responsibility due to any issues caused to judges in finding a relevant document or page.
- h. The governing council reserves the right to disqualify a team, at any stage of the competition, if the memorial or any other part thereof, is found to be plagiarized.

## **2. Memorial Format**

- a. Two sets of soft copies of the Memorial must be submitted. One set should be in Microsoft Word Document format (.doc/.docx) and the other has to be in a PDF format.
- b. Each Memorial should be contained in a single file with the name of the file being the allocated team code followed by the first letter of the party whose arguments are presented in that Memorial, i.e., an ‘R’ for Respondent and ‘A’ for Applicant. For instance, the Respondent memorial of team code 10 should be named as ‘10R’.
- c. All pages of the Memorial must be of A4 size, with 1-inch margin on each side.
- d. The font style and size of the text of all parts of the Memorial, including the Cover Page shall be Times New Roman, size 12, 1.5-line spacing. The Footnotes shall be in Times New Roman, size 10, single (1) line spacing.

- e. Penalties:
  - i. Non-compliance with sub-rule (a) and (d) shall result in a penalty of 5 points.
  - ii. Non-compliance with sub-rule (b) and (c) shall result in a penalty of 1 point per error.

### **3. Memorial Content**

- a. The Memorials are required to contain the following sections:
  - i. Cover Page
  - ii. Table of Contents
  - iii. Table of Abbreviations
  - iv. Index of Authorities
  - v. Statement of Jurisdiction
  - vi. Statement of Facts
  - vii. Issues Raised
  - viii. Summary of Arguments
  - ix. Arguments Advanced
  - x. Prayer
- b. The section on Arguments Advanced shall not exceed 25 pages. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 1 point for every additional page.
- c. The memorial as a whole shall not exceed 40 pages including the cover page. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 3 points for every additional page.
- d. The citation format should follow the 20th edition of the Bluebook. Speaking footnotes and endnotes are not allowed. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 1 point for each error.
- e. The Cover page of the memorial must contain the team registration code in the upper right-hand corner, followed by an 'A' for the Applicant Memorial, or an 'R' for the Respondent Memorial. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of 2 points.

### **4. Memorial Evaluation**

Each Memorial shall be evaluated out of 200 points by an evaluator. The criteria for evaluation are as follows:

i.	Knowledge of Law and Facts	50 Points
ii.	Proper and Articulate Analysis	50 Points
iii.	Extent and Use of Research	40 Points
iv.	Clarity and Organization	40 Points
v.	Grammar and Style	20 Points

## **5. Qualification of Memorials**

- a. After evaluation of the memorials submitted, the top 24 teams on the basis of their total scores in Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round shall qualify to Stage II: Oral Rounds.
- b. The results of Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round shall be declared on **1<sup>st</sup> August, 2021**.
- c. The teams that qualify Stage I will be required to confirm their participation in Stage II by acknowledging our confirmation email before **3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2021 (11:59 P.M. IST)**. In the event where a team fails to confirm participation within the timeline specified, invitations to other teams will be issued on the basis of the scores of Stage I by **4<sup>th</sup> August, 2021**.

## **6. Rights over the Memorials:**

The administrating authority of the competition reserves the rights to disseminate and produce the memorials as and when deemed necessary for the purpose of the competition. Submission of the memorials will constitute the team's consent to do the same. The governing council will not take any responsibility for the mistakes found in the final submission of the memorials.

#### **IV. Stage II: Oral Round Procedures**

##### **1. General Procedure**

- a. The oral rounds shall be conducted live online and comprise of preliminary rounds, quarter finals, semi-finals and final rounds.
- b. The live rounds will be held on AIRMEET portal.
- c. The team representing the Applicant shall submit their arguments first, followed by the team representing the Respondent. Upon completion of the arguments, the Applicant shall have the option of submitting rebuttals, followed by the Respondent. Sur-rebuttals shall/shall not be permitted, subject to the discretion of the judges.
- d. The student counsels may state their names during the oral rounds but are not allowed to reveal the institution's name, and must use the Team Code.

##### **2. Procedures for Oral Submissions**

- a. Each team will be allotted 30 minutes to present their case, this shall include time allotted for arguments advanced, rebuttals and sur-rebuttals.
- b. The division of time between the two speakers is up to the discretion of the team, however, each speaker must speak for a minimum of 10 minutes.
- c. Before the start of the Oral Round, 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 Applicant) or sur – rebuttal (for Respondent).
- d. The oral arguments should not extend beyond the issues in the memorials.
- e. The researchers are also required to attend the oral rounds.

- f. Dress code: The Participants may be dressed in a formal courtroom attire.
  - a. Ladies: White salwar and kurta or white shirt and black trousers or skirt along with a black blazer and black shoes.
  - b. Gentlemen: White shirt, black trousers, a black tie, a black blazer and black shoes.
  
- g. Maximum marks for the oral rounds shall be 100 marks per speaker per judge. The oral rounds shall be evaluated out of 100 marks and the basis for evaluation shall be as follows:
  - i. Knowledge of Law 20 marks
  - ii. Application of Law to Facts 20 marks
  - iii. Ingenuity and Ability to Answer 20 marks
  - iv. Style, Poise, Courtesy and Demeanour 20 marks
  - v. Time management 10 marks
  - vi. Organization 10 marks
  
- h. The decision of the judges with regard to the outcome of the rounds shall be final.
  
- i. Internet connectivity policy:
  - a. The teams are requested to make proper arrangements to ensure connectivity including a phone hotspot.
  - b. In the scenario of an interrupted connection including disruptions to the degree of incomprehensibility, disconnection etc., the timer will be paused for the team and sufficiently reasonable time will be provided to reconnect.
  - c. Contact details of the competition volunteers will be shared with you in case you face any technical difficulties.

### **3. Preliminary Rounds**

- a. All the teams that qualify Stage I: Memorial Evaluation Round shall be eligible to participate in the preliminary rounds.
  
- b. There shall be two preliminary rounds. Each team shall argue in both the rounds, once as Applicant and once as Respondent.

- c. In the Preliminary rounds, the memorial scores of the teams will be used to determine the match-ups; a power match-up system (Team 1 v Team 24, Team 2 v Team 23...) and a slide match-up system (Team 1 v Team 13, Team 2 v Team 14...) shall be used for the first and the second round respectively.
- d. In both the rounds, each team will be given 20 minutes to present their oral pleadings and an additional 5 minutes shall be given for Rebuttal and Sur-rebuttal each.
- e. Only after being allowed by the moderator a speaker shall unmute his mic.
- f. A bench of 3 judges will judge each round in the Preliminary Rounds. A total of 3 points per judge will be allocated for the Preliminary Rounds.

#### **4. Quarter – Finals**

- a. Top 8 teams (out of 24) with the most points shall qualify in the Quarter-finals. In case of any tie, the memorial marks shall be referred.
- b. For the Quarter Final Rounds, the rankings of the Preliminary Rounds shall be used for the match - ups. (Team 1 v. Team 5; Team 2 v. Team 6; Team 3 v. Team 7; Team 4 v. Team 8)
- c. In both the rounds, each team will be given 30 minutes to present their oral pleadings and an additional 5 minutes shall be given for Rebuttal and Sur-rebuttal each.

#### **5. Semi – Finals**

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

- c. Each team will get a minimum of 40 minutes to argue from the allotted side, including 5 minutes' time that shall be reserved for Rebuttal and Sur-rebuttal each.
- d. A time-extension for a maximum of 2 minutes may be granted to each team at the discretion of the Judge.

## **6. Finals**

- a. The Winning Team from each of the two Semi Final Rounds shall advance to the Final Round. The Winner of the Final Round shall be declared the Winner of the Competition.
- b. Each team will get a minimum of 45 minutes to argue, with an additional 5 minutes for Rebuttal and Sur-rebuttal each.
- c. A time-extension for a maximum of 2 minutes may be granted to each team at the discretion of the Judge.

### **V. Awards**

1. **Winning Team Award:** The winning team will receive a cash prize of INR 11,000.
2. **Runners-Up Team Award:** The runners-up team will receive a cash prize of INR 8,000.
3. **Best Speaker** will receive a cash prize of INR 5,000.
4. **The team with the Best Memorial (Applicant) - Applicant** will receive a cash prize of INR 5,000.
5. **The team with the Best Memorial (Respondent) - Respondent** will receive a cash prize of INR 5,000.
6. All participating teams will be provided with a certificate of participation. Hard copy of certificates will be provided only to the finalists. All the other participants, quarter-finalists and semi-finalists will be provided with e-certificates.
7. Prizes given by sponsors, if any, shall be additional to what has been mentioned.



## ANNEXURE A

### DISCLAIMER

1. The Organisers reserves the right to amend, modify, change or repeal any of the competition rules at any stage. We shall communicate any such changes made in the competition rules to the Participating Teams.
2. Team(s) under no circumstances shall approach the Judges with any complaints.
3. The Organiser's decision shall be final in all matters concerning the competition.
4. The Organizers shall not be responsible for any loss of connection or slow Internet Connection during the Competition. We request all the participants to arrange a working and sound Internet Connection prior to the Competition.
5. Any behaviour of indiscipline with the Governing Council or any other staff member or student volunteer shall be dealt with strictly.
6. No team shall ask for feedback immediately on completion of any round.
7. Any attempt to approach the framer of the moot problem or judges of the competition, prior to the competition shall be met with strict consequences.

### IMPORTANT DATES OF THE COMPETITION

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Last Date for Registration and Payment | 15 <sup>th</sup> June, 2021   |
| 2. Last Date for Clarifications           | 01 <sup>st</sup> July, 2021   |
| 3. Last Date for Memorial Submission      | 15 <sup>th</sup> July, 2021   |
| 4. Declaration of Result for Stage I      | 01 <sup>st</sup> August, 2021 |
| 5. Preliminary Round                      | 27 <sup>th</sup> August, 2021 |
| 6. Quarter Final Round                    | 28 <sup>th</sup> August, 2021 |
| 7. Semi Final Round                       | 28 <sup>th</sup> August, 2021 |
| 8. Final Round                            | 29 <sup>th</sup> August, 2021 |
| 9. Closing Ceremony                       | 29 <sup>th</sup> August, 2021 |

## **ANNEXURE B**

### **REGISTRATION FORM**

(to be filled in block letters)

#### **INSTITUTION DETAILS:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

FACULTY IN-CHARGE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ID (FACULTY IN-CHARGE): \_\_\_\_\_

#### **TEAM DETAILS:**

##### **SPEAKER 1:**

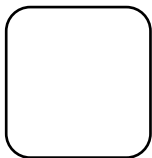
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ID: \_\_\_\_\_

SEMESTER/YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_



**SPEAKER 2:**

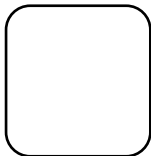
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ID: \_\_\_\_\_

SEMESTER/YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_



**RESEARCHER:**

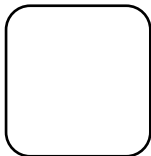
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ID: \_\_\_\_\_

SEMESTER/YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_



We, the undersigned, confirm that the above mentioned three students are bonafide students of our institute and we have obtained permission from the parents of the abovementioned students to participate in the Moot Court Competition hosted by Indian National Bar Association.

Faculty-In-Charge

Sign and Seal of Head of Institution

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **ANNEXURE C**

### **PAYMENT DETAILS**

**Beneficiary's Name:** Indian National Bar Association

**Beneficiary's Bank Name:** Punjab National Bank

**Beneficiary's Bank Branch Address:** Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-110014

**Beneficiary's Bank Account no:** 1509002101114397

**IFSC Code:** PUNB0309000

**MICR Code:** 110024136

### **CONTACT US**

- Ms. Vinakshi Kadan  
Senior Advisor, INBA  
9999746286, 011-49036141
- Ishita Goel  
Student Convener  
9971321232
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Student Convener  
7011263450

**You may also contact us at:**  
**inbaheadoffice@gmail.com**

