



Photo above: Students participating in Alliance University Moot Court Competition

Moot Court for Law Aspirants 2021

Moot Court for Law Aspirants is aimed at providing an experience of simulated court to prospective law students without resorting to core legal issues/arguments and assist them in developing their critical and analytical reasoning skills.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT MOOT COURT

Moot Court is a method of teaching law and legal skills, frequently adopted in law schools. It requires students to analyse and argue both sides of a hypothetical legal issue. The skill of mooting enables students to think and analyse like an advocate. Students learn how to present conclusions in a sensible and effective manner. Moot court improves written and oral communication, as well as critical and analytical reasoning skills.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

- 1 To enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are required in law school.
- 2 To encourage students to express their thoughts on an online medium and thereby improve their communication skills.
- 3 To expose High School students to the nuances of court system in India.
- 4 To provide a real-life experience and training and presenting ground-breaking arguments (oral and written).

EVENT INFORMATION

The Moot Court Competition 2021 will be held virtually on **13th and 14th February 2021.**

The case for the competition can be downloaded [here](#).



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 1 The competition is open to all school students currently in grade 11, 12 or who are yet to be enrolled into a law school.
- 2 Student confident in debating and public speaking with proficient communication skills in English language, logical reasoning, and critical thinking.

EVENT AWARDS

Certificate of Participation

Certificate of Participation will be awarded to all the students who will register, successfully submit the memorials on the due date and appear for the oral rounds on the event date.

Certificate of Merit

Prizes on Merit include a Medal and Certificate under each of the following categories:

- Winner
- Runners-up
- Best Written Argument and Memorial
- Best Speaker

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER



| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Registration for the Moot court event | Present to 5 February 2021 |
| Mentoring/Training Session | 5 February to 10 February 2021 |
| Memorial Submission | 11 February 2021 |
| Allotment of Side | 12 February 2021 |
| Preliminary Round | 13 February 2021 |
| Final Round | 14 February 2021 |

EVENT DETAILS

1. **Registration for Moot court event:** Interested participants, fulfilling the eligibility criteria are required to register for the event by **completing a google form** and providing their details.
2. **Mentoring/Training Session:** The participants will be trained by law students on how to analyse facts, how to form arguments, how to make the memorial by doing the relevant research. The aim of the training session is to help participants have a grasp of the event and prepare for the competition.
3. **Memorial Submission:** All participants will be required to submit a memorial as per the details provided in this document.
4. **Allotment of Side:** Participants will be allotted a side for argument – Plaintiff (Accusing party) or Defendant (Accused).
5. **Preliminary Round:**
 - In the Preliminary Round, the participant would be representing the side allotted to them.
 - One participant from each courtroom with highest total marks in Preliminary Round will proceed to compete in the Final Round.
6. **Finals:**
 - The format remains the same as Preliminary Round
 - The participant will be allotted the side opposite to what he/she represented in the Preliminary Round.
 - The participant with the highest score will be declared as the winner of the competition.

The language of the competition will be English only.

PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE



Indian formals, i.e., white sari or salwar-kurta, or Western formals, i.e., white shirt, black trousers/skirt.



Western formals, i.e., white shirt, black trousers and tie.

MEMORIAL / WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

1. Participant must prepare separate memorials for both sides: 1 for plaintiff and 1 for defendant.
2. Once the memorials are submitted; no revisions, supplements, or additions will be allowed.
3. Memorials must be submitted in soft copy, typed on A4 size paper and must contain:
 - Statement of Facts (not exceeding 1 A4 size page)
 - Statement of Issues
 - Arguments Advanced
 - Prayer
4. Submission Format:
 - Margin: one-inch on all sides of each page.
 - Font size: should be 12
 - Font type: Times New Roman
 - Line spacing: 1.5
 - Footnotes (if any): must be in font size 10, single spaced
 - Page numbering: in the middle section of footer on each page.
5. Covers must be placed on briefs as follows:
 - **Plaintiff:** pale blue color
 - **Defendant:** pale red color
6. The cover page of memorials must state the following
 - The Case Title
 - Identify the brief as Plaintiff or Defendant
 - Name and year of the Competition
 - Participant Code on the top-right corner of the page

7. Submission and Penalties

- The participants should submit the soft copy of both the memorials, in both '.docx' and '.pdf' format, **no later than 23:59:59 on 11th February 2021** at discoverlawindia@LSAC.org with the subject line as "Submission of Memorials".
- Late submissions will be subjected to a penalty of 1 mark per hour, first deduction being made at 00:00:01 on **11th February 2021**.
- Violation of formatting rules will carry a penalty of 0.5 mark per violation
- The maximum total penalty imposed will not exceed 5 marks.
- The memorials will be checked for plagiarism. If the similarity index is found to be 20% or more.
- Arguments Advanced' from any source on the internet or from other memorials, it may lead to disqualification of the participant.

SCORING CRITERIA

1. Memorials will carry 20% and oral submissions will carry 80% of evaluation.
2. Total points will be a sum of the oral scores for that round and the memorial scores.
3. Each judge shall score as follows:
 - Knowledge of facts: 15 points
 - Identification of issues: 10 points
 - Logical reasoning, clarity, brevity and ingenuity of arguments: 20 points
 - Presentation, court etiquette and advocacy skills: 15 points
 - Management of time: 10 points
 - Response to questions by the Judges: 10 points
 - Maximum points: 80
4. Memorial Scoring
 - Memorials should be the original work of participants and shall be marked with respect to contents and compliance with the laid out rules.
 - Each memorial shall be marked for a maximum of 20 points as follows:
 - Proper and articulate analysis of issues arising out of facts: 5 points
 - Presentation and content of argument: 5 points
 - Variation in approach (unique interpretation of facts): 10 points

ORAL ROUNDS

1. After the submission of memorials, the participants will proceed to the preliminary oral argument round scheduled on **13th February 2021**.
2. Zoom will be used as a platform for the competition.
3. The participant will receive link for the courtroom through email. Each participant must join the room minimum 15 minutes before the specified start time of each round. During this time period, attendance and other information will be filled by the bailiff / time-keeper.
4. Each oral round will be of 30 minutes, where participants will be given 10 minutes each to present arguments and 2.5 minutes each to do the rebuttals / sur-rebuttals. Participants must remain within the prescribed time limit of that respective round.
5. The order of speaking must be strictly followed as follows:
 - Plaintiff
 - Defendant
 - Rebuttal (Plaintiff)
 - Sur-rebuttal (Defendant)
6. Every minute of extra time will attract automatic penalties, unless allowed by the Judges. The time includes questioning by the judges.
7. In case of internet connectivity issues, the time limit can be extended. If the problem still persists, the scoring will be done by considering the completed arguments of the participant facing connectivity issues.
8. The oral arguments must be confined to the issues presented in the memorials.
9. There will be a minimum of two judges in each room for the preliminary rounds.
10. The score sheets for all the rounds will be sent to the coordinating committee by the judges of the respective rounds through e-mail after the completion of each round.

RULES

1. Computers and other electronic devices cannot be used during the competition. Notes/points noted on paper can be used.
2. All participants should be visible on camera throughout the debate. Current speaker should be visible and clearly identified on camera while speaking.
3. Microphones should be muted while the opposition is speaking to minimize noise interruption.
4. Request for changes in slots and timings will not be entertained.
5. All sessions will be recorded and kept for 48 hours for review purposes only.
6. All participants are expected to compete with courtesy and have ethical conduct. Foul/vulgar language or abusive rhetoric and violation of rules will not be permitted.
7. No ad hominem - attacking your opponent's character or personal traits and derogatory references to religion or communities will not be tolerated. The judges will be the arbiter of disputes except when it is necessary for the coordinator to intervene and make an official determination.
8. Completely new arguments and new points should not be brought up in the rebuttals. The participants need to quote the opponent's point and then refute with the existing facts.
9. The bailiff / time-keeper will alert the participant if time limit has been crossed but the participants also need to time themselves.
10. If judges believe that any participant has exceeded the time repeatedly, they can stop/ disqualify the participant and factor this as misconduct into their decision.



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