

5th MM NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2022



Department of Law
Maharishi Markandeshwar (Deemed to be) University, Mullana-Ambala
(Deemed University established u/s 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)
NAAC Accredited Grade 'A++' University

Organizes

5th MM NATIONAL (VIRTUAL) MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2022
19th – 21st April, 2022



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY:

Accredited by NAAC with the grade A++, MM (DU) has built its goodwill as the best university of North India with a rich legacy of excellence in research, innovation and skill development. Located on the 'tapobhoomi' of Maharishi Markandeshwar beside the river bed of the sacred Markanda with magnificent building and world class infrastructural facilities, the Maharishi Markandeshwar (Deemed to be) University (MMDU) is the first self-financing University established under aegis of Maharishi Markandeshwar University Trust to integrate education and research. All the institutions of the University in the area of Medical Sciences, Dental Sciences, Physiotherapy, Nursing, Management, Engineering & Technology, Hotel Management, Computer Technology, Pharmacy and Law offering graduate, post graduate and research degree programmes are already known for excellence in imparting value based, highly career oriented professional education.

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RULES, 2022

I. INTRODUCTION

Moot Court Competition is a form of an oral proceeding similar to that of a court proceeding practiced to see that how efficient a student is in making an argument based on law. The objective of the Moot Court Competition is to develop the academic and advocacy excellence among students and inculcating the spirit of leadership and teamwork, leading to academic and professional excellence. In this competition a proper court scenario is created where the students act like the Counsellors (Advocates) presenting each side (Plaintiff and Defendant) on the basis of evidences and substantive questions of law, argue with each other to prove their point in front of the judge who in the end will give the judgment in the same regard and will also declare the winner for the best performance.

Department of Law, Maharishi Markandeshwar (Deemed to be) University, Mullana-Ambala is organizing **5th MM NATIONAL (VIRTUAL) MOOT COURT COMPETITION-2022** on **April 19, 20& 21, 2022**.

The rules mentioned herewith shall be called the MM National (Virtual) Moot Court Competition Rules, 2022 (hereinafter referred as “The Rules”). The Rules mentioned herewith are not exhaustive and shall be strictly adhered to. Any deviation from the same shall result in immediate disqualification. All decisions made by the Organizers in case of any dispute or doubt, shall be final and binding on all the participating teams.

The Organizers reserve the right to alter, amend or add rules herein at any point of time. In case the Rules are not adhered to by the Participating teams, Organizers reserve the right to impose penalty.

1. DEFINITION:

The following terms shall have the corresponding meanings unless otherwise specified:

- a. ‘Bench’** refers to the members duly invited by the institute, to adjudge any of the rounds collectively;
- b. ‘Clarification’** means explanation published by the institute on the moot problems, at any point of time of the competition or a query posed by any competing team within the given deadline;
- c. ‘Competition’** shall refer to the 5th MM National (Virtual) Moot Court Competition, 2022;

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- d. ‘**Court Room**’ shall refer to the online live video conferencing platform where the oral rounds shall take place;
- e. ‘**Institution**’ means and includes ‘Department of Law, MM (DU), Ambala;
- f. ‘**Moot Problem**’ means a set of facts published by the institution for Competition;
- g. ‘**Official Email**’ shall refer to the official e-mail ID of the MM National (Virtual) Moot Court Competition, 2022, i.e. mmumoot2022@gmail.com;
- h. ‘**Organizers**’ shall refer to the Moot Court Committee, MM (DU);
- i. ‘Participating **Team/ Institution**’ shall refer to the team that has registered itself for the Competition as per the Rules;
- j. ‘**Rules**’ shall refer to the MM National (Virtual) Moot Court Competition Rules, 2022;
- k. ‘**Team Code**’ means a unique code assigned by the institution to the applied and registered team;
- l. ‘**Team**’ means and includes only bona fide representative of any University, may that be state or central or any other department recognized/ authorized by the Bar Council of India to impart law degrees, and who have applied and registered for the competition by complying with the procedure prescribed in these present rules.

2. VENUE

Due to the on-going pandemic, Moot Court Competition shall be organized on an online live videoconferencing platform that shall be informed to the participating teams well in time.

3. LANGUAGE

The official language for the Moot Court Competition shall be English only.

4. DRESS CODE

Participants are required to adhere to the following dress code while present in any court room during the Competition.

- a. **For Ladies:** White Salwar and Kurta or White shirt and black pant / black skirt along with black coat and black shoes.
- b. **For Gentlemen:** White shirt, black trousers, black tie along with black coat and black shoes.

II. ELIGIBILITY

- The Competition shall be open for the students who duly enrolled and are pursuing an integrated 5years or 3 years Law Program in India from an institution recognized by the Bar Council of India.

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- Students enrolled and pursuing post-graduate diploma or short-term certificate courses in law are not eligible to apply.
- Students from any university/ Institute not recognized by the Bar Council of India to impart law degree are not eligible to apply.

III. TEAM COMPOSITION

1. Each team shall consist of a minimum of two (2) members and maximum of three (3) members. Teams comprising of two members shall only have two (2) speakers and teams comprising of three members shall have two (2) speakers one (1) researcher.
2. All the three members/ both the members, as the case may be, of the team should belong to the same institution. No cross teams i.e. members of different universities, shall be allowed.
3. Each team should identify such speakers and researcher at the time of registration. The researcher is not permitted to speak except under special cases and only with express permission of the Organizers/ judges.
4. There shall be no circumstance whatsoever that a team consisting of more than 3 members be allowed to participate. No observer/ additional member can be part of a team in any capacity.
5. There shall be no substitution of any team member after a team has submitted its Registration Form, except with the permission of the Organizers.

IV. REGISTRATION

1. All interested teams shall, first, register themselves by diligently filling the Registration Form latest by **3rd April , 2022 11:59 PM** by clicking the link: <https://forms.gle/YT3Kmah5UNjfExpu7>
2. Forms received after the deadline shall not be considered for registration.
3. The receipt of form shall be acknowledged by the institute within 48 hours of submission via mail.
4. On receipt of acknowledgement by a team, the team shall have to make the payment of registration fees amounting to INR 2,000/- (non-refundable) within 48 hours of the receipt of the acknowledgment, and the payment confirmation of same has to be sent on the Official Email Id (by attaching screenshot of payment confirmation in the mail). Non-Payment of registration fees within stipulated time may lead to cancellation of registration.
5. Registration of a team shall be confirmed only after the receipt of payment by the Organizers.

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6. After the successful payment, the confirmation of registration shall be conveyed to the teams via mail which shall also mention the team code allotted to the teams. During the competition teams shall be identified by the team code allotted to them.
7. Teams shall not disclose their identity whatsoever, i.e. names of team members, name of their institution, city, etc. or any other information which has the effect of disclosing their identity and affiliation with a particular institution, except in the registration form, during the Competition. Any such disclosure shall invite strict penalty including disqualification. The decision for the same shall be at the discretion of the Organizers.

V. MODE OF PAYMENT

Mode of payment of the registration fees shall be via Bank Transfer and is to be made to the following account:

Bank – Punjab National Bank, Mullana-Ambala

Account Name – MM (Deemed to be University) Mullana-Ambala

Account No. – 51821131000790

IFSC – PUNB0518210

VI. MEMORIAL

1. Each team participating in the Competition must prepare a memorandum on behalf of the Prosecutor/Applicant/Petitioner and on behalf of the Defendant/ Respondent.
2. Each team must send its memorandum via mail in PDF format, latest by **14th April, 2022**, by **11:59 P.M.** The memorials shall be mailed on the Official Email with the subject of the mail being “Memorial Submission– ‘Team Code’”. Example– Subject of mail for memorial submission of Team Code01 shall be “Memorial Submission – TC401”. In case the subject is not as prescribed, memorials shall be deemed to have not been received and the Organizers shall not be responsible for any delay and default.
3. The Memorials shall consist of following:
 - a. Cover Page
 - b. Table of Contents
 - c. List of Abbreviations
 - d. Index of Authorities
 - e. Statement of Jurisdiction
 - f. Statement of Facts

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15. Submission of the Memorials after the specified deadline shall result in a deduction of three (3) marks each day. Failure of submission of memorial would result in disqualification of the team from the competition.
16. Each team shall be provided with the soft copy of the opponent team prior to the respective rounds.
17. The Organizers of this Competition shall be permitted to use all the Memorials for any reporting or compilation without further permission. The Submission would be deemed to be permission. Moreover, the copyright in the prize-winning Memorials would be vested with the Organizers.
18. Every Memorial will be marked on a total of 50 marks. The following is the criteria for evaluation of memorials:

Sr. No.	Criteria	Marks
1.	Knowledge of facts and Law	10
2.	Quality and Extent of Research	10
3.	Recognition of Issues and Structure of Arguments	10
4.	Proper and Articulate Analysis	10
5.	Overall Presentation (Clarity, Style, Grammar, Language, Structure, Format, Citations and Plagiarism)	10
	TOTAL	50

VII. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

1. The Moot court Competition shall comprise of following rounds:
 - a. Preliminary Rounds
 - b. Quarterfinal Rounds
 - c. Semi-finals Rounds
 - d. Final Round
2. After the virtual orientation of the teams, the draw of lots shall take place and the team has to argue on behalf of the side in accordance with the draw of lots, (the Prosecutor/ Applicant/ Petitioner or the Defendant/ Respondent) in the preliminary round.
3. Top 8 teams, based on the cumulative score of memorials and preliminary rounds shall qualify for the quarterfinals. Further, the top 4 teams, based on the results of the quarterfinal rounds, shall qualify for the semi-final rounds. Finally, the top 2 teams will be selected for the final round.
4. In case of tie, highest memorial marks will be taken into consideration to decide the winner.

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A. DRAW OF LOTS

Before the Preliminary, Quarterfinal, Semi-final and Final rounds, draw of lots shall be done to determine the side on which the Team shall be arguing. The Teams shall be mailed the fixtures for each round. Further, the Teams shall also be mailed the soft copy of their opponent's Written Submission prior to the oral rounds.

B. ORAL SUBMISSIONS

- i.** The oral rounds shall be conducted online on a live video conferencing platform.
- ii.** As specified hereinabove, each team shall have two speakers who shall further divide the oral submissions between themselves.
- iii.** At no point of time during the Competition, any speaker shall reveal their identity.
- iv.** Any compilation or detailed pleadings will not be entertained. The participants are requested to bring with them the authorities/case laws on which they want to rely during the arguments.
- v.** At the commencement of each round of Oral Submissions, each team shall notify to the Court Officer the division of time between the two speakers. Further, each team must notify to the Court Officer the amount of time that the team wants to reserve for their rejoinder / sur-rejoinder. A maximum of five (5) minutes may be reserved for the rejoinder/ sur-rejoinder.
- vi.** Only one speaker from each team shall be permitted to rejoinder / sur-rejoinder. The sur-rejoinder shall be limited to the rebuttals made by the opponent team.
- vii.** Five (5) minutes and Two (2) minutes before the completion of the allocated time for each speaker, there will be a warning bell, and at the completion of the allocated time for each speaker there will be a final bell.
- viii.** In case a speaker continues to speak after the completion of his/her specified time, the additional time which he/she consumes will attract negative marking at the discretion of the judges. The judges shall have all the rights to grant opportunity to give rejoinder or sur-rejoinder and to allocate additional time.
- ix.** During the course of oral submissions the participants cannot submit to the court any material containing pictorial representation whatsoever. Further, the participants are not be permitted to make any audio/visual representation nor allowed to use any online search engines during their submissions.
- x.** If at any instance a submission is made with any material in violation of rules and if any picture, sketches, photos, cartoons, caricatures, audio film, video film, projector-slide or

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a computer-generated image is used or submitted or presented to the court, the teams shall be subject to disqualification.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

- i.** In Preliminary Round, each team shall argue on behalf of one side (the Prosecutor/Applicant/Petitioner or the Defendant/Respondent) in accordance with the draw of lots.
- ii.** Time limit for the oral submissions in preliminary round shall be twenty five (25) minutes for each team including rejoinder / sur-rejoinder. No speaker may reserve more than fifteen (15) minutes for his/her individual oral submissions.
- iii.** Scoring Criteria for Preliminary Round
- iv.** The Marks shall be given as per following criteria for preliminary round
 - Written memorials- 50 marks
 - Oral arguments - 100 marks
 - Total - 150 Marks
- v.** The decision of the judges as to assessment of oral submission shall be final.

QUARTERFINALS, SEMIFINAL AND FINAL ROUND

- i.** Time limit for the oral submissions in quarterfinal round shall be thirty minutes (30) for each team including rejoinder / sur-rejoinder. No speaker may reserve more than fifteen (15) minutes for his/her individual oral submissions.
- ii.** Time limit for the oral submissions in semi-final and final rounds shall be thirty-five minutes (35) for each team including rejoinder / sur-rejoinder. No speaker may reserve more than fifteen (15) minutes for his/her individual oral submissions.

SCORING CRITERIA FOR ORAL SUBMISSIONS

Sr.No.	Criteria	Marks
1.	Application of law relevant to the case	20
2.	Answers to court questions	20
3.	Advocacy and presentation + Time adherence	20
4.	Interpretation and use of facts+ Research relevant to the case	20
5.	Overall performance + Court Etiquettes	20
6.	Total	100

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VIII. RESULT

The final results and the winners shall be announced on the same day of the final round. The decision of the judges on the performance of the participants shall be final and binding on all the participants.

IX. CONDUCT OF COMPETITION

1. The Competition will be conducted by using online live video conferencing platform. The details of the platform shall be shared to the teams via mail.
2. To ensure the smooth functioning of the competition, in adherence to the rules of Social Distancing and Government Guidelines, all participants will participate from their respective homes. No team shall be seated together for the purpose of the Competition.
3. An Invitation link of the meeting shall be sent to participants on their respective email IDs submitted by them in Registration Form and through WhatsApp prior to each round.
4. The Participants are expected to be seated in a quiet space free from any echo and isolated from any form of disturbances.
5. The Participants must make sure that the Background is plain and sober which does not disturb the judges. Preference will be given to a White background. The participants must also ensure that their appearance should be same as a Passport size photo, i.e., only their head and shoulders should be visible, and that the participant should be visible in Portrait Mode / Vertical Manner.
6. The participants should make necessary preparations before entering the meeting room i.e. downloading the required Application and ensuring that their device is compliant to the terms mentioned.
7. The participants should only use their team code/ sub-code as their username while joining the meeting room.
8. All participants should be online at least ten (10) minutes prior to the commencement of their round.
9. Following is the system requirement that is mandatory to participate in the competition:
 - a. Computer/Laptop with a well configured web cam.
 - b. A stable Internet Connection with speed more than 5 MBPS.
 - c. Headphones or Earplugs that have a working microphone.
10. While in a round, the participants must have their camera on all the time.
11. The participants should unmute their mic when it is their turn to present their arguments, speak or when asked by the judge or the Organizers to do so.

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12. The participants should not use group text feature of the Organizer's hosting platform to communicate with one another.
13. No additional documentation or screen sharing will be allowed and any information which has to be provided to the court should be submitted beforehand along with the Compendium and the Memorial.
14. In case internet connection of Speaker 1 is lost or if that Speaker faces any other difficulty in connecting, a time limit of five (5) minutes shall be given to that speaker to reconnect. After five (5) Minutes are over, Speaker 2 will take over to put forth his arguments. If Speaker 1 fails to reconnect, the team shall be marked on the basis of arguments put forth by Speaker 2 and Speaker 1 only if he has put forth any arguments before disconnection.
15. In case internet connection of Speaker 2 is lost or if that Speaker faces any other difficulty in connecting, a maximum of five (5) minutes shall be given to reconnect. If that Speaker fails to reconnect, the team shall be marked only on the basis of the arguments put forth by Speaker 1 and Speaker 2 if he has put forth any arguments before disconnection.
16. The Organizers shall not be responsible for any loss due to slow or non-functional Internet Connection during the Competition.
17. In any case whatsoever, the decision of the Organizers shall be final and binding.
18. The organizers shall have the rights reserved over all the audio, video or submitted memorials and compendium and the organizers are free to use or dispose them off in the manner they deem fit.

X. CLARIFICATIONS

1. Participating teams may seek clarifications via mail on the Official Email with subject title as 'MM National (Virtual) Moot Court Competition, 2022 – Clarification.'
2. The last date to seek clarifications to the Moot Proposition is **10th April, 2022**.

XI. AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

1. THE WINNING TEAM shall be awarded with Certificates and Cash Prize of Rs. 15,000/-.
2. THE RUNNER UP TEAM shall be awarded with Certificates and Cash Prize of Rs. 10,000/- .
3. BEST MEMORIAL shall be awarded with Certificates and Cash Prize of Rs. 3,000/-.
4. The BEST MOOTER shall be awarded with Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 3,000/-.
5. The BEST RESERCHER shall be awarded with Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs. 3,000/-.
6. CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION shall be given to all the participants.

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XII. KEY DATES

Event	Date
Notification of competition & release of moot proposition	18 th February, 2022
Last date of Registration	3 rd April, 2022
Last date for seeking clarification	10 th April, 2022
Last date of submission of soft copy of memorials	14 th April, 2022
Orientation Program & Preliminary rounds	19 th April, 2022
Quarter Finals & Semi Final Rounds	20 th April, 2022
Final Round	21 st April, 2022

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Strict action shall be taken if found scouting through a team member or otherwise or through any other unfair means.
2. All participants are expected to maintain proper decorum in the Court during the Competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.
3. The Organizers reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and immoral conduct.
4. The Organizers decision as regards the interpretation of rules or any other matter related to the competition will be final and binding.
5. If there is any situation which is not contemplated in the rules, the Organizers decision on the same shall be final and binding.
6. The Organizers reserve the rights to vary, alter, modify, or repeal any of the above rules if so required and as they deem appropriate.

XV. FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT

Organizing Committee:

Prof. (Dr) Bindu Jindal

Head & Dean, Dept. of Law (Chief Event Coordinator)

Phone No. 01731-304266

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Glimpses of Moot Court Competitions



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