

rulebook

1st JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA NATIONAL MEDIATION COMPETITION



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8TH
IN LAW

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

FACULTY OF LAW, JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA
NEW DELHI, INDIA- 110025

**12th-14th
February,
2026**



ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE
FACULTY OF LAW, JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA
NEW DELHI, INDIA- 110025



1st JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA NATIONAL MEDIATION COMPETITION



(CHIEF PATRON)

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Vice-Chancellor
Jamia Millia Islamia



(PATRON)

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(CHAIRMAN. ADRC)

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(CO-CHAIRMAN, ADRC)

Prof. Asad Malik
Proctor
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(FACULTY CONVENOR)

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Our Partners

KNOWLEDGE PARTNER



MEDIA PARTNER



1. Definitions

1.1. **“Administrator/s”** refers to the Organizing Committee (“OC”) or members of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee (“the ADRC”), Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia, appointed to conduct the competition;

1.2. **“Best Negotiating Pair”** refers to the cumulative scores of the students playing the role of the client and counsel, respectively, from the participating teams and awarded the highest score among the other acting negotiating pairs in the Preliminary Rounds;

1.3. **“Best Mediator”** refers to the student playing the role of the Mediator from the participating teams and scoring the highest among other acting mediators in the Preliminary Rounds;

1.4. **“Caucus”** refers to a separate meeting between the Mediator/s and one of the Competing Teams in a round during which the round time continues to run;

1.5. **“Clarifications”** refer to procedural order(s) and/or any clarification(s) issued by the administrator(s);

1.6. **“Competing Team/ Negotiating Pair”** refers to the pair of client and counsel out of a Participating Team, competing in a round;

1.7. **“Competition”** refers to the 1st Jamia Millia Islamia National Mediation Competition, 2026;

1.8. **“Competition Rules”** means these rules of the Competition mentioned hereto;

1.9.“**Confidential Information**” means factual information provided related to a party to the mediation, exclusively to each negotiating pair to determine their strategy and tactics. Such information shall not be made available to the mediators;

1.10.“**Final Round**” refers to the 5th and last round taking place between the two winning teams and two winning mediators of the Semi-Final Round;

1.11.“**General Information**” means background factual information with respect to a Mediation Session that has been provided to both the parties, the Judges and the Mediator/s;

1.12.“**Mediation Session**” means the period during which the Competing Teams will negotiate upon the Mediation Problem in the Preliminary, Quarter-Final, Semi-Final or Final Rounds;

1.13.“**Mediator/s**” refers to the student playing the role of the mediator from the participating team;

1.14.“**Participating Team**” means a group of three students who have registered themselves for the competition and are allowed to take part as per the Rules provided hereunder by the Organising Committee;

1.15.“**Penalty**” refers to points deducted or disqualification for any violation of the Competition Rules mentioned hereunder;

1.16.“**Preliminary Rounds**” refers to the first two rounds of the competition taking place between all the Competing teams and mediators;

1.17. **“Quarter-final Rounds”** refers to the 3rd round taking place between the top eight Competing teams and the top eight Mediators from the Preliminary Rounds;

1.18. **“Round/s”** refers to the negotiation sessions taking place between two competing teams at any stage, the Preliminary, Quarter-Final, Semi-Final or Final;

1.19. **“Runner-up Mediator”** refers to the mediator who is awarded the second-highest score in the final round;

1.20. **“Runner-up Team/Runner-up”** means a competing team awarded the second-highest score in the final round;

1.21. **“Score Sheet”** means the evaluation criteria enclosed under SCHEDULE I and II;

1.22. **“Semi-Final Rounds”** refers to the 4th round of the competition, taking place between the four winning teams and four winning mediators of the Quarter Final Round;

1.23. **“Winning Mediator”** means the mediator scoring the highest in the final round;

1.24. **“Winning Team/Winner”** refers to the competing team with the highest cumulative scores in the final round.

2. Interpretation of Rules

2.1. The administrators/ Organising Committee will have exclusive authority to interpret the Rules of the competition in the interest of fairness and equality. The interpretation provided by the Organising Committee shall be conclusive.

2.2. In case of any doubt in the understanding or interpretation of any matter concerning the Competition, the Participating Team can seek clarifications regarding the same. The Clarifications given by the Organising Committee shall be final and binding.

3. Eligibility and Team Composition

3.1. **Eligibility:** Students pursuing a full-time 3-year LL.B. or 5-year integrated LL.B. program from a university recognized by the Bar Council of India are eligible to participate.

3.2. **Team Composition:** Each team shall consist of three (03) members: one Mediator and one Client-Counsel pair.

3.3. **Role Maintenance:** The roles of the mediator and the negotiating pair cannot be interchanged during any round of the competition. Any change in the composition must be notified to and approved by the OC prior to or on the day of the competition.

3.4. Each institution can send a maximum of 2 teams.

3.5. **Number of Teams:** A maximum of 24 teams would be registered for the competition on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to the completion of all registration formalities, and if the institution has already registered (in the interest of diversity of competition).

3.6. **Anonymity:** Teams must not disclose the identity of their institution at any stage; failure to comply may lead to disqualification.

4. Registration and Payment

4.1. **Process:** Interested Teams must register themselves by filling the provided Google form, submitting complete details of all members, before the final registration date.

Link: **<https://forms.gle/yetPAmRgp4inTiN98>**

4.2. **Fee:** A non-refundable registration fee of Rs. 6000 is applicable per participating team. The registration fee shall be submitted to the following bank account on or before the 25th of January, 2026:

Bank Details

• Beneficiary Name/ Account name	<i>JMI CONFERENCES</i>
• Name of bank	<i>Indian Bank</i>
• Branch	<i>Jamia Millia Islamia</i>
• Branch Code	<i>01622</i>
• Savings Bank A/c No.	<i>6820138716</i>
• IFSC - CODE	<i>IDIB000J029</i>
• ZONE	<i>DELHI</i>

4.3. Participation of the teams in the Competition is subject to the payment of the registration fee and completion of the registration form. For this purpose, the team will be deemed to have “formally registered” once the payment of the registration fee is completed.

4.4. **Team Code:** Upon successful registration, each team will be assigned a unique Team Code to be used throughout the competition.

4.5. **Team Usher:** Each team will be appointed a Team Usher who will act as a point of contact between the teams and the OC for ease of communication.

4.6. Any doubts, queries or clarifications regarding the competition can be addressed to the OC at the official channel for communication at adrcjmi@gmail.com.

5. Accommodation and Transport

5.1. Eligibility: The Organising Committee provide accommodation to all participating teams. No, accommodation shall be provided to any person other than the participating team.

5.2. Venue: The OC will provide the student accommodation at the University Guest House from the morning of 12th February till the morning of 15th February, which amounts to 2 nights and 3 days only.

5.3. Rooms: Upon special consideration and request, male and female team members can be allotted separate rooms. The OC, upon its discretion and availability, can provide a single room to teams having all males/females.

5.4. Transport: The OC will not provide transport to participating teams, and they have to manage their own transport to the university campus.

5.5. Food: The OC shall provide food to all the participating teams at the notified venue and time.

6. Mediation Problem

6.1. There shall be a total of five ('5') Mediation Propositions, two ('2') problems for the Preliminary Rounds 1 & 2, one ('1') for Quarter-Final Rounds, one ('1') for the Semi-Final Rounds, and one ('1') for the Final Round.

6.2. The problem shall consist of General Information applicable to all teams and Confidential Information specific to each side.

6.3. Any clarifications or procedural order issued by the Organizing Committee shall form part of the Mediation Problem.

6.4. The Competition Problem shall be self-contained. Participants shall not introduce new facts, distort existing facts, or deny facts contained in the materials provided. Participants may, however, draw reasonable inferences from the facts. The determination of whether an inference is reasonable shall rest with the judges.

6.5. Allocation/disclosure of Confidential Information for the Preliminary Round 1 & 2, Quarter-Final, and Semi-Final Rounds shall take place 30 minutes prior to the commencement of each round. For the Final Round, the Confidential Information shall be released 60 minutes prior to the commencement of such round.

6.6. Confidential Information shall not be disclosed by participants to:

- a. the opposing party outside the mediation session;

- b. any mediator prior to the commencement of the round;
- c. any other participant or third party at any stage of the Competition.

Any breach of confidentiality may result in disqualification.

7. Structure of the Competition

The competition shall comprise of five rounds, Preliminary Round 1 & 2, followed by Quarter-Final Rounds, Semi-Final Rounds, and a Final Round.

7.1. Preliminary Rounds

7.1.1. Each team shall participate in two Preliminary Rounds representing one side of the dispute, which will be decided by the draw of lots conducted by the OC.

7.1.2. Efforts shall be made so that no team shall compete against the same team more than once in the Preliminary Rounds, nor appear before the same panel of judges more than once.

7.1.3. Scores of the Preliminary Rounds shall be aggregated separately for Client–Counsel pairs/ Negotiating pairs and Mediators.

7.1.4. Based on cumulative scores, the eight (8) top-ranked Client–Counsel pairs/Negotiating Pairs and Mediators shall advance to the Advanced Rounds.

7.2. Advanced Rounds

7.2.1. The Advanced Rounds shall comprise the Quarter-Final Round, Semi-Final Round, and Final Round, and shall be conducted on a knockout basis

7.2.2. The Quarter-Final Rounds shall be conducted between the eight (8) top-ranked Negotiating Pairs and Mediators from the Preliminary Rounds.

7.2.3. The Semi-Final Rounds shall be conducted between those competing teams and mediators who are winners of their respective Quarter-final Round.

7.2.4. The Final Round shall be conducted between those competing teams and mediators who are winners of their respective Semi-final Round.

7.2.5. The parties shall be allocated their respective side in the Advanced Rounds by a random draw of lots, unless otherwise specified by the OC.

7.3. Duration of the Rounds

7.3.1. Each Preliminary Round and the Quarter-Final Round shall be for a duration of **60 (sixty) minutes**, based on the following break-up:

7.3.1.1. **40 (forty) minutes** for the Mediation Session;

7.3.1.2 **10 (ten) minutes** for the Q&A Session;

7.3.1.3 **10 (ten) minutes** for the Judges to score the Participating Teams.

7.3.2. The Semi-Final Round and the Final Round shall be for a duration of **100 (hundred) minutes**.

7.3.2.1 **80 (eighty) minutes** for the Mediation Session;

7.3.2.2 **10 (ten) minutes** for the Q&A Session;

7.3.2.3 **10 (ten) minutes** for the Judges to score the Participating Teams

7.3.3. Each team shall be provided the confidential information, in accordance with Rule 6.5, i.e., **30 mins before** the Prelims 1 & 2, Quarter, and Semi-Finals, and **60 mins**, i.e., One Hour, before the Final Round.

7.3.4. Time limits for each round shall be strictly enforced. The time shall continue to run during caucuses and breaks, unless stated otherwise.

7.3.5. Judges may reserve a portion of the allotted time for post-session questions. No additional time shall be granted beyond the prescribed limits.

7.3.6. No electronic devices shall be permitted for use in the respective rounds.

7.4. Caucuses and Breaks

7.4.1. Caucuses may be initiated by the Mediator/s or by any of the negotiating pairs during the mediation session.

7.4.2. In each round, only one caucus per team may be granted.

7.4.3. During a caucus or break, participants shall not communicate with any third party or use electronic devices.

8. Evaluation and Marking Criteria (Schedule I)

8.1. Each round shall be evaluated by the expert assessors appointed by the OC on standardized score sheets.

8.2. The parameters and weightages for evaluation shall be set out in the official score sheets prepared by the OC. Judges shall be briefed on the scoring framework prior to the rounds.

8.3. Subject to the discretion of the OC, soft copies of completed scoresheets may be shared with teams after the conclusion of the Competition.

8.4. Judges may assess participants independently or may confer with one another prior to finalising scores.

8.5. Judges shall be provided with all materials made available to the participants.

8.6. Following the mediation session, judges shall pose questions to participants regarding their strategy and rationale.

8.7. Participants shall not engage in any unsolicited communication with the judges during the mediation session, except where questions are posed by the judges as part of the evaluation process.

8.8. Judges may, at their discretion, provide brief feedback after the end of the session.

8.9. Participants shall not be evaluated on whether a settlement or agreement is reached at the end of the mediation session or not.

8.10. Subject to the discretion of the judges and the OC, penalties may be imposed for, inter alia: Failure to adhere to prescribed time limits, Conduct inconsistent with the principles of mediation; or Deviation from a reasonable interpretation of the Competition Proposition.

8.11. In case of a tie in the aggregate scores in the preliminary rounds, the negotiating pair with the higher score in the '**Generation of Creative Solutions & Negotiation Strategy**' category shall advance.

8.12. In case of a tie in the aggregate scores in the preliminary rounds, the mediator with the higher cumulative score in the '**Creating an Appropriate Environment**' and the '**Control Over the Session**' categories shall advance.

9. Prizes and Awards

9.1. **Winning Team Award:** The Competing Team that secures the highest score in the Final Round of the Competition shall be declared as the Winner and will be awarded **Rs. 20,000**, a trophy, two (2) one-year subscriptions to SCC Online Web Edition worth Rs. 64,000 and a certificate of merit.

9.2. **Runners-Up Team Award:** The Competing Team that secures the second-highest score in the Final Round shall be declared as the Runners-up Team, and will be awarded **Rs 10,000**, a trophy, and a certificate of merit.

9.3. **Winning Mediator Award:** The Mediator that secures the highest score in the Final Round shall be declared as the Winning Mediator and will be awarded **Rs 10,000**, a trophy, a one-year subscription to SCC Online Web Edition worth Rs. 32,000 along with a certificate of merit.

9.4. **Runner-Up Mediator Award:** The Mediator that secures the second-highest score in the Final Round shall be declared as the Runner-up Mediator, and will be awarded **Rs 5,000**, a trophy, along with a certificate of merit.

9.5. **Best Negotiating Pair Award, Preliminary Rounds:** The Client & Counsel with the highest cumulative score of all segments in the scoresheet in the preliminary rounds shall be declared as the Best Negotiating Pair and will be awarded **Rs 3000**, along with a certificate of merit.

9.6. **Best Mediator Award, Preliminary Rounds:** The Mediator with the highest cumulative score of all segments in the scoresheet in the preliminary rounds shall be declared as the Best Mediator and will be awarded **Rs 3000**, along with a certificate of merit.

9.7. A Competing Team qualifying for the Winning Team or Runner-Up Team shall be automatically disqualified from consideration for the Best Negotiating Pair Award.

9.8. A Mediator qualifying for the Winning Mediator or Runner-Up Mediator shall be automatically disqualified from consideration for the Best Mediator Award.

9.9 **All participants would receive a month of complimentary SCC Online Web Edition subscription for the duration of the competition in addition to a participating certificate.**

10. Miscellaneous

10.1. **Language:** The language of the Competition is English. All communications, oral and written, throughout the course of the Competition, shall be in English.

10.2. **Communications to OC:** For any queries, clarifications or concerns, the Organising Committee must only be contacted through the official Email ID at adrcjmi@gmail.com.

10.3. **Communications to Participating Team:** Communication made to one member of a Participating Team shall be deemed to have been made to the entire Team.

10.4. **Dress Code:** The Participating Teams shall be dressed in business formals for the entire duration of the Competition, as well as for the Opening and Valedictory Ceremonies.

10.5. **Scouting:** Participants are strictly prohibited from observing rounds of other teams while they are still in the competition; violation results in immediate disqualification.

10.6. **Electronic Gadgets:** The use of electronic devices is restricted during rounds unless permitted.

10.7. **Residuary Power:** The Organising Committee shall have the power to amend or revoke or amend these Rules, either in part or in full, as it sees fit, to ensure the smooth conduct of the Competition. Any such amendment or revocation shall come into force upon its notification. The OC shall also have the power to take any other measures to ensure the smooth and fair conduct of the Competition.

SCHEDULE I: SCORESHEET

Team Code	Client – _____	Counsel – _____
Opening Statement (15) (Excellent: 13 - 15; Very Good: 10 – 12; Good: 6 – 9; Average: 3 – 5; Below Average: 0 – 2)	/15	/15
Teamwork & Division of Roles (10) (Excellent: 9 - 10; Very Good: 7 – 8; Good: 5 – 6; Average: 3 – 4; Below Average: 0 – 2)	/10	/10
Building relationship with the other party (10) (Excellent: 18 - 20; Very Good: 15 – 17; Good: 11 – 14; Average: 7 – 10; Below Average: 0 – 7)	/10	/10
Generation of creative solutions & Negotiation Strategy (20) (Excellent: 18 - 20; Very Good: 15 – 17; Good: 11 – 14; Average: 7 – 10; Below Average: 0 – 7)	/20	/20

Analysis of relevant interests (15) (Excellent: 18 - 20; Very Good: 15 – 17; Good: 11 – 14; Average: 7 – 10; Below Average: 0 – 7)	/15	/15
Use of Mediators (10) (Excellent: 9 - 10; Very Good: 7 – 8; Good: 5 – 6; Average: 3 – 4; Below Average: 0 – 2)	/10	/10
Time Management (10) (Excellent: 9 - 10; Very Good: 7 – 8; Good: 5 – 6; Average: 3 – 4; Below Average: 0 – 2)	/10	/10
Ability to Answer Coherently & Logically in the Q&A Session (10) (Excellent: 9 - 10; Very Good: 7 – 8; Good: 5 – 6; Average: 3 – 4; Below Average: 0 – 2)	/10	/10
Participant's Total (100)	/100	/100

SCHEDULE II: SCORESHEET

Team Code	Mediator –
Opening Statement (15) (Conveying the importance of the process, Tactics adopted to calm parties, Effective explanation of the process with special reference to his/her role)	/15
Closing Statement (10) (Summarising the mediation session, an Effective ending to the session)	/10
Creating an Appropriate Environment (15) (Laying down ground rules, nature of the approach, Making the parties comfortable, establishing ‘negotiation’ environment, Building trust with parties)	/15
Control Over the Session (10) (Laying down of effective agenda, Adherence to ground rules, assisting parties to move forward in the session, Timely intervention)	/10
Ability to Work as a Team (10) (Teamwork and Cooperation with co-mediator)	/10

Eliciting Information from Negotiating Pair (10) (Framing of questions, Manner of asking uncomfortable questions, collecting information while maintaining an unbiased image, Optimum use of time by asking only relevant questions)	/10
Conduct and Demeanour (10) (Body language, listening skills, Professionalism, display of patience)	/10
Facilitating Solutions and Options (10) (Approach adopted in assisting with Solutions, Steps taken to keep outcomes realistic, Encouraging the parties to generate win-win solutions)	/10
Time Management (10) (Ensuring judicial use of time in conference and caucus, Adherence to the time divisions stipulated in the Rules)	/10
Participant's Total (100)	/100

TIMELINE OF THE COMPETITION

Release of Rulebook and Brochure	07.01.26
Last Date for Provisional Registration	18.01.26
Release of Problems	20.01.26
Last Date for Final Registration	25.01.26
Allotment of team codes	30.01.26
Last Date for Clarifications	01.02.26
Release of Clarifications	08.02.26
Inaugural Ceremony & Mediation Session	12.02.26
Preliminary Rounds 1 & 2, Quarter Finals	13.02.26
Semi-Finals, Final Round, & Valedictory Ceremony	14.02.26

CONTACTS

THE FACULTY ORGANIZERS

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SOCIALS

 <https://www.instagram.com/adrc.jmi/>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/adrc-jmi/>

 <https://linktr.ee/nationalmediation>



APPENDIX

Consent Form/Approval letter

(Please fill in Capital Letters)

DECLARATION

- 1. We hereby state that our participation complies with the rules and regulations of the competition.
- 2. The participants named herein below are bona fide students of our Institution and the information provided under is true to the knowledge of our records.
- 3. We certify that the materials submitted/to be submitted are prepared by us and agree to indemnify the organizers, i.e., Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials.

Name & Address of the participating Institution:

Official Email:

Regd. Mobile:

Name of the participant	Course	Year/Semester	Signature
1.			
2.			
3.			

Seal& signature of the Head of the Department