



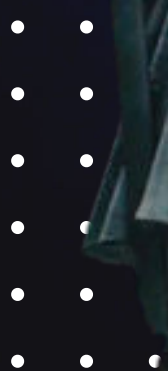
ALL INDIA LAWYERS' UNION
ERNAKULAM DISTRICT COMMITTEE



1ST C. P. SUDHAKARA PRASAD MEMORIAL NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2022



RULE BOOK



1ST C.P. SUDHAKARA PRASAD MEMORIAL NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION BY ALL INDIA LAWYERS UNION ERNAKULAM DISTRICT COMMITTEE, 2022 RULES

These are the rules for the 1st C.P. Sudhakara Prasad Memorial National Moot Court Competition by All India Lawyers Union Ernakulam District Committee, 2022.

- **DATE OF THE COMPETITION**

1st C.P. Sudhakara Prasad Memorial National Moot Court Competition by All India Lawyers Union Ernakulam District Committee, 2022 will be held in two phases in hybrid mode. The preliminary round will be held on 27th November, 2022 in virtual mode, and the advanced round will be held offline mode on 3rd December, 2022.

- **LANGUAGE**

English shall be the official language for the conduct of the Competition.

- **DRESS CODE**

Participants shall be appropriately attired throughout the conduct of the Competition (Inauguration, Oral Rounds, Valedictory & Prize Distribution). The participants shall be in black and white formal wear only.

- **TEAM ELIGIBILITY**

Participation is strictly restricted to Bonafide undergraduate law students pursuing the three years or five years LL.B. degree program from the Institution/University recognised by the Bar Council of India.

1. Definitions

- 1.1. **“Advanced Rounds”** refer to the Semi-Finals and the Finals.
- 1.2. **“Argument Note”** means the written arguments submitted by each team in pursuance of these Rules.
- 1.3. **“Competition”** means the 1st C.P. Sudhakara Prasad Memorial National Moot Court Competition, 2022, by All India Lawyers Union Ernakulam District Committee.
- 1.4. **“IST”** means Indian Standard Time.
- 1.5. **“Member”** means a registered participant representing a team.
- 1.6. **“Oral Rounds”** refer to the Preliminary Rounds and the Advanced Rounds.
- 1.7. **“Organisers”** means the organising committee of the 1st C.P. Sudhakara Prasad Memorial National Moot Court Competition, 2022, by All India Lawyers Union Ernakulam District Committee.
- 1.8. **“Participant”** means and includes any bachelor law student of any recognised institution.
- 1.9. **“Preliminary Rounds”** refers to the round conducted prior to the Advanced Round to determine which teams shall move forward to the advanced rounds.
- 1.10. **“Person of Contact”** means any member designated by a team to serve as a one-point contact for the organisers.
- 1.11. **“Roles”** refers to the roles of a speaker or a researcher.
- 1.12. **“Scouting”** means a person observing the Oral Rounds of a team other than the team such person is associated with.

1.13. “Speaker” refers to a participant who presents oral arguments in any given round.

1.14. “Team Code” refers to the code allocated to a participating institution by the administrator after the registration is completed.

2. Interpretation

The organisers will have exclusive authority to interpret the rules in the interest of fairness and equality. The interpretation of these rules by the organisers shall be final and binding. Moreover, on any instance not covered by these Rules, the organisers shall have the sole discretion.

3. Key Dates

3.1. The following key dates shall be adhered to:

Last Date for Registration – 15th November, 2022

Last Date for seeking Clarifications – 17th November, 2022

Last Date for Submission of Argument Note – 20th November, 2022

Date of Preliminary Round – 27th November, 2022

Date of Advanced Round - 3rd December, 2022

3.2. Unless specified otherwise, the dates mentioned shall refer to 11:59 PM IST on that date. For instance, the last date for submission of the Argument Note shall be interpreted as 20th November, 2022, 11:59 PM IST.

3.3. The organisers retain the authority to change deadlines for any individual team. However, the Argument Note submission

deadline shall NOT be extended for any particular team and shall remain the same for all teams.

4. Team Composition

- 4.1. A team must have two members, either one speaker and a researcher, or two speakers.
- 4.2. Each team shall designate one member as the Primary Contact Person.
- 4.3. Once registered, a team will not be permitted to vary the composition of the team in any manner including the roles initially assigned to the members. Changes, if any, may only be made with the express permission of the organisers (at their discretion) if due reason is shown for the same.

5. Outside Assistance

Every team must research and write its Argument Note without the assistance of non-members. Teams may receive general advice from Faculty Advisors. However, such advice must be limited to general guidance on the area of law concerned, the structure of arguments and general commentary on the team's arguments. No advice may be taken from any member of another team or Faculty Advisor of another team.

6. Registration

- 6.1. Each team shall register for the competition by filling an online registration form not later than the last date of registration mentioned in Rule 3 above.

The Registration Form is available [here](#), and in case of any difficulties, the form can also be requested from the organisers by any eligible student.

- 6.2. Once a team is registered, the organisers will assign a team code. This team code will serve as their unique identifier for Argument Note and at the Oral Rounds.
- 6.3. The organisers reserve the absolute discretion to refuse or cancel any team registration.

7. Registration fee

Registration is free of cost.

8. Clarifications of the problem

- 8.1. All requests for clarifications to the problem must be emailed to ailumootekm@gmail.com by 17th November, 2022.
- 8.2. The request for clarifications should be clear and related to the facts of the case and not related to the substantive arguments.
- 8.3. All clarifications issued shall be communicated to the teams via e-mail.
- 8.4. The clarifications as and when issued shall become a part of the Moot Proposition.

9. Anonymity of Teams

- 9.1. Teams must not reveal the name of their institution, country of origin, or participants' names anywhere in the Argument Note or in the course of the oral arguments. Provided that speakers may

refer to themselves and other speakers in an oral round by their respective names.

- 9.2. A team must be identified only by the team code allotted to it after registration.
- 9.3. In case of non-compliance to the rules mentioned above, the teams shall be disqualified as per the decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee.

10. Argument Note

10.1. General

- a) Each team shall prepare one Argument Note from each side, i.e., the Petitioner(s) and the Respondent(s).
- b) Each Argument Note shall not exceed 25 pages.

10.2. Submission of Argument Note

- a) All teams shall send a soft copy of the Argument Note for each side in both Microsoft Word and PDF formats, via e-mail, on or before 20th November, 2022 (11:59 P.M. IST) to ailumootekm@gmail.com only.
- b) Any submission made after 20th November, 2022 (11:59 P.M. IST) will be considered the late submission and penalised accordingly.
- c) Each Argument Note 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 Argument Note, i.e., an R for Respondent(s) and P for Petitioner(s). For instance, the

Respondent Argument Note of team code 2 should be named “2R”.

- d) For every hour of delay in Argument Note submission from the prescribed time of submission, one mark shall be deducted. Any Argument Note submitted 12 hours after the time specified above will not be accepted and the team will not be allowed to participate except at the discretion of the organisers. The decision of the organisers shall be final in this regard.

10.3. Format of Argument Note

a) Argument Note structure

Each Argument Note must contain all of, and only, the following components:

- (i) Cover page;
- (ii) Table of Contents;
- (iii) Statement of Facts;
- (iv) Issues Raised;
- (v) Arguments Advanced/Pleadings; and
- (vi) Prayer

b) Font and Spacing

- i. The text font for the Arguments Advanced and Prayer, including that of all headings and sub-headings, must be Times New Roman, size 12, with 1.5 line spacing.

- ii. The text font for the footnotes must be Times New Roman, size 10, with 1.0 line spacing. There must be no additional space between two footnotes.
- iii. Each page in the Argument Note must have a margin of one inch on all sides.
- iv. The page size should be A-4.

c) Cover Page

The Cover Page of each Argument Note must contain only the following information:

- (i) The team registration code in the upper right-hand corner, followed by a “P” for the Petitioner(s) Argument Note and an “R” for the Respondent(s) Argument Note. For example, Team Code 2 would put the code “2P” in the upper right-hand corner of its Petitioner(s) Argument Note;
- (ii) The cover page of the petitioner’s Argument Note shall be blue, and respondent’s Argument Note shall be red.
- (iii) The name of the forum before which the proceedings are being conducted;
- (iv) The year of the Competition;
- (v) The cause title of the case; and
- (vi) The title of the Argument Note (either “Argument Note for Petitioner” or “Argument Note for Respondent”).

d) Statement of Facts

The Statement of Facts must contain a concise statement of the relevant facts of the dispute. It should be limited to the stipulated facts and legitimate inferences which can be drawn from those facts.

e) Issues Raised

In this section, teams should present the legal questions the Court is being called upon to decide in the context of the case. While each legal question might have further sub-questions, teams must state only the main legal questions in this section.

f) Arguments Advanced

Substantive, affirmative legal arguments or legal interpretations of the facts of the case may only be presented in the ‘Arguments Advanced’ section of the Argument Note. The Arguments Advanced shall not exceed 20 pages.

g) Prayer

It is the relief claimed by the parties which should be clearly mentioned. More than one relief can be claimed in one cause of action.

h) Citations and Footnotes

(i) It is not permitted to provide any information in the footnotes that is not related to the identification of an authority or source. Footnotes may not include additional legal arguments.

(ii) The citations shall be in 20th Bluebook Edition.

10.4. Judging of Argument Note

a) General

- i. Each Argument Note shall be assessed individually and independently by two (2) judges.
- ii. Every Argument Note will be marked on a maximum of fifty (50) marks by each judge.
- iii. A team's total Argument Note score shall be the sum of marks awarded for the Petitioner(s) Argument Note and marks awarded for the Respondent(s) Argument Note.

b) Substantive Scoring

Each judge can award a maximum of fifty (50) marks and the Argument Note will be judged on the following criteria:

- (i) Recognition of issues : complete and correct recognition and weighing of issues.....5
- (ii) Correct primary and alternative submissions.....5
- (iii) Identification of legal principles10
- (iv) Quality and extent of research: Use of relevant case law, academic writings etc.....10
- (v) Appreciation and application of facts5
- (vi) Logical structure and clarity of thought.....5
- (vii) Ingenuity.....5
- (viii) Overall Impression-: Formatting, citations, etc.....5

11. Qualification for Oral Rounds

- 11.1. The organisers reserve the right to select the best ten Argument Notes submitted by the registered teams, and these teams shall be qualified for the preliminary round.
- 11.2. The organisers reserve the right to increase the number of teams allowed in the preliminary round if it deems fit.

12. Procedure for Oral Rounds

12.1. General

- a) The competition shall consist of preliminary rounds and advanced rounds. The preliminary rounds and advanced rounds will be conducted in online and physical mode respectively.
- b) Each team shall argue in one Preliminary Round; either as Petitioner or Respondent, according to the lots drawn. The Advanced Rounds shall, unless otherwise specified, consist of two knock-out rounds – the Semi-Finals and the Final.
- c) During the preliminary round, only the registered team members can be present during the video conference representing the team. The team members shall not take aid from any other person or in any manner.
- d) Before the start of the oral round of any team, the team shall inform the timekeeper of the names of the speaker(s) who will be presenting oral arguments in that round. The team shall also notify the timekeeper regarding the allocation of time between themselves and the time reserved for

- rebuttal/sur-rebuttal, keeping within the prescribed time limits. Once so informed, these timings shall not be changed.
- e) For the oral rounds, each team can distribute its allocated time among the speakers as it deems fit. It is not mandatory that both team members must be speakers during the oral round. Not more than 20% of the time allocated to the team shall be reserved for its rebuttal/sur-rebuttal. For instance, an acceptable allocation for a 30-minute time may be a maximum of 6 minutes for rebuttal/ sur-rebuttal.

13. Rounds

a) Preliminary Round

- i. Each team shall have 30 minutes to argue in the Preliminary Round
- ii. The top four teams from the Preliminary Rounds shall advance to the Advanced Rounds. The marks awarded for the Argument Note shall not be considered for this purpose.

b) Semi-Finals

- i. Each team shall have 30 minutes to argue in the Semi-Finals.
- ii. The pairing shall be chosen according to the draw of lots.
- iii. The winners of the Semi-Finals shall advance to the Finals.

c) Finals

Each team shall have 45 minutes to argue in the Finals.

14. Rebuttal/Sur-Rebuttal

- a) Only one speaker of a team may present the rebuttal/sur-rebuttal for all the issues.
- b) The Respondent(s) team may use the time set aside for sur-rebuttal only if the Petitioner(s) team exercises its right to rebuttal.
- c) If a team fails to reserve time for a rebuttal or sur-rebuttal at the start of an oral round, it may not request that such time be added during the round.
- d) The Petitioner(s)'s rebuttal must be limited to responding to the Respondent(s)'s oral pleadings, whereas the Respondent's sur-rebuttal is limited to responding to the Petitioner(s)'s rebuttal.

15. Scouting

- a) Team members may observe only those preliminary rounds in which their team competes. Any form of scouting is strictly prohibited and shall result in the disqualification of the team. The decision of the organisers shall be final in this regard.

- b) For teams which have moved on to the advanced rounds of the competition, team members may observe only those advanced rounds in which their team is competing.
- c) Teams not qualified for the advanced rounds may observe any of the advanced rounds. Once a team in the advanced rounds has been knocked out of the Competition, team members and individuals directly affiliated with the team, may observe any of the remaining advanced rounds.

16. Judging of Oral Rounds

16.1. Each preliminary round shall be judged by two (2) judges and each advanced round shall be judged by three (3) judges. However, the final may be judged by a larger bench. The organisers reserve the right to change the bench strengths.

16.2. Each oral pleading will be marked on a maximum of one hundred (100) points by each of the judges.

16.3. The oral pleading shall be judged on the following criteria:

- a) Recognition of issues: complete and correct recognition and weighing of issues.....10
- b) Identification of legal principles15
- c) Use of authorities15
- d) Appreciation and application of facts.....15
- e) Clarity, logic and structure of presentation.....10
- f) Response to questions15

- g) Ability to communicate with judges10
- h) Overall presentation, poise and demeanour.....10

17. Dispute Resolution

In case of any dispute arising during the course of the moot, the decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee consisting of Adv. T.P. Ramesh (Convener), Adv. T. K. Shajahan, Adv. Mayakrishnan, shall be final and binding on all the participants of the moot.

18. Awards

18.1. The awards are as follows:

1. Winning team – Sudhakara Prasad Memorial Ever Rolling Trophy + Certificate of Merit + Cash Prize of Rs 25,000/-
2. First Runner-up team– Trophy + Certificate of Merit + Cash Prize of Rs 15,000/-
3. Second Runner-up team– Trophy + Certificate of Merit
4. Best Argument Note- Trophy + Certificate of Merit + Cash Prize of Rs 5,000/-
5. Best Speaker- M.K. Damodaran Memorial Ever Rolling Trophy + Certificate of Merit+ Cash Prize of Rs. 5,000/-

18.2. A Certificate of Participation will be provided to all the registered teams who submitted the Argument Note.

For enquiries and clarifications, contact the student co-ordinators.

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