



**SURANA & SURANA AND SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE IN LAW,
TAMIL NADU DR. AMBEDKAR LAW UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2024**

RULES & REGULATIONS

I. Aim and Purpose

- a. The “Surana & Surana and School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition 2024” has been conceived with the aim of promoting skills of trial advocacy.
- b. The Moot Court Association of the School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University in collaboration with Surana & Surana International Attorneys is hosting this competition, in accordance with the procedures established by the *Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023*.
- c. The Competition has been designed with the objective of promoting and aiding in the understanding of Criminal Law Jurisprudence and facilitating the growth of advocacy skills, thereby advancing the cause of justice in the field of Criminal Law.
- d. The “Surana & Surana and School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition 2024” is scheduled to be held in two phases, **Procedural Test and Oral Rounds**. The former will be conducted via an **Online platform**, and the later shall be held on premises at the **campus of SOEL, Chennai**.
- e. The purpose of organizing the “Surana & Surana and School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition 2024” is to :
 - Help participants in gaining a comprehensive understanding of the nuances of the Indian Criminal Justice System.
 - Provide a realistic simulation of trial proceedings based on the Indian Criminal Justice System.
 - Enhance participants’ knowledge and comprehension of the distinct roles, strategies, and techniques employed by the Office of the Prosecution and the Defense.
 - Promote the development of analytical and argumentative skills, as well as effective



presentation and utilization of evidence within the framework of the Indian Criminal Justice System.

II. Language

The competition shall be in English.

III. Dress Code

Advocates attire

The dress code for the competition shall be strictly formals (without College and University logo). Dress code shall be Advocate's Attire during the rounds of the competition, i.e.:

- i. Gentlemen - Black trousers and White shirt, Plain Black Blazer (without College/ University logo), Black Tie.
- ii. Ladies - Black trousers, White Shirt, White Kurta and Black Churidar pants, Plain Black Blazer, white or Black saree and black jacket (without College/University logo).

The participating teams shall also adhere to the above-mentioned dress code while attending the inaugural and valedictory ceremonies of the Competition. Robes and neck bands are not permitted.

IV. Eligibility

Participants should be currently pursuing their bachelor's degree in law i.e. 3 Year LL.B. program or 5 Year LL.B. program.

V. Team Composition

- a. Each team shall consist of a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 members. This number cannot be modified under any circumstances.
- b. There can be 2 speakers and 2 researchers designated for each team.
- c. Teams have the option of designating two of its members to be speakers for the Prosecution and the other two speakers for the Defence. The team shall notify such an arrangement before the commencement of the round to the court assistants. Such a team shall not, during any stage of the competition, rearrange the position of its members to form any new combination.
- d. Each team will be provided with a unique Competition code by draw of lots during the orientation. The identity of the teams shall not be disclosed at any stage, such disclosure shall invite penalties including disqualification. The decision for the same shall be at the discretion of the Administrator.



VI. Venue & Date

Date	Event	Platform / Venue
13 th August, 2024 (Extended from Aug 10 th)	Procedural Test	Virtual Mode (Google Meet)
23 rd - 25 th August, 2024	Inaugural, Orientation, Oral Competition Rounds, Valedictory Ceremony & Prize distribution	School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Perungudi Campus, MGR Salai, Perungudi, Chennai 600 113 Landmark : near Taramani (MRTS) Railway Station

VII. Registration

- The teams must register online at www.moot.in by **16th August, 2024** (*extended from 14th August, 2024*).
- Online registrations will be open from **17th July 2024**. Participants will receive an acknowledgement cum approval as confirmation of their online registration & participation periodically after registration
- A scanned copy of the letter from the participating college/ institution / university duly signed by any one of the following:- Faculty-in-charge of MCS / MCA, Registrar, Principal, Dean, Director, Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor confirming the names of the participants, Year / semester in which studying, representing the college/ institution / university for the moot competition will have to be attached during the online registration process (The approval letter shall be formatted on the letterhead of the participating institution/college/university. Alternatively, you may use the registration form itself as appended below)
- Registrations without the scanned copy of the approval letter from the college/institution/ university or duly attested registration form will not be valid
- Once online registration is done no change in names will be possible. However, in exceptional circumstances if a change in name is inevitable a fresh online registration has to be made along with a scanned copy of the approval letter from the college/institution/ university or duly attested registration form clearly explaining the reasons for the change and with authorised signatory & seal of the college/ institution / university.



- f. **Only the Top 18 teams who have qualified the PROCEDURAL TEST phase shall be eligible for the Oral Rounds of the Competition.**

The participants are required to

- (i) email the soft copy of the approval letter by 16th August 2024 to, surana.soel.trialadvocacy@gmail.com marked as “**Surana & Surana and School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition 2024 – Registration**” as the subject.

VIII. Registration Fee

- a. A two-tiered Registration fee structure shall apply to the Competition
- b. All teams wishing to participate in the Competition shall be required to pay a base registration fee of **Rs. 2,000 (Rupees Two Thousand Only) on or before 11th August, 2024 (extended from 8th August, 2024).**
- c. The eighteen (18) teams qualifying for the Oral rounds of the Competition shall be subject to an **additional fee of Rs. 1,500 (Rupees One Thousand Five Hundred Only) on or before 16th August, 2024.**
- d. The Registration Fee is to be paid through NEFT to the below mentioned account:
Account Name : Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University Moot Court Association
Account Number : 67104604033
Name of the Bank : State Bank of India
Branch Name : PNSB Branch Raja Annamalaipuram
IFSC Code : SBIN0070688
Branch Code : 70688
- e. Fee once paid will not be refunded
- f. The payment reference number and date of payment must be mentioned and a scanned copy of the payment receipt also have to be attached and sent to surana.soel.trialadvocacy@gmail.com. Only then will the registration be deemed to be complete.

IX. Rounds

There shall be **Two Phases** of Competition Rounds,

- A. PHASE I : Procedural Test Phase**
B. PHASE II : Oral Rounds Phase



The teams which qualify PHASE – I only can advance to PHASE – II.

Phase I : Procedural Test Phase

This shall be a Qualifying cum Eliminating Test to select the teams which are theoretically competent in the Criminal Law Jurisprudence.

- a. The Test shall be conducted Virtually.
- b. The format of the test shall be as follows
 - i. Type - Objective & Descriptive
 - ii. Number of Questions - 25
 - iii. Marks - 50
 - iv. Time - 30 Minutes
- c. The Attendee of the Test shall be any one of the Team Members as marked in the Registration Form and can be decided at the discretion of the teams. However, any attempt to change the attendee at the midst of the test or request to do so shall not be entertained.
- d. Google Forms shall be used to conduct this test with proctor monitors appointed by the Administrators. Every 5 teams shall be administered by a Proctor Monitor on call who is vested with the power and duty to ensure that the team does not engage itself in any **UFM (Unfair Means)** during the test.
- e. **UFM** shall include the following but is not restricted to:
 - i. Resorting or attempting to refer any material during the test¹.
 - ii. Seeking any help from a person who is not an attendee of the test².
 - iii. Turning off the camera for more than 3 seconds³.
- f. The Attendee should stay on the Google Meet with their Camera turned on.
- g. There shall be Negative Marking in the test.
- h. Scores of the Test shall be communicated through Mail within 24-48 Hours of the Test.
- i. Only the **Top 18 Teams** of this test shall advance to the next phase of the competition.
- j. In case if any teams of the Qualifying - 18 backs out or expresses their interest not to appear in **PHASE II Rounds**, the team adjacent to the finally qualifying team shall be reached out to, to fill in their vacancy.

¹ The Team shall be warned every time through the Chat Box in the Meet if it violates the impugned clause.

² *Ibid.*

³ Violation of the impugned rule more than 3 times shall lead to immediate disqualification of the team.



Phase II : Oral Rounds

There will be two preliminary rounds of arguments, a quarterfinal, a semifinal and a final round. The organizers reserve the right to amend the schedule / rounds as per the number of participating teams.

Preliminary Rounds & Quarter Finals :

- a. There will be two preliminary rounds of arguments per team, once for Prosecution & another for Defence.
- b. No team will face each other more than once in the preliminary rounds.
- c. Each team will face a different two-judge bench in their second round of arguments.
- d. **Preliminary rounds I, II and Quarter Finals will be held on 24th August, 2024 (Saturday).**
- e. Top eight teams from the Preliminary Rounds will advance to the Quarter final rounds. Preliminary rounds will be decided on
 - Win points
 - Win points + Aggregate raw points
 - Win points + Aggregate raw points (in case of tie minus memorial marks)NB: Aggregate raw points = oral scores + memorial score.
- f. Memorial marks will be added to the scores of the preliminary round only.

Semifinal Round / Final Round:

- a. Draw of lots/ Power match will decide the side of the arguments in Quarterfinals, Semifinals & Finals. The Quarterfinal / Semifinal are knockout rounds.
- b. **The Semifinal & Finals will be held on 25th August 2024**

X. Recording of evidence

The team members should take notes of the question and answers during chief / cross examinations.

XI. Results

Results will be announced within 30 minutes after the full completion of the respective Preliminary / Quarter / Semifinal rounds. The Final result and the winners of the various categories will be announced only during the valediction / prize distribution ceremony.

XII. Memorials



The following requirements for memorials must be strictly followed. Non-conformities will be penalized:

- a. Each team must prepare memorials for both parties to the dispute (Prosecution and Defence).
- b. Each team must also prepare all the documents that are required to **Prosecute / Defend** as suggested in the Proposition (Case). This is a part of the memorial. Judges will refer to this while evaluating the team's performance. This will also be used by the opposing teams for counter arguments.
- c. Once the memorials have been submitted, no revisions, supplements, or additions will be allowed.
- d. The soft copy of the Memorials for the Prosecution / and the Defence should be mailed to surana.soel.trialadvocacy@gmail.com with copy to ai@lawindia.com on or before **20th August 2024 latest by 5:00PM.**
- e. The Soft copy and the Hard copy of the memorial submitted shall be the same and identical in all aspects. If any change is found, then the memorial shall be rejected and no marks shall be awarded.
- f. The teams are requested to carry along **5 copies** from each side of the Memorials with them and submit the same during Registration on **23rd August 2024. The participants should mention their Competition code only on the hard copy of the memorials.**
- g. The memorials must contain:
 - The table of contents
 - The index of authorities
 - The statement of jurisdiction
 - The statement of facts (1 page only and argumentative statement of facts would attract penalties)
 - The statement of charges
 - The summary of arguments (not more than 1 page)
 - The arguments advanced (not more than 15 pages)
 - The prayer
- h. The font size should be Times New Roman 12 (one & half space) and for footnotes it should be Times New Roman 10 (single space) & double space between two footnotes. Substantive Footnoting is strictly prohibited, Citation method - The Bluebook / Harvard Law Review, 20th edition. / ILI / A Uniform System of Citation.
- i. The memorial must have a margin measuring one inch on all sides of each page



- j. Page numbering should be on the top right side of each page.
- k. Covers must be placed on briefs as follows:

Prosecution: Light Blue Color, Defence: Light Red Color.

- l. The cover page of Memorials must state the following
 - Team code (on the top right corner)
 - The cause title
 - Identity of brief as Prosecution or Defence.
- m. Identity of the institution shall not be revealed anywhere in the memorial. Violation of this provision shall result in penalties including disqualification. The National Administrator's decision shall be final.
- n. The teams may share a separate paper book (compendium) of not more than 50 pages, which will carry all the annexure and case laws that have been referred to in the memorial. The paper book will have a white cover.

XIII. Oral Rounds

General Rules

- a. Exhibits of the case are already before the Honorable Court.
- b. Minimum no. of witnesses to be examined upon will be disclosed during the orientation.
- c. Teams may examine all or the minimum prescribed number of the witnesses, within the time allotted to them.
- d. Teams should, before the commencement of a round, notify the court officers, as to which of the witnesses they would examine in the course of the trial.

Preliminary Rounds & Quarter Finals

- a. The host institution will provide the witnesses. The witnesses will be generally briefed and assigned by the administrator. However each team will have an opportunity to specifically brief their witnesses. The witnesses to be briefed will be assigned to each team **an hour** prior to the commencement of the respective round.
- b. Each team will get a total of 45 minutes to present their case. **Every minute of extra time will attract automatic penalties for the speaker crossing the limit.**
- c. The rounds would be divided among the following stages/sequence:
 - Opening statement by the Prosecution - 5 minutes
 - Opening statement by the Defence - 5 minutes



- Examination in Chief by the Prosecution - 12 minutes
- Cross Examination by the Defence - 20 minutes
- Examination in Chief by the Defence - 12 minutes
- Cross Examination by the Prosecution - 20 minutes
- Closing statement by the Prosecution - 8 minutes
- Closing statement by the Defence - 8 minutes

The allotted time for each segment is the maximum that the respective speaker can avail of.

- d. Each of the speakers shall conduct either the chief or the cross-examination and deliver either the opening or closing statement. Therefore, each speaker shall compulsorily conduct an examination and deliver either the opening or closing statement. The order of speakers and the examination and statements they would present, is to be intimated by the teams before the commencement of the rounds and cannot be altered at any subsequent stage.
- e. The oral arguments need not be confined to issues presented in the memorials.

Semi-final Rounds

- a. Each team will get a total of 55 minutes to present their case.
- b. The division of time shall be as follows:
- Opening statement by the Prosecution - 5 minutes
 - Opening statement by the Defence - 5 minutes
 - Examination in Chief by the Prosecution - 15 minutes
 - Cross Examination by the Defence - 25 minutes
 - Examination in Chief by the Defence - 15 minutes
 - Cross Examination by the Prosecution - 25 minutes
 - Closing statement by the Prosecution - 10 minutes
 - Closing statement by the Defence - 10 minutes

The allotted time for each segment is the maximum that the respective speaker can avail of.

- c. Each of the speakers shall conduct either the chief or the cross-examination and deliver either the opening or closing statement. Therefore, each speaker shall compulsorily conduct an examination and deliver either the opening or closing statement. The order of speakers and the examination and statements they would handle (chief / cross / opening / closing), is to be intimated by the teams after the announcement of the



preliminary round results and cannot be altered at any subsequent stage of the competition.

- d. This will be a knockout round.

Final Round

- a. Each team will get a total of 55 minutes to present their case.
b. The division of time shall be the same as that followed in the semifinals.

XIV. Scouting

- a. Teams will not be allowed to observe the orals of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any of the teams will result in disqualification.
b. Any team can file a written complaint with the Administrator, regarding a case of scouting. The Administrator's decision will be final.
c. The researchers shall sit with the speakers at the time of the orals and shall not attend the court sessions of any other team participating in the competition.

XV. Scoring

Memorials scores will be added to the oral scores obtained by the participants in Preliminary Rounds only.

A. Orals

Parameters for judging, on a scale of **0 - 100 points** are:

- a. Knowledge of facts
b. Logic, reasoning and clarity articulate and systematic analysis of the issues arising out of facts,
c. Persuasiveness & deference to court
d. Understanding of the laws of evidence and procedure
e. Ability to successfully conduct chief / cross examinations in allotted time
f. Ability to elicit favorable facts from witnesses
g. Ingenuity (ability to argue by analogy) & innovate

B. Written Submissions (Memorials)

- a. Any revisions, supplements or additions to the memorials after submission shall attract severe penalties subject to the discretion of the Administrator
b. Parameters for judging on a scale of **0 - 100 points** are



- Originality in analysis of issues
 - Logical progression of ideas & clear, precise and unambiguous writing style
 - Proper and articulate analysis of strengths and weakness of the case
 - Understanding of the legal principles directly applicable to the issues
 - Presentation of arguments with appropriate citations
 - Variety & depth of research (new points and unique interpretation of fact/law)
- c. Non-compliance of rules mentioned in Clause X shall attract penalties for each non-conformity.

XIV. Awards

- a. *Trial Advocacy Team of the Year Award* - A Plaque and cash prize of Rs. 40,000/- only
- b. *Second Best Team of the Year Award* - A Plaque and a cash prize of Rs. 20,000/- only
- c. *Trial Advocate of the year Award* - A Plaque and cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- only
- d. *Second Best Trial Advocate* - A Plaque and cash prize of Rs. 5,000/- only
- e. *Best Memorial Award* - A Plaque and cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- only
- f. *Second Best Memorial Award* - A Plaque and cash prize of Rs. 5,000/- only

In addition to the above awards & plaques, Certificates are given to all above categories & participants of the Competition.

XV. Announcements

- The results of the Preliminary Rounds will be announced shortly after both the rounds are completed
- The results of the Quarterfinal & Semi-Finals Rounds will be announced shortly after the rounds are completed
- The winners will be announced during the **Awards Ceremony of the Competition**

XVI. Anonymity

- a. The Student counsel may introduce him/herself to the court in the usual manner and may also state their names. However, the team's college affiliation shall not be indicated to the judges at any time.
- b. Further, all team members, coaches, advisors, and observers shall refrain from identifying a team's college at any time and in any manner, including, but not limited to, wearing any identifying items (such as college clothing, ties, patches or



pins) or carrying identifying material (such as a book with a college logo or college seal etc.)

XVII. Live Streaming of the Finals

The organisers will arrange for the live streaming of only the finals of the competition thru the YouTube & Instagram, links be provided by Surana & Surana.

XVIII. Copyright

- a. The copyright over the memorials submitted for participation in the competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully in, SOEL, Chennai and Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai. The participants shall certify in writing the originality of materials contained therein and shall be responsible for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials.
- b. Further use and exhibition of these materials, electronically or otherwise, shall be the exclusive right of Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai and SOEL, Chennai, and they shall not be responsible for any liability to any person for any loss caused by errors or omissions in this collection of information, or for the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in these materials.
- c. Distribution of these materials in print or on affiliated websites such as www.moot.in and other platforms by Surana & Surana does not constitute consent to any use of this material for commercial redistribution either via the Internet or using some other form of hypertext distribution. Links to the collection or individual pages in it are welcome.

XIV. Accommodation and Transport

- a. Accommodation will be provided by School of Excellence in Law, Chennai, only during the period of competition i.e., **23rd August, 2024 (12: 00 PM IST) till 25th August, 2024 (05:00 PM IST).**
- b. Accommodation for the Competition will be available on an individual basis. Each individual participant opting for accommodation shall be required to pay a fee of ₹1,000 (Rupees One Thousand Only) per night.
- c. The accommodation fee is non-refundable.
- d. The name and mobile number of the student volunteers in charge of transport / accommodation will also be made available after finalization. Teams should fill in their travel plan in the sheet available on **ANNEXURE B** positively to reach the scanned



copy by 5.00 PM on 16th August, 2024 (extended from 15th August, 2024) via email to surana.soel.trialadvocacy@gmail.com

- e. Separate sleeping arrangements for boys & girls shall be strictly enforced in the allocated rooms. However, common areas will be available for all participants to utilize for preparation purposes.
- f. To facilitate convenient travel, shuttle services will be provided to transport participants between their designated accommodation and the college campus. The specific schedule and pick-up/drop-off locations for the shuttle services will be communicated to registered participants closer to the competition date.
- g. Extra members over and above the prescribed number will not be entertained and accommodated under any circumstances.
- h. *Misbehaviour of any sort by the participants will be dealt very seriously and will lead to disqualification.*

XV. Queries & Clarification

Queries to the Moot Proposition shall be sought by sending an e-mail to surana.soel.trialadvocacy@gmail.com with Cc to ai@lawindia.com on or before 16th August, 2024 (extended from 12th August 2024). A set of Final Clarifications will be released on 17th August, 2024 (extended from 14th August, 2024).

XVI. Contact Details

Regarding Registration

- **Mr. A. D. Johnson Christy,**
Manager - Special Projects
Academic Initiatives & Dispute Resolution
Surana & Surana International Attorneys
Email: ai@lawindia.com
- **Miss H N Shree Harini,**
President, Moot Court Association, SOEL
Phone: +91 7358236570

For any other Queries

- **Dr. P. Brinda,**
Faculty Co-Ordinator, Moot Court Association, SOEL
Phone: +91 9003066025
Email: surana.soel.trialadvocacy@gmail.com



- **Miss Donna Gadiel**
Vice President, Moot Court Association, SOEL
Phone: +91 6379014898
- **Mr Surya S P**
General Secretary, Moot Court Association, SOEL
Phone: +91 9345825458

IMPORTANT DATES

Start of Provisional & Online Registration	17 th July, 2024
Closing of Provisional Registration	11 th August, 2024
Procedural Test (Virtual Mode)	13 th August, 2024
Release of Results for Procedural Test	13 th August, 2024
Last date for seeking Clarification to the case	16 th August, 2024
Last date for Online Registration	16 th August, 2024
Release of Clarifications	17 th August, 2024
Payment of Registration & Accommodation Fee	16 th August, 2024
Last Date for submission of Travel Plans	16 th August, 2024
Last Date for Submission of Memorials (both Prosecution and Defence) Soft Copy by eMail with temporary Team code	20 th August, 2024
Orientation, Draw of Lots, Exchange of Memorial	23 rd August, 2024
Submission of Memorials 5 (Five) hard copies (both Prosecution and Defence) (No markings, Competition code to be mentioned)	23 rd August, 2024
Prelims I & II and Quarterfinals	24 th August, 2024
Semifinals, Finals, Valedictory & Prize Distribution	25 th August, 2024



Date:

Registration form/ Approval letter

(Please fill in capital letters)

Undertaking

1. We hereby state that our participation complies with the rules and regulations of the competition.
2. We certify that the materials submitted/to be submitted are prepared by us and agree to indemnify the organizers, i.e. the Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai and the School of Excellence in Law, Chennai for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials.

(All particulars must be given)

Name & Address of the participating Institution:

Name of the Participant	Gender	Course	Year	Signature
Primary Email id and Contact number				

Seal & signature of the
Head of the Institution

PROCEDURAL TEST ATTENDEE DETAILS (OUT OF THE PARTICIPANTS)

1) Name of the Attendee : _____

2) Email ID of the Attendee : _____

(Test Link and Meeting Credentials shall be only shared to this Email ID)

Duly filled, sealed & signed soft copy of the Registration form should be sent by eMail : surana.soel.trialadvocacy@gmail.com by 16th August 2024. The subject of the email must be “Surana & Surana and SOEL National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition - Registration”.



Travel Plan(Annexure B)

NAME OF INSTITUTION –

TEAM CODE -

ARRIVAL DETAILS

a. Mode of Arrival: Train / Air / Bus _____

b. Train No./Bus No./Flight No. _____

c. Estimated Time of Arrival _____

DEPARTURE DETAILS

a. Mode of Arrival: Train / Air / Bus _____

b. Train No./Bus No./Flight No. _____

c. Estimated Time of Departure _____

ANY OTHER DETAILS:

SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF THE HEAD OF THE INSTITUTION

NOTE: This travel form should be mailed at surana.soel.trialadvocacy@gmail.com by 05:00 PM IST on/before 15th August 2024