



**SURANA & SURANA NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY
MOOT COURT COMPETITION**

&

JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION ON CRIMINAL LAW 2019

RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. Aim and Purpose

- a. The Surana & Surana **National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition** has been conceived with the aim of promoting skills of trial advocacy.
- b. **The judgment writing competition** will be a part of Surana & Surana National Trial Advocacy Competition with the following principle and purpose.
 - i. A Judgment has a social and civic function besides the primary principle of promoting Rule of Law & upholding justice.
 - ii. To achieve the above, it must *“have clarity of thought, explain decision to the parties, communicate reasons for the decision to public and provide reason for an appeal court to consider”*.¹
 - iii. To develop a well-balanced judicious mind
 - iv. Prevent abuse of legal process(Full rules mentioned in Clause XVIII)

II. Language

The competition shall be in English.

III. Dress Code

Advocates attire (including neckband and gown)

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 team 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.

¹Speech delivered by the Honourable Justice Roslyn Atkinson, Supreme Court of Queensland, to the AIJA Conference, Brisbane, 13 September 2002.

VI. Venue & Date

Rounds	Host Institutions	Teams from
India West (20 – 22 Sep 2019)	New Law College, Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University (NLC BVP) Erandwane, Paud Road, Pune 38 Ph: 020- 25444616; Fax: 020-25455854	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, West Bengal & Host Institution of India North rounds
	Faculty in charge: Prof. Aman Mishra nlcmootsociety@gmail.com Mob: +91 9637109415	
India North (04 – 06 Oct 2019)	The Law School, University of Jammu (TLS, JU) Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Road, Jammu-180006 (Jammu & Kashmir), Ph: (0191)-2430525	Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand & Host Institution of India West Rounds
	Faculty I/C Moot Court Dr. Bindu Sangra tlsmootcourtsociety@gmail.com Mobile: +91-94192 21675	
India South	Indian South rounds may be held later. Venue and date not decided yet. Teams from the Southern States may register in any of the rounds (West or North) convenient to them.	Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Odisha, Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu, Telengana
Teams from organizing institutions may have the option to participate in any of the other three venues, in case of exigencies with prior intimation / permission All teams will be provided boarding and lodging only for the duration of the competition		

VII. Registration

- The teams must register online at www.moot.in by 31 August 2019.
- Online registrations will be open from 25 July 2019. 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 have 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.
- Due to the unique format of the competition and requirement of special arrangements, registration is restricted to only 20 teams which will be strictly on First Come First Served basis (Priority shall be determined on the basis of online registration complete with scanned copy of approval from the participating college/institution/university). Under no circumstances this rule will be modified.**

The participants are required to

- (i) email the soft copy of the approval letter by 1 September 2019 to, nlcmootsociety@gmail.com (India West), tismootcourtsociety@gmail.com (India North), and copy to mootcourt@lawindia.com (for all rounds) marked as SURANA & SURANA NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY MOOT 2019 REGISTRATION as the subject.
- (ii) The duly attested hard copy of the letter / Regn. Form shall reach the respective organizing institutions latest by 10 September 2019.

VIII. Rounds

There will be two preliminary rounds of arguments, Quarter finals, semi-finals and a final round.

Round	Dates					Venue
	Orientation	Preliminary Rounds & Quarter finals	Semi-final & final rounds	Last date for Online Reg.	Send attested hard copy of Reg. form	
West	20 Sep 2019 (Friday)	21 Sep 2019 (Saturday)	22 Sep 2019 (Sunday)	31 Aug 2019	10 Sep 2019	New Law College, Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Pune (NLC BVP)
North	04 Oct 2019 (Friday)	05 Oct 2019 (Saturday)	06 Oct 2019 (Sunday)	31 Aug 2019	10 Sep 2019	The Law School University of Jammu Jammu, J & K (TLS, Jammu)
South	Indian South rounds may be held at later. Venue and date not decided yet. Teams from the Southern States may register in any of the rounds (West or North) convenient to them.					
<p>Advance soft copy of memorials should reach by 8 September 2019 to nlcmootsociety@gmail.com for India West Rounds, tismootcourtsociety@gmail.com for India North Rounds respectively and to mootcourt@lawindia.com (for all rounds) marked as SURANA & SURANA NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY MOOT 2019 MEMORIALS as the subject.-</p> <p>One hard copy of both memorials should reach the respective institutions by 10 September 2019</p>						

Preliminary Round

- i. There will be two preliminary arguments per team, once for prosecution & another for defence.
- ii. Each team will face a different bench in their second round of arguments.
- iii. Registration, Orientation & draw of lots will be at 4:00 p.m.
- iv. Top eight teams will qualify for the quarter finals.
- v. Teams will be provided with their opponent's memorial after draw of lots.
- vi. Return of the other side's memorial immediately after the preliminary round is compulsory.

Quarter Finals: (Will be conducted only if the participation exceeds 16 teams)

Qualification to the Quarter Final Round / Semifinal round will be based on

- a. Win points.
- b. In case of a tie, teams scoring the highest points.
- c. In case of a tie in the highest points scored, team with higher marks in orals.

Draw of lots/power matching will decide the competing teams.

The teams will be provided their opponent's memorials after declaration of preliminary results in the evening.

Semi Finals:

The winner of each of the quarter final rounds would proceed to the Semi Finals. Draw of lots/power matching will decide the competing teams.

Finals:

The winner of each of the Semi Final rounds will compete in the Finals that will be held on Sunday.

IX. Recording of evidence

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

X. Memorials

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

- 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. The briefs shall be consistent with The Criminal Procedure Code 1973. (Revised)
- d. Once the memorials have been submitted, no revisions, supplements, or additions will be allowed.
- e. One advance hard copy of both Prosecution and Defence Memorials with the supporting documents (Refer clause X..b.) must reach the host institution **latest by 4:30 pm on 10 September 2019** for the purpose of evaluation. Late submissions will **result in 1 point penalty per category** (Prosecution & Defence) per day till **4.30 p.m. on the day of registration / orientation**. In addition to the above, soft copies of the memorials for both sides must be mailed to mootcourt@lawindia.com (for all rounds) by **8 September 2019**.

Remaining Five (5) Copies each of the memorials for Prosecution & Defence must be submitted at the time of orientation and draw of lots.

- f. The memorials have to be submitted on typed A 4 size paper printed on one side and must contain:
 - The table of contents
 - The index of authorities
 - The statement of jurisdiction
 - The statement of facts (1 page only and submissions of an argumentative statement of facts would attract penalties)
 - The statement of charges
 - The summary of arguments
 - The arguments advanced (15 pages)
 - The prayer
- g. Arguments must not exceed 15 (fifteen) pages. The font size should be 12, Font Style should be Times New Roman and for double-spaced. Footnotes must be in font size 10; Font Style should be Times New Roman single-spaced and double space left between footnotes.
- h. Memorials should be preferably staple bound. Comb/spiral or any other form of binding will be considered improper binding. Please avoid plastic front sheets / separators.
- i. Memorials must have a one inch margin 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: Pale Blue Color, Defence: Light Red Color.

1. The cover page of Memorials must state the following
 - The cause title
 - Identity of brief as Prosecution or Defence.
- m. Identity of the institution shall not be revealed anywhere in the memorial. Instead code numbers allotted to the students by the host institution should be mentioned. Violation of this provision shall result in penalties including disqualification. The Administrator's decision shall be final.
- n. The teams shall have an option to submit a compendium of not more than 25 pages (printed on both sides), which shall carry all the annexure and case laws that have been referred to in the memorial. The paper book shall have a white cover and 2 copies shall be in possession with the participants & can be passed on to the bench on demand through the court officers. Any identifying marks/seal of the college on the paper book shall attract severe penalties including disqualification. The submission of this paper book does NOT necessarily entitle the team to any additional marks.

XI. 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.
- c. The oral arguments need not be confined to the issues presented in the memorials.

XII. 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.

XIII. 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 – 140 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 0-60 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 21000/-only
- b. *Second Best Team of the Year Award* - A Plaque and a cash prize of Rs. 11000/-only
- c. *Trial Advocate of the year Award* – A Plaque and cash prize of Rs. 4,000/- only
- d. *Second Best Trial Advocate*- A Plaque and cash prize of Rs.2000/- only
- e. *Best Memorial Award* – A Plaque and cash prize of Rs. 8000/-only
- f. *Second Best Memorial Award* - A Plaque and cash prize of Rs. 4000/-only
- g. In addition to the above awards plaques & certificates are given to other winners /categories.

XV. Announcements

- The results of the preliminary rounds will be announced shortly after both the rounds are completed
- The results of the Quarter -final & Semi Finals Rounds will be announced shortly after the rounds are completed
- The winners will be announced during the **Awards Ceremony of the respective rounds**

XVI. Anonymity

- a. 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 books with a college logo or college seal etc.)

XVII. Video Recording

- The organizers will arrange for the video recordings of the finals of the competition.
- Teams wanting to obtain a video recording (finals only) shall have to apply in writing to the Organising Committee latest by the **1 September 2019**. The recording shall be sent to the college on payment of Rs. 750/- per copy in the form of a Demand Draft (DD only) made out in favor of The Registrar / Principal of the organizing institutions of the respective rounds.
- Arrangements will be made for uploading the finals of the respective rounds on the Internet

XVIII. Surana & Surana National Judgment Writing Competition on Criminal Law

1. **Title:** The competition will be called “Surana & Surana National Judgment² Writing Competition on Criminal Law”.

This judgment writing competition will be a part of Surana & Surana National Trial Advocacy Competition.

2. **Rules:** Besides the rules given below all relevant rules of the National Trial Advocacy rules are applicable.
3. **Eligibility:** The teams participating in the respective regional rounds of the National Trial Advocacy Competition.
4. **Structure:** The structure of the judgment will reflect the forum / court in which the Trial moot case is set and argued
5. **Submission:** The participant team may submit to the respective regional administrator a judgment arising out of the Trial Moot case in M S Word format not exceeding 3000 words including footnotes, citations etc
 - a) The judgment should be written and submitted in .doc or .docx format by email / CD / Pen drive on the last day of the respective regional rounds of the moot court competition.
 - b) Participation in judgment writing competition is compulsory for all the teams and researcher from each team shall represent the team in the competition.
 - c) The results of the regional rounds will be announced 1½ months from the date of the completion of the last competition.
 - d) The National round result will be announced end of December 2019
6. **Evaluation criteria (based on principle & objective):**
 - i. Format (All the steps of a judgment)
 - ii. Language and style (lucid expressions, brevity not at cost of clarity)
 - iii. Facts in brief
 - iv. Issues
 - v. Application of law
 - vi. Ratio Decidendi
 - vii. Justification of decision
 - viii. Operative order
 - ix. Obiter dicta (the judge’s mind)
 - x. Creative interpretation of citations, facts, law and innovative approach
7. **Prize and Certificates:**

Regional rounds (North / West):

Winner - Rs. 4000/- Runner up: Rs. 2000/- ;
3rd and 4th best will be awarded certificates

National Finals: (Top 4 from the regional rounds– will be evaluated separately)

Winner: Rs. 25000/- Runner up: Rs. 15000/-
3rd and 4th best will be awarded certificates

All the participants who have submitted the judgments would get participation certificates. The winners (winner / runner up) would be awarded respective individual certificates. **The judgment entries will not be evaluated if participation is less than 50% of the participating teams.**

²“ The statement given by the Judge of the grounds of decree or order” Section 2 (9) of the Civil Procedure Code 1908

8. Jury:

- a. Will consist of Retired / sitting Supreme Court / High Court judges / District & Sessions judges / Magistrates / Senior Advocates / eminent scholars for evaluating the judgments
- b. Each regional administrator will send the top 4 entries from that region for the National Finals
- c. Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai will arrange for evaluation of the entries of the National Finals by eminent juries
- d. The results announced by the juries (of the respective rounds) will be final and no further representation will be entertained in this regard

9. Results: Will be communicated by mail / email / posting on the websites of host institution / www.moot.in Winning entries will be uploaded on the web.

All entries to the National rounds will be published.

Prize cheques and certificates will be sent by post to the respective winners.

XIX. Copyright

- a. The copyright over the memorials & the judgment entries submitted for participation in the competition are assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully with our joint organizers viz., New Law College, Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune (NLC BVP) & The Law School, University of Jammu, Jammu, for the respective rounds and for all rounds with Surana & Surana International Attorneys Chennai, in lieu of waiver of competition registration fees. 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 all our joint organizers 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 on affiliated websites such as www.mootsite.com / www.moot.in or other domain websites belonging to 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.

XX. Accommodation and transport

- a. All our joint organizers will provide accommodation and transport between the guest house/hotel and the competition venue to the participating teams. Extra members over and above the prescribed number will not be entertained and accommodated under any circumstances.
- b. Misbehavior of any sort by the participants will be dealt very seriously and will lead to disqualification.
- c. Separate accommodation will be arranged for boys and girls and strictly they will not be allowed to stay in the same room.

XXI. Any clarifications for the respective rounds the can be sought from the Administrators:

India West Rounds

Prof. Dr. Bhagyashree Deshpande

Principal I/C

New Law College, Bharti Vidyapeeth Deemed University

Erandwane, Paud Road, Pune 38

Ph: 020- 25444616; Fax: 020-25455854

Email: nlcmootsociety@gmail.com

India North Rounds

Prof. Dr. Arvind Jasrotia

Director

The Law School, University of Jammu

M: +919419173108

Email: arvind_jasrotia@yahoo.co.in

Queries regarding the Case may be sent to mootcourt@lawindia.com till 1 September 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

Start of Online Registration	25 July 2019
Last date for Online Registration	31 August 2019
Last Date for Asking Queries regarding the case	1 September 2019
Final Clarifications at www.moot.in	5 September 2019
Last Date for Submission of Memorials (Soft Copy)	8 September 2019
Last date for receiving Hard copy of Reg Form & Submission of Memorials one copy each	10 September 2019
Submission of Travel Form	1 week before the respective rounds
Submission of Memorials five hard copies each side	During Orientation
India West Rounds	20 – 22 September 2019
India North Round	04 – 06 October 2019
Submission of Judgment Entries***	Last day (Sunday) of the respective rounds i.e. 22 Sep & 6 Oct
Announcement of results of Judgment Writing – Regional***	30 November 2019
Announcement of results of Judgment Writing – National***	Look for announcement @ www.moot.in in Dec 2019

***** Judgment writing competition evaluation, results & prize is subject to timely submission of the entries by the participating teams. No extension of time will be entertained.**

If submission is from less than 50% of teams, judgment writing competition will not be evaluated



SURANA & SURANA NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY MOOT COURT COMPETITION
&
JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION 2019

REGISTRATION FORM / APPROVAL LETTER

UNDERTAKING

Date:

1. We hereby state that our participation complies with the rules and regulations of the competition.
2. We certify that the materials which are being /will be submitted are prepared by us and indemnify the organizers for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials.

(All details must be provided on the form or can be typed on the participating Institutions letterhead)

Name & Address of the participating Institution:

Notification Email:

Regd Mobile #:

Name of the participant	Gender	Course	Year / Semester	Signature

Seal & signature as per
Pt.VII- Registration

Duly filled, scanned form/letter to be emailed latest by 1 September 2019

Email letter to: mootcourt@lawindia.com (for all rounds)
[nlcmootsociety@gmail.com](mailto:nlc mootsociety@gmail.com) for India West Round
tlsmootcourtsociety@gmail.com for India North Round

Marked SURANA & SURANA NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY MOOT 2019 REGISTRATION as subject



**SURANA & SURANA NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY MOOT COURT COMPETITION
&
JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION 2019**

TRAVEL PLAN

1. Name of Institution -

2. Arrival Details -

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

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

c. Estimated Time of Arrival _____

3. Departure Details -

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

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

c. Estimated Time of Departure _____

4. Any other details:

(Signature & seal of the Head of the Institution)

Note: This Travel Form must reach respective institutions a week before the rounds

nlcmootsociety@gmail.com for India West Round

tismootcourtsociety@gmail.com for India North Round