



International Attorneys

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KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERS

4TH SURANA & SURANA AND RGNUL INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2021

20 – 22 AUGUST 2021

VENUE

VIRTUAL (ONLINE)

Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab

Bhadson Road, Sidhuwal, Patiala, Punjab – 147001

Email: mootcommittee@rgnul.ac.in

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. AIM AND PURPOSE

The Surana & Surana Moot has been conceived with the aim of creating opportunities for learning and development of jurisprudence on emerging trends in International Law besides developing cutting edge skills in research, writing and advocacy. Further, it is aimed to facilitate the evolution of International Law through the jurisprudential analysis of the existing law and consequential emergence of new laws.

2. DATE & VENUE

The 4th Surana & Surana and RGNUL Moot Court Competition, 2021 shall be held virtually from 20 to 22 August 2021. The platform for the same shall be Cisco WebEx. However, the Organizers reserve the right to organize the Moot Court Competition physically with prior deliberation with the participating teams and considering the prevalent circumstances then.

3. LANGUAGE

The competition shall be in English language only.

4. ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open for students who are studying L.L.B. three years or five years course during the current academic year.

5. TEAM COMPOSITION

- a) Each team should consist of a minimum of 2 and maximum of 3 members. This number cannot be modified under any circumstances.
- b) There shall be 2 speakers and 1 researcher designated for each team. The researcher shall be allowed to argue with prior permission of National Administrator in case of illness of the designated speakers.
- c) Each team will **be provided a team code** prior to the submission of memorials via e-mail. This team code is only for the memorials. Teams should not disclose the identity of their institution; such disclosure shall invite penalties including disqualification. The decision for the same shall be at the discretion of the National Administrator.

6. REGISTRATION

- a) Online registrations are open from **3 June 2021**. The teams must register online by **26 June 2021, 7 pm**. Teams will have to register online at www.moot.in. **Only 24 teams will be registered to participate in the competition on first-come-first serve basis.**
- b) Participants will receive an automated system generated acknowledgment on successful submission of registration. Participants will receive an approval as acceptance of their request for the participation latest by 28 June 2021.

c) Registration Process

Option 1 - The Registration form cum Approval letter as provided in the rules duly signed & sealed by your university / college / moot society .

Option 2 - Upload both (i) & (ii) together as a single PDF

The Registration form cum Approval letter (without seal & signature) as provided in the rules duly filled along with Scanned copy of authorisation letter with sign and seal from your university / college / moot society

or

an email communication from the official id (to be filled as notification email id during online registration process) of the institution, from your university / college / moot society to complete the registration process.

Note :

1. Signatories on the registration form should be any of the following :- Faculty-in-charge of MCA / MCS / MCC, Registrar, Dean, Principal, Director, Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor
 2. Registration without the scanned copy of the approval letter / an email communication from the college/institution/university or duly attested registration form will not be valid.
- d) Soft copy of the registration and approval letter/ an email communication as a **single PDF** to be sent by email to: mootcommittee@rgnul.ac.in marked as 4th SURANA & SURANA AND RGNUL INTERNATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION REGISTRATION as subject of the mail latest by **30 June 2021**. **The provisional team code shall be allotted to the registered teams by Host University soon after receiving of registration particulars.**

- e) On receiving the provisional team code from moot committee of RGNUL you may proceed to pay the registration fees.
- f) **A registration fee or Rs. 2,000/- is to be paid online by 30 June 2021 at: - <https://www.rgnulrp.org/lisa/eventPortal/loginFrom.jsp>. Receipt of the online payment to be sent by email to: mootcommittee@rgnul.ac.in**

7. ORIENTATION:

There will be an Orientation Program for all the participants on **20 August 2021** followed by a draw of lots and exchange of memorials. Team codes and side will be allotted during the orientation only.

8. ROUNDS

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

8.1 Preliminary Round

- a) There will be two preliminary rounds of arguments per team, once for applicant and another for respondent.
- b) No team will face each other for more than once in the preliminary rounds.
- c) Each team will face a different bench in their second round of arguments.
- d) Preliminary Rounds will be held on **21 August 2021**.
- e) Top 8 teams from the Preliminary Rounds will advance to the Quarter-Final round that will be decided on:
 - (a) Win points
 - (b) Win points + Aggregate raw points
 - (c) Win points + Aggregate raw points – Memorial marks (in case of tie)
- f) Memorial marks will be added to the scores of both the preliminary rounds only.

8.2 Quarter-Final, Semi-Final, & Final Round

- a) Lots/Power matching will decide the side of the arguments in the Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and the Final Rounds.
- b) The Quarter-Final Rounds will be conducted on **21 August 2021**.
- c) The Semi-Final Rounds will be conducted on **22 August 2021**.
- d) The Final Round will be conducted on **22 August 2021**.
- e) The Quarter-Final/Semi-Final/Final Rounds will be knockout rounds.

9. RESULTS

Results of the preliminary rounds shall be announced after the completion of rounds of all the teams. Similarly, the results of the Quarter-Final/Semi-Final Rounds shall be announced after completion of the rounds of all qualified teams of respective rounds. The results of the Final Round shall be announced in the Valedictory Ceremony.

10. MEMORIALS

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

- a) Each team must prepare memorials for both parties to the dispute (Applicant and Respondent).
- b) The Soft Copy of the memorials from both the sides in word format (*.doc or *.docx) must be mailed to: mootcourt@lawindia.com and mootcommittee@rgnul.ac.in by 5 August 2021 latest by 5:00 PM.
- c) Late submission of soft copy of the Memorials will be penalized by one point for every hour, maximum penalty not exceeding 20 points. Memorials received after 24 hours of the deadline will not be considered and the team will be disqualified from the Moot Court Competition.

- d) In case of the moot is scheduled at the premises of the Host University, the teams are requested to carry along 4 copies from each side of the Memorials with them and submit the same during orientation.
- e) Once the memorials have been submitted, **no** revisions, supplements, or additions will be allowed.
- f) The memorials have to be submitted on typed A4 size paper printed on one side and must contain:
 - I. Table of Contents
 - II. Index of Authorities
 - III. Statement of Jurisdiction (not more than 1 page)
 - IV. Statement of Facts (1 page only and argumentative statement of facts would attract penalties)
 - V. Statement of Issues (not more than 1 page)
 - VI. Summary of Arguments (not more than 2 pages)
 - VII. Arguments Advanced (not more than 15 pages)
 - VIII. Prayer (not more than 1 page)
- g) Uniform font style is to be used throughout the Memorial. The Font Style should either be Times New Roman or Garamond. The font size of the text should be 12 points (double space) and the font size of the footnotes should be 10 points (single space) with double space between two footnotes.
- h) In case of physical presence of the teams, the hard copies of the memorials should be spiral/staple bound or stitched. Any other form of binding will attract penalty.
- i) The memorial must have a margin measuring 1 inch on all sides of each page.
- j) All the pages of the memorial, except the Cover Page shall be numbered. The page numbering should be on the top right corner of each page.
- k) The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (20th Edition) should be followed in the written submission throughout. Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 1 mark per page. Substantive/Speaking footnotes are strictly prohibited. Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 1 mark per substantive citation.
- l) Covers must be placed on briefs as follows:

Applicant: Blue color;

Respondent: Red color.

Use of cellophane sheets over the covers or inside will be penalized.

m) The cover page of the memorial must state the following:

I. The cause title

II. Identify brief as Applicants & / Respondents as is applicable

III. Provisional Team Codes on the top right corner of the Cover Page

n) The teams are advised not to reveal their personal identities or the identity of their institution anywhere in the memorials. Violation of this provision shall result in penalties including deduction of marks or disqualification from the Competition. The decision of the National Administrator shall be final in this regard.

11. ORAL ROUNDS

11.1 Preliminary Rounds & Quarter-Final Round

- a) Each team will get a total of 30 minutes to present their case. This period of 30 minutes is inclusive of the time reserved for rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.
- b) The division of time is at the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 18 minutes and minimum of 12 minutes per speaker. It is the duty of the team to inform the division of time to the court clerk before the arguments begin.
- c) Oral pleadings shall be confined to the pleadings in the Memorials.
- d) The Researcher cannot pass notes to the Speakers during the Oral Pleadings.
- e) The attendance of the Researcher at the time of the Oral Pleading Rounds is compulsory.

11.2 Semi-Final and Final Rounds

- a) Each team will get 45 minutes to present their case inclusive of the time reserved for rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.
- b) The division of time is at the discretion of the team members, with a maximum of 25 minutes and minimum of 20 minutes per speaker.
- c) Oral Pleadings shall be confined to the pleadings in the Memorials.

12. DRESS CODE

The dress code shall be advocate's attire during the competition which includes Orientation, Inaugural and Valedictory.

13. SCOUTING

Teams will not be allowed to observe the oral pleading round of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any of the team members shall result in disqualification from the Competition. The clause will come into effect only if the Moot Court Competition is organized physically.

14. SCORING

14.1 Orals

The parameters for judging the oral presentation on a scale of 0 – 100 are:

- a. Knowledge of facts
- b. Logic and reasoning
- c. Organisation and clarity
- d. Persuasiveness
- e. Deference to the court
- f. Proper and articulate analysis of the issues arising out of the facts
- g. Understanding of the legal principles directly applicable to the issues
- h. Ability to explain clearly the legal principles in general keeping to the time allotted
- i. Knowledge and use of legal sources and authorities and general principles of International law
- j. Ingenuity (Ability to argue by analogy from related aspects of law).

14.2 Written Submission (Memorials)

- a. The memorials shall be marked on a scale of 1 – 100 points each.
- b. Any revisions, supplements, or additions to the memorials after submission shall attract severe penalties subject to the discretion of the National Administrator.
- c. Award of points shall be based on the following parameters:

20 – 22 August 2021

- i. Neatness, legibility, no typographical errors or format errors
 - ii. Logical progression of ideas
 - iii. Effective use of headings to outline arguments
 - iv. Understanding essential legal issues presented
 - v. Focus on essential (not collateral) issues
 - vi. Clear, concise and unambiguous writing style
 - vii. Forceful and persuasive presentation
 - viii. Integration of facts into legal argument
 - ix. Understanding of strengths and weaknesses of the case
 - x. Discussion of viable alternative arguments
 - xi. Understanding and analysis of authority
 - xii. Proper use of citations and citation form
 - xiii. Effective use of authority to support arguments
 - xiv. Ability to distinguish adverse cases
- d. Non-compliance of the rules mentioned in Clause 10 above shall attract severe penalties.

15. AWARDS

- a. Winner – Rs. 15,000
- b. Runner's up – Rs. 10,000
- c. Best Memorial – Rs. 5,000
- d. Best Student Advocate – Rs. 5,000

All participants will be issued participation certificates.

16. ANONYMITY

- a) Student counsel may introduce her/himself to the court in the usual manner and may also state her/his name. However, the team's college/institution affiliation shall not be mentioned at any time before the awards ceremony.
- b) Further, all the members, coaches, advisors, and observers shall refrain from identifying a team's school at any time and in any manner, including, but not limited to, wearing any identifying items, such as school clothing, ties, patches, or pins or carrying identifying material (such as books with a college logo or college seal).

17. POLICY FOR VIRTUAL ROUNDS

- a) The Oral Rounds for the competition will take place virtually via **Cisco WebEx or Google Meet** platform.
- b) It would be the responsibility of every team to ensure a stable internet connection. The audio and video of every member of the team should be clear. Every team must ensure a proper background. The Moot Court Committee will under no circumstances be obligated to provide the participants with any such facility
- c) All participants should mandatorily join with their laptops or desktops and in no circumstance join with any other device.
- d) **The link or the ID and password for the room on Cisco WebEx or Google Meet will be conveyed to the participating teams before the oral rounds.**
- e) Each participating member of every team is advised to install the Cisco WebEx or Google Meet platform on their devices well in time.
- f) Each team is required to join the room at least fifteen minutes before the scheduled time of commencement of the oral rounds.
- g) The participants' camera and microphone shall be firmly positioned throughout the oral rounds so as to show speakers and to ensure their voices are clearly audible.
- h) All participants must keep their cameras on at all times during the rounds.
- i) At the time when one participant is speaking, others are expected to keep their microphones on mute. In case a participant is found disturbing the other pleader anyway, he/she or the entire team to which such participant belongs may be disqualified upon the discretion of the bench.
- j) Each participant is responsible for finding a suitable venue and background to participate. The venue must be a quiet location and one which has adequate and reliable internet connectivity and has a desk and chairs for the oralist. Locations in open spaces or hallways or cybercafes or similar areas are NOT permitted.
- k) Strict adherence to the dress code is required. The teams are required to be properly attired for the rounds. The participants are required to wear black trousers/skirts and a white shirt, black blazers, and a black necktie.

- l) Participants are cautioned to ensure that all equipment has a power supply sufficient to last for at least two hours without interruption.
- m) In case of a loss in internet connection, each team will be given a reasonable time to reconnect. If the problem still persists the decision made by the committee shall be final and binding.
- n) In the event where one or both of the speaker could not join due to connectivity issue, the team may be disqualified from the competition and at no circumstances can other member of the team be allowed to switch roles.
- o) Where a team does not appear within 10 minutes of the scheduled time for the round, the round shall proceed as ex-parte.
- o) If a team wishes to refer to any compiled Research Material (Compendium) such material shall be mailed to mootcommittee@rgnul.ac.in by 15 August 2021 latest by 5:00 PM.
- p) Any compiled Research Material (Compendium) or other supplementary documents may be, as per the discretion of the bench, presented by the team by using the “screen sharing” option given they have fulfilled the preceding sub-clause.
- q) Participants will not be allowed to use the feature of personal chat on Cisco WebEx or Google Meet to communicate with their team members or members of the opposing team.
- r) Teams shall not use phones, internet or any other devices during the rounds for anything, except participating in the rounds.
- s) Participants are expected to cooperate with the Committee and the judges, in case anyone faces any issue.
- t) The organizers shall take best available measures to resolve or mitigate any connectivity issues that may arise. However, in cases where that is not possible, the organizer cannot be held responsible for the unforeseen issues which includes (but are not limited to) – Software failure and connectivity issues.
- u) The decision of the Organizers in consultation with the judges shall be final and binding.

18. FINALITY OF THE DECISION

The decision of the judges shall be final and binding.

19. COPYRIGHT

- a) The copyright over the memorials submitted for participation in the competition is assigned by the participants and shall also vest completely and fully in Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab 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 further use and exhibition of these materials.
- b) Further use and exhibition of these materials, electronically or otherwise, shall be the exclusive right of Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab and Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai and they shall not be responsible for any liability to any person for any loss caused by the 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.moot.in 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.

20. CLARIFICATIONS

Any clarifications for the Competition can be sought from:

Regarding queries on Compromis/submission of memorials etc.

DR. GEETIKA WALIA

Faculty Co-ordinator, RGNUL Moot Court Committee,
Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Bhadson Road, Sidhuwal
Patiala, Punjab – 147001.
Phone: 0175 – 2391372

Email: mootcommittee@rgnul.ac.in/ geetikawalia@rgnul.ac.in

Regarding registration

MR. PREETAM SURANA

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MR. PRITHVI RAJ YADAV

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21. Important Dates

Commencement of Online Registration	3 June 2021
Last date of Online Registration	26 June 2021 @ 7:00 PM
Last date for receiving soft copies of Reg. Form/ Approval Letter /Email Communication and Online Payment Receipt	30 June 2021 @ 11:59 PM
Last date for seeking clarification of Compromise	10 July 2021
Release of Clarifications	17 July 2021
Last date for submission of Memorials Soft Copy (both applicant and respondent)	05 August 2021 @ 5:00 PM
Submission of Complied Research Material(Compendium)	15 August 2021 @ 5:00 PM
Orientation and Draw of Lots	20 August 2021
Prelims/ Quarter Finals	21 August 2021
Semi Finals, Finals & Valedictory and Prize Distribution.	22 August 2021

20 – 22 August 2021

Date:--/--/----

Registration Form/Approval Letter

(Please fill in capital letters)

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 organisers, i.e., Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai and Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials.

(All particulars must be given)

Name and Address of the Participating Institution:

Notification Email:

Regd. Mob.:

Name of Participant	Gender	Course	Year	Signature
Teams Primary email id / Tel. No. for communication				

Seal & Signature of head of the
Institution/ Authorised Signatory

Completed Soft Copy must reach Administrator (RGNUL) by 30 June 2021.