

RULES FOR THE 12TH NYAYAVALOKAN NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY AND JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION, 2023

1. ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL RULES

The name of the Competition is the '*12th Nyayaavalokan National Trial Advocacy and Judgment Writing Competition, 2023*' ("The Competition").

1.1 IMPLEMENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

Rules and Procedures contained in this document shall be applicable to all participating teams. In relation to the practice and procedure of the Competition, the final interpretation in case of any conflict lies with the Moot Court Society ("MCS"). The decision of the MCS shall be final and binding.

1.2 ELIGIBILITY

1.2.1 The Competition is open to all students, enrolled bona-fide on a regular basis pursuing their bachelor's degree in law from any University, College, and Deemed University, National Law Schools or Institution imparting legal education.

1.2.2 The first 24 teams shall be allowed to participate on a first-come-first-serve basis.

1.2.3 Considering the limit in the number of teams, each University / College are permitted to be represented by **ONE TEAM ONLY**.

1.3 TEAM COMPOSITION

1.3.1 Each participating team shall consist of **three** or **four** members. In the three-member team composition, two members will be designated as the Speakers and one member shall be the Researcher and the team comprising of four member, two members will be designated as the Speakers and two members shall be the Researcher.

1.3.2 Only the Researcher will participate in the Judgment Writing Competition.

For teams comprising of four members, either one out of the two researcher(s) shall participate in the Judgment Writing Competition. This number cannot be modified under any circumstances.

- 1.3.3 In each of the oral rounds, two members of the team will be the Oralists.
- 1.3.4 Only those participants registered as Oralists in the Affidavit, shall be allowed to speak.
- 1.3.5 Once registered, a team will not be permitted to vary the composition of the team in any manner. Changes, if any, may only be made with the express permission of the MCS.
- 1.3.6 Any changes with respect to the contact details shall be notified to the MCS with immediate effect.

2. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language for the Competition shall be English only. Use of vernacular language by the participants during the said competition is prohibited.

3. DATE AND VENUE

The said competition shall be held from 12th October, 2023 to 15th October, 2023 at the SVKM's Pravin Gandhi College of Law, Mithibai College Campus, 8th Floor, Vile Parle (W), Mumbai – 400 056.

4. REGISTRATION

- 4.1 Each institution must, first, provisionally register itself for the Competition by sending an Official Provisional Registration mail at nyayavalokan@gmail.com
- 4.2 After the confirmation of the provisional registration by the MCS, the team shall register for the Competition by filling “**REGISTRATION FORM**”. The “**TRAVEL FORM**” required to fill in the **REGISTRATION FORM** has been uploaded on our Website.
- 4.3 Team members' names shall be properly typed on the form(s), with detailed attention given to the spelling of each team member's name. The names on the Certificates shall appear in the same manner as provided in the form(s).

(NOTE: - No pickup drop services will be provided by the host college except from the place of accommodation to the college premises)

5. FEES

- 5.1 Registration fee for the said competition is Rs. 6000/- (Rupees six Thousand Only) without accommodations.
- 5.2 If paying by cheque, it should be payable to “SVKM’s PRAVIN GANDHI COLLEGE OF LAW” and mailed to: geeta.kubsad@pgcl.ac.in and cc to: nyayavalokan@gmail.com

12th Nyayavalokan National Trial Advocacy and Judgment Writing Competition, 2023
SVKM’s Pravin Gandhi College of Law, Mumbai. 8th Floor, Mithibai College Campus, Bhakti Vedanta Swami Marg, Vile Parle West, Mumbai, Maharashtra – 400056

If paying by Demand Draft, it should be payable to “Pravin Gandhi College of Law” payable at “Mumbai”.

6. WITNESSES

- 6.1 The MCS will provide the witnesses to the participating teams. The witnesses will be generally briefed and assigned by the MCS. However, each team will have an opportunity to specially brief their witnesses. The witnesses to be briefed will be assigned to each team prior to the commencement of the respective rounds. All the participating teams will ensure that the witnesses depose only in English Language.
- 6.2 It is mandatory for the Prosecution and the Defence to examine ALL the witnesses and dropping a witness will result in loss of marks. However, the order in which witnesses are to be examined shall be determined by the concerned team taking examination in chief.
- 6.3 The team conducting examination in chief of their witnesses or the team cross-examining the witnesses will desist from arguing with the witnesses.
- 6.4 It will be the responsibility of the participating teams to brief the concerned witnesses on the mode and manner of tendering relevant documents, i.e. the Annexures and the Exhibits attached with the Trial Problem.

7. EXHIBITS

The Participants are required to prove the F.I.R and the Letter of Complaint to the Society and Letter to the Police.

8. DRESS CODE

Advocates attire (including neckband and gown) is compulsory. Participants are expected to make their own arrangements regarding the same. Not abiding by the said rule can lead to direct disqualification and the MCS will have complete discretion regarding the same.

9. ANONYMITY AND SCOUTING

9.1 Student Counsel may introduce himself/herself to the court in the usual manner and may also state their speaker code. However, the team's college name shall not be indicated to the judges at any time.

9.2 Further, all team members/coaches/advisors/observers shall refrain from identifying any team's law school/college/university 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 books with a college logo or seal etc.).

9.3 The teams shall not be allowed to observe the orals of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any of the teams shall result in disqualification.

9.4 Any team can file a written complaint with the MCS, regarding a case of scouting. The decision of the MCS shall be final.

The researchers will sit with the speakers at the time of oral rounds and shall not attend the court sessions of any other team throughout the said Competition.

10. ORAL PLEADINGS AND PROCEDURE

The Trial Proposition for all the rounds shall be the same. The teams will be arguing from both the sides, throughout the competition.

10.1 DATE OF ROUNDS

10.1.1 Inauguration & Draw of Lots for the Preliminary Round will be held on 12th October, 2023 and Draw of Lots for the subsequent rounds shall be on the day of the round.

10.1.2 The Preliminary Rounds will be held on 13th October, 2023.

10.1.3 The Quarter Final Round will be held on 14th October, 2023.

10.1.4 The Semi-final Round will be held on 15th October, 2023 in the morning session.

10.1.5 The Final Round will be held on 15th October, 2023 in the afternoon session.

10.1.6 A final schedule with the timings of the Rounds shall be released in due course of time.

ATTENDANCE OF EVERY TEAM ON THE DAY OF THE INAUGURATION i.e. 12TH OCTOBER, 2023 IS MANDATORY.

10.2 PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

10.2.1 In the Preliminary rounds, each of the 24 teams shall be arguing from both the sides, once as the Prosecution and once as the Defence.

10.2.2 The teams that shall be arguing against each other and the side to be argued by the teams shall be determined through the process of Draw of Lots that will take place on 12th October, 2023 after the Inauguration.

10.2.3 The Prosecution will get a total of 90 minutes and the Defence shall get a total of 90 minutes. The bifurcation of the 90 minutes is as follows:

- a) Opening Statement (i.e. submissions on charge) on behalf of the Prosecution- 1 minute.
- b) Opening Statement (i.e. submissions on charge) on behalf of the Defence- 1 minute.
- c) Examination- in- Chief on behalf of the Prosecution- 17 minutes for each witness.
- d) Cross Examination on behalf of the Defence- 17 minutes for each witness.
- e) Examination-in-chief on behalf of the Defence- 12 minutes for each witness.
- f) Cross examination on behalf of the Prosecution-12 minutes for each witness.
- g) Final Arguments on behalf of the Prosecution- 15 minutes.
- h) Final Arguments on behalf of the Defence- 15 minutes.

10.2.4 Each speaker shall have to conduct Examination-in-Chief and Cross Examination of at least one witness in each round. This rule shall apply to all the Rounds. Each Speaker shall deliver either the opening statement or the final argument in each round.

10.3 QUARTER FINAL ROUNDS

10.3.1 The Top 8 teams from the Preliminary rounds shall qualify for the Quarter Final rounds. Selection shall be based on the marks received by the teams during the Preliminary Rounds.

10.3.2 The Draw of Lots for the Round will take place 14th October after the Preliminary Rounds.

10.3.3 Each of the top 8 teams shall be arguing from the side of either the Prosecution or the Defence, depending on the Draw of Lots.

10.3.4 The Prosecution and the Defence shall have a total of 90 minutes. (***Kindly refer to Rule 10.2.3 and 10.2.4***)

10.4 SEMI FINAL ROUND

10.4.1 The top 4 teams from the Quarter Final rounds shall qualify for the Semi Final Round.

10.4.2 The Draw of Lots for the Semi Final Round will take place 15th October after the Quarter Final Rounds.

10.4.3 The Prosecution will get a total of 110 minutes and the Defence shall get a total of 110 minutes. The bifurcation of the 110 are as follows:

- a) Opening Statement (i.e. submissions on charge) on behalf of the Prosecution- 3 minutes.
- b) Opening Statement (i.e. submissions on charge) on behalf of the Defence - 3 minutes.
- c) Examination- in- Chief on behalf of the Prosecution- 20 minutes for each witness.
- d) Cross Examination on behalf of the Defence- 20 minutes for each witness.
- e) Examination-in-chief on behalf of the Defence- 17 minutes for each witness.
- f) Cross examination on behalf of the Prosecution-17 minutes for each witness.
- g) Final Arguments on behalf of the Prosecution- 15 minutes.
- h) Final Arguments on behalf of the Defence- 15 minutes.

10.5 FINAL ROUNDS

10.5.1 The Top 2 teams from the Semi Final Rounds shall qualify for the Final Rounds. Selection shall be based on the marks received by the teams during the Semi Final Round.

10.5.2 The Draw of Lots for the Round will take place after the Semi Final Round on 15th October, 2023.

10.5.3 Each of the top 8 teams shall be arguing from the side of either the Prosecution or the Defence, depending on the Draw of Lots.

10.5.4 The Prosecution and the Defence shall have a total of 220 minutes. (*Kindly refer to Rule 10.4.3 and 10.2.4*)

Note: For all the rounds, the Participants are requested not to continue the Examination-in-Chief or the Cross Examination of any witness whilst the Judges are dictating the evidence to the Stenographer.

11. CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF ORAL SUBMISSIONS

11.1 The Oral Rounds shall be judged by industry professionals having experience in the field of Criminal Law and the Judges shall be made well aware of the procedure and Rules of the Competition.

11.2 The Criteria for assessment shall include but are not limited to the following and shall be out of a maximum of 100 marks:

- a) Knowledge of facts.
- b) Logic & clarity in reasoning.
- c) Persuasiveness and deference to court.
- d) Proper, articulate and systematic analysis of the issues arising out of facts.
- e) Understanding and application of the relevant Laws.
- f) Ability to successfully conduct chief/cross examination within the allotted time.
- g) Ability to elicit favourable facts from witnesses or deal with unreceptive, argumentative witnesses.
- h) Proving F.I.R and Letter of Complaint to the Society and the Letter to the Police.

Note: Both the teams must be aware of procedure for taking contradictions, omissions, proving and exhibiting documents as per 11.2 h) above. Marks shall be specially allocated for this purpose.

12. AWARDS

Winners	Rs. 40,000/-
Runners Up	Rs. 20,000/-
Best Speaker	Rs. 7,000/-
2nd Best Speaker	Rs. 5,000/-
Best Judgment	Rs. 5,000/- (each)

The Best Speaker and 2nd Best Speaker shall be selected on the basis of the scores of the Preliminary Rounds.

13. CERTIFICATES

13.1 Certificates will be awarded only to the participants present in the Valedictory Ceremony and under no circumstances will they be provided to any of the participants who are absent for the ceremony. In the event that the participants fail to collect their certificates, no mail will be sent by the MCS acknowledging their participation.

13.2 No team shall be receiving the certificate if they fail to participate in the Judgment Writing Competition.

14. ACCOMMODATION

14.1 The information regarding the accommodation shall be intimated to the registered teams by 30th September, 2023. Accommodation fees will be Rs. 12,000/- (Rupees Twelve Thousand Only).

14.2 Accommodation shall be provided to the participants from 12th October (12:00 p.m.) to 16th October, 2023 (12:00 p.m.).

Note: Drinking and Smoking is strictly prohibited at the place of accommodation as well as on the College campus. Non-compliance of this rule will lead to disqualification and the MCS shall institute a strict action against the team found violating this rule.

15. MISCELLANEOUS

- 15.1 Case laws that the teams wish to rely on at the time of final arguments shall be submitted to the MCS in five copies (Two for the judges, one for the other side) on 12th October, 2023 in Hard Copy.
- 15.2 Opening statement of the Prosecution will require the prosecutor to address the judges on the charge it wishes the court to frame. It shall be necessary to point out the supporting material from the charge sheet herewith provided to sustain the charge. As far as the Defence is concerned, the opening address shall require them to point out if there is any charge which the court ought not to frame as there is no material in the charge sheet provided herewith to support the same.
- 15.3 Judges are at liberty to ask questions to the Participants on relevant points of law which may arise from the problem or relevant provisions of Code of Criminal Procedure, Indian Penal Code or Indian Evidence Act, arising during conducting the trial, in order to test the Participant's knowledge of the relevant provisions relating to penal laws.
- 15.4 All exhibits in the chargesheet are assumed to be exhibited in accordance with the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and the same shall be taken as being duly proved except as mentioned in Rule 7 above.
- 15.5 The judges will be recording the evidence for both the prosecution and defence as taken by participants in the said competition.
- 15.6 In the event there is any contradiction between the evidence recorded in court and the Statements recorded under section 161 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, the participants must be aware as to the procedure to deal with such contradiction.
- 15.7 After completion of evidence, the participants will be given notes of evidence (hereinafter referred to as "the said notes") of prosecution and defence recorded by the court. A fifteen (15) minutes break will be given to the participants for the perusal of the said notes. The participants will have to advance Final Arguments only on the basis of notes of evidence and the exhibited documents so provided to them.
- 15.8 All participating teams must be conversant with the Indian Penal Code, 1860; Criminal Procedure Code, 1973; and Indian Evidence Act, 1872 whilst taking evidence and advancing final arguments for the Prosecution and the Defence.

15.9 Last date for seeking clarification with respect to the said competition is 25th September, 2023. Clarifications can only be sought via email on nyayavalokan@gmail.com. Answer to clarifications will be sought by 27th September, 2023.



RULES FOR THE JUDGMENT WRITING COMPETITION, 2023

The Judgment Writing Competition shall be held on 15th October, 2023 during the Semi Final round and is mandatory for all the teams to participate in the same. The participants will be divided into two Court Rooms. Pursuant to the Semi Final round, each participant of the Judgment Writing Competition will be provided with a computer for the Judgment Writing Competition. The top scorer from both the court rooms will get the award for 'Best Judgment'.

Note:

1. The travel form should be sent along with the Affidavit. The Affidavit, travel form and clarifications will only be sought via e-mail on **nyayavalokan@gmail.com**.
2. The railway stations nearest to the college premises are Bandra Terminus and Western, Andheri, Borivali and Lokmanya Tilak Terminus.
3. Nearest Airport is the Chhatrapati Shivaji Domestic Airport, Mumbai. Kindly mention the airport (International or Domestic) while travelling to Bombay.

The decision of the MCS for the application of the Rules and Regulations mentioned hereinabove shall be final and binding.

For any further clarifications, kindly contact:

<u>Sr. No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Contact No.</u>
1.	Dr. Geeta Kubsad	Faculty In-Charge	98202 54446
2.	Somesh Pathak	Chairperson	94106 81169
3.	Aasmi Shah	Vice-Chairperson	84335 36820
4.	Aryaa Varma	Vice-Chairperson	75069 16820
5.	Vaidehi Vyas	General Secretary	88284 54208
6.	Devansh Solanki	General Secretary (Admin & Events)	81694 82001
7.	Mukund Raj	Treasurer	91353 74404
8.	Krishi Malde	Student Coordinator	70218 71008