

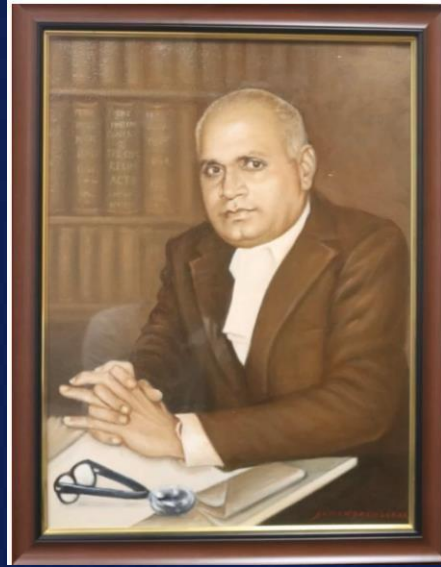
**MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, MUMBAI is
pleased to organise the First Edition of**

**SHRI. G.A. THAKKAR NATIONAL ONLINE
MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2022**

ON COMMERCIAL LAW

TO BE HELD ON 20th AND 21st MAY, 2022

IN THE MEMORY OF SHRI. G.A THAKKER



SENIOR ADVOCATE AND FORMER JUDGE IN

BOMBAY HIGH COURT

RULES FOR THE MOOT COURT COMPETITION

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 “Competition” means the 1st MNLU Mumbai- Shri. G.A. Thakkar Online Moot Court Competition, 2022 to be held on 9th and 10th of May, 2022.
- 1.2 “Court Bailiff” refers to the student volunteer who shall be entrusted with duties such as maintenance of order in a courtroom during a round and letting speakers know the time duration for which they’ve spoken.
- 1.3 “Institution” means any recognized law school/college or university.
- 1.4 “Memorial” means the written arguments submitted, on behalf of both the Applicants and Respondents, according to the official Competition Rules by each Team. Memorials are also referred to as written pleadings.
- 1.5 “Organizing Committee” includes the members of Internship and Placement Cell and any other student selected for the same purpose.
- 1.6 “Payment Receipt” means a written acknowledgment that the payment of the registration fees has been made.
- 1.7 “Applicant” means the party which is presenting an application to the court alleging the commission of a wrong.
- 1.8 “Preliminary Seeding Chart” means the chart that has been prepared on the basis of memorial scores wherein the top 50% teams with higher marks are made to face the bottom 50% teams in the preliminary oral rounds.
- 1.9 “Researcher” means the team member whose role is confined to preparation of the Memorial and is not allowed to speak in the oral rounds.
- 1.10 “Respondent” means the party against whom the petition is filed.
- 1.11 “Rules” means these official Competition Rules and any applicable supplements to these Rules published by the Organizing Committee.
- 1.12 “Speaker” refers to the members of the team who will be pleading before the judges in the oral rounds.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION AND ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1.1 Students pursuing the three- or five-year courses of the LL.B. degree or its equivalent in the academic year 2021-2022 from any recognized law school/college/university in India are eligible to participate.
- 2.1.2 Any recognized law school/college/university shall be entitled to send only one (1) team to the Competition.
- 2.1.3 The participating team shall comprise a minimum of two and a maximum of three members. In a team of two members, both the members shall be designated as Speakers. In a team of three members, two members shall be designated as Speakers and the third member of the team shall be designated as a Researcher.
- 2.1.4 No additional member or team coach is allowed to accompany the team.
- 2.1.5 No changes in the team composition will be allowed except in cases of exceptional circumstances.

3. LANGUAGE

- 3.1.1 The official language of the competition shall be English.

4. REGISTRATION

- 4.1.1 The participating teams are to register themselves by filling in the google form attached here and also available on the college website for Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai.
- 4.1.2 After filling the said form the, the main contact person for the team shall send the screen shoot confirming the complete submission of the form and the registration fees receipt to the official email id of the Moot Court Competition (mcc@mlumumbai.edu.in). The subject of the mail shall be “Confirmation of Final Registration for the Moot Court Competition” and the body should contain the names of the team member and the university/college they are representing. The registration shall be deemed to be complete only when the said mail is sent containing all the required files.

- 4.1.3 There exists a cap for number of registrations due to which the slots are available on first-come-first-serve basis.

5. REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees for the competition is Rs. 1000.

Name of Payee	Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai
Account No.	8709000100019122
Bank Name & Branch	Punjab National Bank & Branch Powai,
IFSC Code	PUNB0063210

6. CLARIFICATIONS TO MOOT PREPOSITION

- 6.1.1 The official Moot Preposition has been already released on the college website of Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai.
- 6.1.2 Participating teams may request for clarifications to the official moot problem by sending an email to mcc@mnlumumbai.edu.in latest by **25th March, 2022**. A mail for this purpose shall have the subject “Request for clarification to the Proposition”.
- 6.1.3 A full list of clarifications shall be released by **30th March, 2022**.

7. ANONIMITY

- 7.1.1 The participating team shall be allotted a team code upon final registration.
- 7.1.2 The student counsels shall not state their names or the names of the institution to which they belong during the oral rounds, and instead must use the code allotted.
- 7.1.3 The team shall not disclose their identity anywhere in their written Memorials and instead should use the code allotted.
- 7.1.4 Non-compliance with the Rules 7.2 and 7.3 shall result in immediate disqualification of the participant/team.

7.1.5 The decision of the Organizing Committee in this regard shall be final.

8. MEMORIAL SUBMISSION

8.1.1 Each team shall prepare an Applicant and a Respondent Memorial.

8.1.2 One (1) soft copy (in MS Word .doc/.docx and PDF format) must be emailed to mcc@mnlumumbai.edu.in latest by **5th May, 2022** with the subject “Memorials for Team Code”. The file names of the electronic copies of the Memorials must contain only the team code and the side being represented in the following format: e.g. (for Team Code 12) 12A or 12R, “A” being for “Applicant” Memorial and “R” for “Respondent” Memorial and so forth.

8.1.3 The Memorial for each side should be submitted as one single file and not in multiple files. Any violation of this rule shall invite penalty in accordance with rule 8.5.

8.1.4 Teams shall cite authorities in the Memorial using footnotes a uniform system of 20th Bluebook citation should be adhered to throughout the Memorial. Explanatory or illustrative footnotes are not allowed.

8.2 FORMAT OF MEMORIALS

8.2.1. The Memorials shall necessarily consist of only and only the following sections:

- a) Cover Page
- b) Table of Contents
- c) List of Abbreviations
- d) Index of Authorities (with page number where the authority has been cited)
- e) Statement of Jurisdiction
- f) Statement of Facts (not exceeding 2 pages)
- g) Statement of Issues
- h) Summary of Arguments (not exceeding 2 pages)
- i) Arguments Advanced (not exceeding 20 pages)
- j) Prayer (not exceeding 1 page)

8.2.2. Each Memorial shall have the following and only the following on its cover page:

- a) The team code on the upper right-hand corner of the cover page
- b) The name and place of the forum

- c) The relevant legal provision under which it is filed
- d) Name of parties and their status
- e) On whose behalf the memorial is filed

8.3.3. Teams shall cite authorities in the Memorial using footnotes following the Uniform Citation Method. Explanatory or illustrative footnotes are not allowed.

8.4.4. The Memorial shall be made on A4 size paper, with the following mandatory formatting specifications:

- a) Font Type: Times New Roman
- b) Font Size:12
- c) 1.5 line Spacing
- d) Margins: 1 inch on each side.

For footnotes, the formatting specifications are:

- a) Font type: Times New Roman
- b) Font Size:10
- c) Single Line Spacing

8.4.5. The following colour scheme shall be followed for the Cover Page of the Memorial:

APPLICANT: BLUE

RESPONDENT: RED

9. PENALTIES

Late Submission	1 mark per memorial every 12 hours after the deadline of submission. Disqualification beyond 48 hours.
Wrong File Name	1 mark per Memorial

Failure to submit Memorial as one File	1 mark per Memorial
Exceeding page limits (Refer to Rule 8.4.1)	1 mark per exceeding page
Failure to include the sections in the Memorial (Refer to Rule 8.4.1)	3 marks per section
Failure to comply with footnote specifications (Refer to Rule 8.4.3 and 8.4.4)	0.25 mark per footnote
Failure to include the required information on the cover page (Refer to Rule 8.4.2)	1 mark per violation
Failure to use the correct colour coding as per Rule 8.4.5	2 marks per Memorial

10. COPYRIGHT AND PUBLICATION

10.1 The Organizers reserve the right to reproduce and disseminate the memorials for the purpose of the Competition. The submission of the memorial in this Competition will constitute the consent for the same.

10.2 Plagiarism in memorials is highly discouraged and it may lead to the disqualification of the team.

11. COMPETITION ROUNDS

11.1 ORAL ROUND PROCEDURES

11.1.1. The oral rounds will be conducted online through Webex or Google Meet. The meeting links and guidelines for the same shall be sent to the participants via email.

11.1.2. The oral rounds shall comprise of preliminary rounds, quarter finals, semi-finals and final rounds. There shall be two preliminary rounds.

11.1.3. The time split between the speakers must be communicated to the Court Clerks prior to the commencement of each round.

11.1.4. There will be no extension of time. If the judges are of the opinion that a certain exigency does require an extension of time, they may extend the cumulative speaking time for a team.

11.1.5. There shall be no oral communication between team members and the speaker delivering oral submissions.

11.1.6. The teams shall not disclose to the judges, in any manner whatsoever, for the entire duration of the rounds, either their own individual identities or the identity of the institution that they represent.

11.1.7. Sur-rebuttals maybe allowed at the discretion of the judges.

11.1.8. If a team scheduled to participate in the oral submissions of a round does not appear for ten (10) minutes after the scheduled commencement of such round, the team will be disqualified and the other team shall make oral submissions ex-parte.

11.2. PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

11.2.1 Each team will argue in two (2) Rounds, once for each party.

11.2.2 The fixtures will be based on the memorial scores secured by the teams. The fixtures for the teams will be prepared by the Organizers on the basis of a power match-up and slide match-up of ranks for the first and second rounds respectively.

11.2.3 Each team will be given 20 minutes which is inclusive of the time for rebuttal and sur-rebuttals. Each team is entitled to a maximum of five (5) minutes out of the twenty (20) minutes for rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.

11.2.4 The ranking of the teams in the Preliminary Rounds will be based on both Memorial Scores and the Oral Round Scores. The scores of the Preliminary Rounds will be the aggregate of the average scores in both the oral rounds and the Memorial score (70% of oral round scores and 30% of Memorial Score). For example, if the average of the memorial scores is x and the average for the oral rounds is y, then the aggregate score will be a combination of 30% of x and 70% of y.

11.2.5 If two or more teams have the same cumulative score (Memorial Score + Oral Round Scores), the team with the higher cumulative Oral Rounds Scores shall be ranked higher.

11.2.6 In case of a tie, it shall be resolved in the following order:

- i. Memorial Score
- ii. Highest Score under the scoring criteria ‘Application of Legal Principles & Usage of Authorities’
- iii. Coin Toss

11.3 ADVANCED ROUNDS

11.3.1 The fixtures will be prepared by the Organizers on the basis of power match-ups generated using the ranks from the Qualifying Round. The party each team has to argue on behalf of will be determined by draw of lots.

11.3.2 The teams will be given thirty (30) minutes each which is inclusive of time allocated for rebuttal or sur-rebuttal. Each team is entitled to a maximum of five (5) minutes out of the thirty (30) minutes for rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.

11.3.3 The qualification in the Advanced Rounds shall be on the basis of win/loss, which will be determined by taking into account the Oral Round Scores in the respective rounds.

11.4 SCORING CRITERIA

The maximum score a speaker can get is **100 marks**. The criteria for evaluation in the Oral Rounds are as below:

Criteria for Evaluation	Maximum Marks
Application of Legal Principles & Usage of Authorities	25 Marks
Knowledge of Facts	20 Marks
Structure, Articulation & Clarity	20 Marks
Ingenuity & Response to Questions	20 Marks
Court Etiquette, Presentation Style & Time Management	15 Marks

11.5 RESEARCHER'S TEST

11.5.1 The Researcher's Test will be conducted online. Further details of the same shall be informed to the teams by email.

11.5.2 Only a participant designated as the Researcher at the time of Final Registration shall be eligible to participate in the Researcher's Test.

11.5.3 The duration of the test is One (1) hour. The test will have both objective and subjective questions based on the facts in the Moot Problem and the law applicable to the same.

12. AWARDS

WINNING TEAM: Rs. 20,000

RUNNERS UP TEAM: Rs. 10,000

BEST SPEAKER: Rs. 5000

BEST RESEARCHER: Rs. 5000

BEST MEMORIAL: Rs. 5000

13. CODE OF CONDUCT

13.1. The Rules governing the conduct of the Competition should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation thereof can attract penalties or disqualification at the sole discretion of the Organizers.

13.2. All participants shall adhere to the online meeting guidelines, notified by Organizers via email, from time to time throughout the period of competition.

13.3. Any attempt to contact the framers of the Moot Problem will result in immediate disqualification.

13.4. The identities of the teams shall not be disclosed in any form in the memorials or the compendiums.

13.5. All participants shall maintain decorum in the Court Hall during the Competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.

13.6. Scouting of a team's future opponent is strictly prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification.

13.7. No team member or individual participating in the Competition shall attend the arguments of any other team or individual except for the Final Round or receive information from any person who has attended any of the other rounds in the Competition.

13.8. The Dress Code for the participants shall be formals.

13.9. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action with regard to any dispute, unethical, unprofessional or immoral conduct.

14. MISCELLANEOUS

14.1. If and when any one of the members of a team is notified or informed of any detail or information concerning the Competition, it shall be deemed as if the said team as a whole has been duly notified or informed.

14.2. In case of any doubt in the understanding or interpretation of any matter concerning the Competition, the decision of the Organizers shall be final and binding.

14.3. The Organizers reserve the right to amend, alter, add or vary or change, in any manner whatsoever, the Rules governing the Competition, which would be communicated to the teams within a reasonable period of time.