



**VISHWANATH PASAYAT MEMORIAL NATIONAL MOOT  
COURT COMPETITION- 2023  
UNIVERSITY LAW COLLEGE, UTKAL UNIVERSITY**

**OFFICIAL RULES FOR THE COMPETITION**

**1. COMPETITION FORMAT**

The Competition is structured in the following format:

- a) Preliminary Round
- b) Quarter Finals
- c) Semi Finals
- d) Grand Finale

**2. ELIGIBILITY**

Students of three-year and five-year integrated law degree courses from any University / Law School / College/Department are eligible to participate in the competition. However, a maximum of one team shall be allowed to participate from any one University / Law School/College/Department.

**3. TEAM COMPOSITION**

**3.1** Each team shall consist only of three members, comprising two speakers and one researcher.

**3.2** Any alteration of the names of the team members shall be informed in writing to that effect, addressed to the Principal, University Law College, Utkal University, by the Vice Chancellor / Dean / Director / Head of the Department of the University / School / Department / College of Law, of the team requesting such alteration. However, any such alteration shall be permitted only once.

**3.3** Once the Competition commences, the team composition cannot be altered under any circumstances whatsoever. Inability of any team member to participate in accordance with the rules of this Competition shall lead to immediate disqualification of the team from the Competition.

**4. PARTICIPATION AND REGISTRATION PROCEDURE**

**4.1** The teams interested to participate are required to confirm their participation by sending an e-mail attaching the scanned copy of Annexure-A (Registration form) and the Demand Draft as mentioned in Rule 4.2, duly filled, to **mcc.ulcbbsr@gmail.com** by **28<sup>th</sup> September 2023** which will lead to provisional registration of the teams. Please note that such e-mail has to be sent only through the University / School / College / Department official email address. E-mails sent through personal / unofficial e-mail addresses and e-mails sent to any other address other than the above mentioned will be ignored. Annexure-A is annexed herewith this brochure. Upon receipt of the softcopy of Annexure-A as well as Demand Draft, a team code shall be generated and a confirmatory e-mail, together with the team code, shall be sent to such team on the 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023. Thereafter, for all further correspondence with the organizers of the Competition, all the provisionally registered teams shall identify and refer themselves using the allotted team code only.

**4.2** The teams shall then deposit (a) the printed copy of Annexure-A (Original) and (b) a non-refundable participation fee as per **clause 14 of this brochure** in the form of a Demand Draft drawn in favor of **Principal, University Law College, Utkal University, and payable at Bhubaneswar** (clearly stating the name of the participating institution at the reverse side of the demand draft) with the organizing college at the registration desk. The teams shall deposit the same at **8:00AM of 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2023** in the registration desk.

**(The non-submission of the Annexure A along with Demand Draft in the registration desk shall leads to cancellation of provisional registration of the teams for the moot court competitions)**



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4.3 On receipt of the printed copy of Annexure-A and the Demand Draft, the team shall be formally registered as a participant for the event.

4.4 The teams shall also send a soft copy of Annexure-B (Travel details), duly filled, to **ulcbbsr.mcc@gmail.com** by **28<sup>th</sup> September, 2023**. Annexure – B is available and also attached here with this Brochure. The hardcopy of the Annexure -B(Original) shall be deposited by the participants in the registration desk along with Annexure-A at 8:00AM of 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2023.

## 5. MEMORIALS

5.1 All memorials submitted for the purposes of the Competition shall strictly adhere to the rules as stated below.

5.2 Teams have to prepare memorials for both the sides, i.e. Petitioner(s) and Respondent(s).

5.3 The registered teams shall submit the pdf copy of their memorial for both sides by e-mail to **mcc.ulcbbsr@gmail.com** by **23:59 hours of 3rd October, 2023** and shall submit **ten spiral bound printed copies (for each side) of such memorials on 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 at the registration desk in an envelope with team code written on its top.**

5.4 While sending the memorials by e-mail in **pdf format**, please name the file pertaining to the memorial for the respondent as **R** accompanied by the team code and the file pertaining to the memorial for the petitioner as **P** accompanied by the team code. For example, for a team assigned a code of 100, the pdf file for the respondent should be named as '**R100**' and the pdf file for the petitioner should be named as '**P100**'.

5.5 The cover page of the memorials sent, for both the soft and printed copies, shall clearly mention the word "**P**" for memorials on behalf of the Petitioner, and the word "**R**" for memorials on behalf of the Respondent, followed by the team code for both the instances, such being clearly inscribed on the top right-hand corner of the cover page of the memorial for the Petitioners and Respondents. For example, if a team had been assigned a code of 100, the memorials sent by such team shall have "**P100**" and "**R100**" clearly marked on the top right-hand corner of the cover page of the respective memorials. *The teams should not disclose the identity of their institution anywhere on the memorial. Violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification.*

5.6 The memorials have to be submitted on A4 size paper and must contain the following sections in the Order as stated below-

- *Cover Page;*
- *Table of Contents;*
- *List of Abbreviations;*
- *Index of Authorities;*
- *Statement of Jurisdiction;*
- *Statement of Facts;*
- *Statement of Issues;*
- *Summary of Arguments;*
- *Arguments Advanced;*
- *Prayer.*

Non-compliance with above criteria shall result in penalty of two marks per missing section.



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5.7 The memorials must be printed in Times New Roman font with 12 font size and with 1.5 line spacing. The footnotes must be in Times New Roman font with 10 font size and with 1.0 line spacing. The memorials should have a margin measuring one inch on all sides of each page.

5.8 The '*Arguments Advanced*' section **should not exceed 25 pages**.

5.9 The memorials as a whole should not exceed 40 pages including the cover page.

5.10 The numbering should be on the bottom-center of each page.

5.11 The *cover page* of the **petitioner's memorial** shall be printed on **Blue colour A4 size paper**, and the cover page of the **respondent's memorial** shall be printed on **Red colour A4 size paper**.

5.12 The teams have to use the *citation method* as stated in the **20th edition of the Harvard Blue Book**, for citation throughout the memorial, with strict adherence.

5.13 There shall be no speaking footnotes in the memorial.

5.14 The maximum scores for the memorials shall be 100 marks. The memorials shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

<b>Knowledge of Law and Facts:</b>	<b>30 Marks</b>
<b>Proper and Articulate Analysis:</b>	<b>30 Marks</b>
<b>Extent and Use of Research:</b>	<b>20 Marks</b>
<b>Clarity and Organization :</b>	<b>10 Marks</b>
<b>Grammar and Style :</b>	<b>10Marks</b>

## 6. PRELIMINARY ROUND

6.1 To determine the order of participation in the preliminary rounds of the event, all the registered and present teams shall participate in a draw of lots to be conducted for that purpose. Such draw of lots shall take place on the **7th October 2023**, immediately after the inaugural function. The exchange of memorials and orientation of the teams shall be conducted immediately after the draw of lots.

6.2 For the preliminary round, every team shall argue twice: once for petitioner and once for respondent (Preliminary round).

6.3 There shall be one Preliminary Round in the competition.

6.4 In determining the scores in the preliminary rounds, memorial scores will be added to the oral scores.

## 7. QUARTER-FINALS, SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS

7.1 The top eight teams of the preliminary rounds shall qualify for the Quarter-final rounds.

7.2 From the Quarter final rounds, winning teams from each round shall proceed to the subsequent stages of the Competition on a knock-out basis, as per the formula stated below-

(i) *Quarter Finals = Preliminary Round Oral Scores + Memorial Scores*

(ii) *Semi-Finals = Quarter Final Round Oral Scores*

(iii) *Finals = Semi-Final Round Oral Scores*

In case of a tie between two teams in Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Grand Finale rounds, the oral score of the best speaker of each team will be considered to break the tie. If the tie continues, the memorial score of the team will be considered to break the tie. In case the tie further subsists, the result shall be decided by toss of coin.



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## 8. RESULTS

8.1 The results shall be announced shortly after each round.

8.2 The results of the final round shall be announced on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 evening and award giving ceremony will to be held on the **10th October 2023 at Cuttack, Odisha.**

## 9. ORAL ROUNDS

9.1 Each team will get a total of 30 minutes during the preliminary round to present their case. For the Quarter final rounds, each team will be permitted a total time of 45 minutes, while for the Semi-final and Final rounds, each team will be permitted a total time of 60 minutes. The time stated above includes the time required for rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.

9.2 Any team exceeding the time limit stated above shall be penalized with a deduction of one mark for every two minutes exceeded.

9.3 The division of time per speaker is left to the discretion of the team subject to a minimum of 10 minutes per speaker.

9.4 The oral arguments should be confined to the issues presented in the memorial.

9.5 The researcher shall be present with the speakers during the oral rounds.

9.6 Passing of notes to the speaker by the researcher is allowed, upon discretionary rejection by the Judges.

9.7 Maximum scores for the oral rounds shall be 100 points per speaker, and which shall be judged on the following criteria:

**Knowledge of Law: 20 Points**

**Application of Law to Facts: 20 Points**

**Ingenuity and Ability to Answer: 20 Points**

**Style, Poise, Courtesy and Demeanor: 20 Points**

**Time Management: 10 Points**

**Organization: 10 Points**

## 10. SCOUTING

10.1 For the preliminary rounds, apart from the participant teams for such round, the members of the other teams are not allowed to observe such round. Scouting is strictly prohibited and scouting by any team shall entail **instant disqualification.**

## 11. AWARDS

11.1 Winning Team Award – The winning team will receive a trophy and a prize worth **Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only).**

11.2. First Runners-Up Team Award –The first runners up team will receive a trophy and a prize worth **Rs.15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand Only).**

11.3. Best Memorial -The team submitting the best Memorial will receive a trophy and a prize worth **Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only).**

11.4. Best Researcher – The Best Student Researcher will receive a trophy and a prize worth **Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only).**

11.5. Best Speaker - The Best Student Speaker will receive a trophy and a prize worth **Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only).**

11.6. Top Six Teams Besides Winner and Runner-up will receive book hampers and all the participants will receive participation certificates.



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## 12. ANONYMITY

The student counsels shall not state their names during the oral rounds and must use the assigned team code for all correspondence. All team members must refrain from disclosing the identity of their institutions at any time and in any manner during the entire Competition. Non-compliance with this Rule will result in *immediate disqualification of the team.*

## 13. FINALITY OF DECISIONS

The decision of the judges with regard to the outcome of the rounds shall be final. For all purposes and in any dispute, the decision of the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Competition shall be final and binding.

## 14. ACCOMMODATION, FOOD AND TRANSPORT

All the participating teams shall arrange their own transportation to the organizing college and after their arrival further transportation will be provided to them for returning back to their respective accommodation provided by the organizing college. (*The teams shall arrange their own transportation from the Airport/Railway Station/Bus Terminal to reach the college and to leave it after completion of competition or as the case may be.*) Teams not availing the accommodation provided by the organizing college shall take care of their own transportation. Teams shall be provided with accommodation and food by the University from the **morning of 7th October, 2023 till the forenoon of 9th October, 2023. Furthermore, teams qualifying for Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals, and participating in Grand Finale shall be provided accommodation till forenoon of 11th October, 2023.**

\* Accommodation and food shall be taken care of as per university rules.

\* **The teams registering for competition and availing the accommodation shall have to pay a non-refundable registration fee of Rs. 4,000/- (Rupees four thousand only) which includes accommodation and fooding expenses.**

\* **Teams registering for the competition and not availing the accommodation shall have to pay a non-refundable registration fee of Rs. 3,000/- (Rupees three thousand only) which includes only food expenses.**

\* **Teams participating from Bhubaneswar, Odisha shall not be provided with accommodation. Thus, have to pay registration fees amounting to Rs. 3,000/- (Rupees three thousand only).**

## 15. CLARIFICATIONS.

Any query pertaining to the Moot Problem should be sent to **mcc.ulcbbsr@gmail.com** by **25th September 2023**. Questions submitted / clarification sought through any other means other than by e-mail shall not be entertained. A consolidated response for all questions and clarifications shall be mailed to all the participating teams on **29th September 2023**.



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**TIMELINE FOR THE COMPETITION**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>PARTICULARS</b>	<b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>
1	Disclosure of Proposition & Information Brochure	September 05, 2023
2	Last Date of Provisional Registration (via e-mail) along with a scanned copy of Annexure- A & Demand Draft.	September 28, 2023
3	Last Date of Final Registration (hard copy) along with Annexure – A & original demand draft to be deposited at registration desk.	October 07, 2023 8:00AM
4	Confirmation of Provisional Registration & Team code allotment	September 29, 2023
5	Last Date for Seeking Clarifications	September 25, 2023
6	Release of Clarifications	September 27, 2023
7	Soft-copy Memorial & Travel Plan (Annexure B) Submissions	October 03, 2023
8	Hard-copy Memorial & Travel Plan (Annexure B) Submissions	October 07, 2023 8:00AM
9	Draw of Lots followed by exchange of memorial	October 07, 2023 9:00AM
9	Inaugural Ceremony	October 07, 2023 10:00AM
10	Preliminary Round	October 07, 2023 11:00AM–2:00 PM
11	Quarter Final Rounds Followed by Draw of Lots & Memorial Exchange for Semis	October 07, 2023 4:30PM onwards
13	Semi Final Rounds	October 08, 2023 09:00 AM – 12:00 PM
14	Final Rounds	October 08, 2023 03:00 PM Onwards
15	Prize giving Ceremony	October 10, 2023 (Evening) At Cuttack, Odisha



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**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

**PATRON-IN-CHIEF**

Prof. (Dr.) Sabita Acharya,  
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Utkal University, Odisha.

**CHAIRMAN**

Prof. (Dr.) Sukanta K. Nanda,  
Principal, University Law College, Utkal University.

**ORGANIZING SECRETARY**

Dr. P.K. Swain, Asst. Professor, University Law College, Utkal University.  
Dr. S.N. Mallick, Asst. Professor, University Law College, Utkal University.

**FACULTY CONVENOR**

Mr. Abhinash Mohanta,  
Faculty, University Law College, Utkal University.

**FACULTY JOINT-CONVENORS**

Ms. Sneha,  
Faculty University Law College, Utkal University.  
**Contact info. +91-9438655805 (Accommodation, Transportation & Fooding)**

Mr. Himanshu Sekhar Muduli  
Faculty University Law College, Utkal University.  
**Contact info. +91-9776961815 (Provisional Registration, Proposition and Memorial related queries)**

**FACULTY CO-CONVENOR:**

Ms. Sonali S. Pattnaik  
Faculty University Law College, Utkal University.  
**(Contact info. +91-9776961815 (Final Registration at College, Submission of Hard Copies, Annexure A & B))**