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RULES FOR THE 3<sup>rd</sup>  
VICTORY ATTORNEYS  
NATIONAL MOOT  
COURT COMPETITION  
2023

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The rules will be cited as 'Rules for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Victory Attorneys National Moot Court Competition-2023'.

In case of any inconsistency/uncertainty with these Rules, a decisive inference made by the Moot Court Committee shall be final. The Committee reserves all rights to recommend/revise these Rules, the procedures and overall outline of the competition, in an effort to better the competition and to make it as practicable as possible.

#### **ARTICLE 1: DEFINITION OF TERMS**

The following terms shall have the corresponding meanings unless otherwise specified:

**"Claimant"** means the side of the team which argues on behalf of the Claimant at any given point of the competition.

**"Respondent"** means the side of the team which argues on behalf of the Respondent at any given point of the competition.

**"Problem Question Clarifications & Corrections"** (hereinafter referred to as clarifications) means the official clarifications and corrections as communicated officially to the teams.

**"Competition"** means and includes a total of activities arising out of or consequential upon the National Moot Court Competition, 2023.

**"Memorials"** means the written submissions framed and submitted by a team pursuant to these Rules and admitted by the Moot Court Committee.

**"Moot Court Committee"** for the purpose of this Moot Court Competition means the Committee as constituted for proper organization and fair conduct of the competition, including any other person authorized so to deal with all events, consequential upon or incidental to the competition.



**“Official Team Contact Person”** means the individual identified by the team during registration process to acknowledge the receipt of official correspondence relating to the competition.

**“Oral Submissions”** means the submissions before a panel as explained under evaluation criteria for evaluation of Written Submissions.

**“Judges”** means the adjudicators so appointed/ nominated by the committee for judging the performance of participants during oral submission sessions of the Competition.

**“Participant”** means person authorized by referring institution and approved by the committee.

**“Penalty”** means the consequence of violation of any rule whether by way of deduction of point or declaring disqualified a team or a team member, and such a person or team would be referred to as penalized.

**“Rebuttals”** means the set of arguments / challenges that the Plaintiff shall/ may raise at the end of the main submissions of all the orators.

**“Surrebuttal”** means a Defendants response to a Plaintiff’s arguments presented in a Rebuttal.

**“Team Code/Number”** means the number given to a participating team, which shall be their reference number, during the subsistence of the competition.

**“Team”** means the total of all registered as participants representing any University or College allowed to participate in the competition excluding observers, replacements, acquaintances or coaches.

**“Moot Court Observer/Invitee”** means a person granted access by Victory Attorneys & Consultants for a particular special purpose in the course of the competition.



## **ARTICLE 2: CLARIFICATIONS**

For the sole purpose of sorting out any complication or doubt, teams may request for clarifications by writing an email, to the persons designated as Coordinators for the Victory Attorneys National Moot Court Competition 2023.

## **ARTICLE 3: DRESS CODE**

3.1 **Female(s):** Black, navy blue or grey suits (trousers or skirts) with white or blue shirts or blouses and flat closed shoes.

3.2 **Male(s):** Black, navy blue or grey suits, with white or blue shirts and ties, together with closed official shoes.

## **ARTICLE 4: LANGUAGE**

The medium of oral submissions and memorial writing during competition shall be English Language only.

## **ARTICLE 5: PARTICIPANTS**

5.1 Each team shall comprise of 2 participating members.

5.2 There shall be 2 speakers in each team, all participants in a team must speak, during the oral rounds.

5.3 Each team will be assigned a specific code/number and each participant shall be given an individual code.

5.4 Teams/participants shall not disclose their personal identities nor of their institutions, in their written memorials and during the oral rounds. Any disclosure in aforementioned nature may invite penalties, including disqualification.



## **ARTICLE 6: ROUNDS**

6.1 There shall be a total of three rounds of argument(s) namely Preliminary, Semi-final and Final Rounds. The Semi Finals shall be knockout round(s). The committee shall assign the side of arguments (plaintiff or defendant) for each team before each round, during the semifinals and the finals.

6.2 Orientation & Desk registration of Teams will take place in October, 2023 (on a communicated date).

6.3 Preliminary round(s) will be held in October, 2023 (on a communicated date).

6.4 Top four teams shall qualify for the Semi-finals that shall be held on October, 2023 (on a communicated date).

6.5 The qualification to the Semi-finals shall be based on a team's Win Points from the Preliminary rounds.

6.6 In case of a tie in the Preliminary oral rounds, teams with the highest cumulative scores in the preliminaries, including the memorial marks, shall advance to the next level.

6.7 The top two teams shall advance to the Final rounds, which shall be held on October, 2023.

## **ARTICLE 7: MEMORIALS**

The following requirements for memorials must be strictly followed. Any noncompliance shall attract penalties.

7.1 Each team must prepare memorials for both sides to the dispute (Plaintiff and Defendant).

7.2 Once the memorials have been submitted, no corrections or supplements will be allowed.



7.3 No submission in soft copy shall be accepted after October, 2023 (on a communicated date).

7.4 The soft copy file pertaining to the memorials in pdf format must bear the initials C and the team number followed by it, eg. **C.101**, for the memorial in support of the Claimant's submissions. The same for the Respondent's submissions eg. **R.101**. This shall be placed on the top-right corner of the cover page of the respective memorial.

7.5 Late submissions beyond the stipulated date will attract 1-point penalty for each day of delay

### **Memorials Format**

The memorials have to be submitted on A4 size paper and must only contain the following sections in the order stated below:

- |                          |                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ▪ Cover Page-            | 1 page                               |
| ▪ Table of Content -     | 1 page                               |
| ▪ Summary of Arguments - | 1 page                               |
| ▪ Arguments Advanced-    | 20 pages (Maximum),15 pages(Minimum) |
| ▪ Prayer/s-              | 1 page                               |

### **Font Size**

- Font: The font of the body of the memorial shall be Times New Roman, size 12 and 1.5 line spacing. The font of the foot notes shall be Times New Roman, size 10 and 1.0 line spacing.
- Memorials must have one inch margin on all sides of each page.
- Page numbering should be at the bottom middle of each page.
- The teams can use any officially recognized footnote citation style, within the legal fraternity, and must maintain consistency in the use of such a style.



**Note:**

- Memorials must not contain any photographs, sketches, schedules, graphs or maps.
- Identity of the institution shall not be revealed anywhere in the memorials. Violation of this provision shall result in penalties, including disqualification.

**ARTICLE 8: EVALUATION OF MEMORIALS**

8.1 Every memorial shall be marked out of a total of 100 marks and the team memorial marks shall be the average of the total of both the memorial for the Plaintiff and Defendant sides.

8.2 The following shall be the marking scheme:

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Marking Scheme</b>	<b>Marks Allotted</b>
1.	Knowledge of Facts and Law	20
2.	Proper and Articulate Analysis	20
3.	Extent and Use of Research	20
4.	Clarity and Organization	20
5.	Correct Format and Citation	10
6.	Grammar and Style	10
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100</b>

**ARTICLE 9: ORAL ROUNDS**

In each oral round a team shall be represented by two speakers who shall orally present arguments.





## **9.1 Preliminary Rounds**

9.1.1 Each team will get a total of 30 minutes to present their case. The time includes questioning by judges.

9.1.2 The division of time is at the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 18 minutes per speaker. Division of time should be informed to the judges whilst making an introduction for every speaker who introduces his/her team. The oral arguments need to be confined to the issues presented in the memorials.

9.1.3 Passing of notes to a speaker by fellow speakers during the rounds is allowed.

9.1.4 Rebuttals and Sur-rebuttals are allowed at the discretion of the Judges. A maximum of 5 minutes may be allowed for rebuttals and 3 minutes for surrebuttals.

9.1.5 Sur-surrebuttals are not allowed under any circumstance.

9.1.6 Judges may at their discretion, may extend the time allotted for the oral arguments up to a maximum of 5 minutes, when a speaker prays for some extra minutes to wind up or on the judges' own motion.

9.1.7 The Maximum scores for the oral rounds shall be 100 points per speaker, per each Judge.

9.1.8 In case any opponent team fails to appear in an oral round, the round shall be conducted '*ex-parte*' and the scoring shall be done as if the defaulter team had been presenting and arguing.

9.1.9 All teams may use any case law and authorities which they intend to refer to for ease of reference. However, copies of unreported cases which shall be referred to must be carried by the speakers. These have to be supplied to the judges and the adverse team.

## **9.2 Semi Final and Final Rounds**

9.2.1 Each team shall get a total of 45 minutes to present their case.



9.2.2 The division of time is at the discretion of the team members, subject to a maximum of 25 minutes per speaker. Division of time should be informed to the judges whilst making an introduction for every speaker who introduces his team.

9.2.3 The oral arguments need to be confined to the issues presented in the memorials.

9.2.4 Rebuttals and Surrebuttals are allowed at the discretion of the Judges. However, they should not exceed 10 Minutes in the Semi-Final and Final Rounds.

## **ARTICLE 10: PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

10.1 Teams shall not be allowed to observe the orals of any other teams. Observing other teams is strictly prohibited.

10.2 This conduct by any of member of a team shall result in the disqualification of the whole team.

10.3 All team members who are not participating in an oral round, shall be instructed on where to place themselves, at the time of the orals and shall not attend the arbitration sessions of any other team participating in the competition.

## **ARTICLE 11: SCORES**

The Marking scheme for the evaluation of the oral arguments shall be the following:

<b>S/N</b>	<b>Marking Scheme</b>	<b>Marks Allotment</b>
1.	Knowledge of Facts and Law	25
2.	Logic and Reasoning in applying Legal Principles	20
3.	Resourcefulness & Ability to answer questions	20
4.	Time Management and Organization	15
5.	Court Etiquettes/ Deference to the court	10
6.	Persuasiveness	10
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100</b>



## **ARTICLE 12: AWARDS, PRIZES AND CERTIFICATIONS**

These shall be announced during the Award giving Ceremony, in October, 2023 (on a communicated date).

**Note:** In addition to the Awards, Certificates as tokens of appreciation, and recognition shall be distributed to all members of participating teams and all the volunteers.

## **ARTICLE 13: ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS**

13.1 The results of the Preliminary rounds shall be announced shortly after the completion of all the Preliminary rounds.

13.2 The results of the Semi Final Round(s) shall be announced shortly after the completion of each of the Semi Final rounds.

13.3 The winning team shall be declared immediately after the Final Round and the winning team members' names shall be announced during the Awards distribution Ceremony in October.

## **ARTICLE 14: ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.**

The Moot Court Committee shall communicate to the teams on transport and accommodation arrangements.

## **ARTICLE 15: ANONYMITY OF COMPETITORS**

15.1 Student Teams shall not disclose their names and the identity of their respective institution/college/university at any time before the award ceremony.

15.2 Team shall be issued individual codes/numbers, after the release of the moot court problem question, and the same shall be the sole source of identity of the respective teams throughout the competition.



**Note:** All team members, coaches and observers shall refrain from wearing, using or carrying in any form, any identifying items, such as badges, blazers, pins or any other identifying material(s) such as a books/bags with a college/university/library logo or seal.

## **ARTICLE 16: DISPUTES**

16.1 The participants in the competition shall abide by the spirit of the competition and shall endeavour to conduct activity according to best of their ability and cooperation.

16.2 In case of any dispute or difficulty arising out of or during the course of the competition, the Moot Court Coordinators shall have the sole and absolute authority to remove such difficulty and resolve the dispute.

16.3 The marks given by the judges shall be final and binding to the teams, for which the coordinators shall not be answerable.

## **ARTICLE 17: DISCLAIMER**

The Moot Court Competition is based on a purely fictitious problem, whereby the characters & the incidents or the course of events in the problem are completely imaginary and the same have no relation to any person living or dead or any past/present real-life incident. The Moot Court Problem Question is made solely for the purpose of training law students in Tanzania.