

ADVOCACY CUP 2022

Organised by

MOOTING AND DEBATING CLUB

With the support of

DREW & NAPIER LLC

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

Part I: General Provisions

1. All participants of the Advocacy Cup 2022 (the “**Competition**”) are deemed to have full knowledge of the contents of these Rules, including any amendments to these Rules as may be made from time to time by The Mooting and Debating Club (“**MDC**”), and emailed to the email addresses provided by the respective participants at the time of registration for entry to the competition.
2. MDC reserves the right to amend these Rules at any time.
3. Any participant who breaches any of these Rules may have points deducted from his/her scores or be disqualified or be subject to other penalties determined at the full discretion of the MDC.
4. MDC’s decision in the interpretation of these Rules and the administration of the Competition is final.

Part II: Eligibility

5. The Competition is open to all matriculated candidates from the NUS, SMU & SUSS Faculties of Law LL.B. degree (including double degrees), provided that no one who has already completed a law degree in any jurisdiction or its equivalent shall be eligible.
6. No person shall withdraw from the Competition at any stage without the prior approval of the MDC. Any person who breaches this rule may be barred from participating in all future competitions organised by MDC.

7. To participate in the Competition, each participant must arrange for his/her own witness for all the rounds they participate in. MDC will not be providing any witnesses.
8. A participant shall not act as a witness in a Mock Trial that the participant is competing in. A participant who has qualified for the Semi-Finals shall not act as a witness in any Semi-Final Mock Trial.
9. For the preliminary rounds, a participant may not be a witness for another participant whose assigned slot is before his or her own slot.
10. MDC and Drew & Napier LLC reserve the right to take any action that they deem appropriate for the breach of any of the Rule(s) by any Participant. MDC and Drew & Napier LLC also reserve the right to take any action that they deem appropriate against any Participant who has been found by MDC and Drew & Napier LLC to have committed any unethical and unprofessional conduct in the course of the Competition

Part III: Format

11. A Kickstarter event will be held on 7th March 2022 via Zoom. The Kickstarter will comprise 2 parts: A Cross Examination demonstration and a Q&A segment. Interested participants may watch the demonstration, and field questions to Panelists from Drew & Napier LLC about the competition thereafter. The weblink will be provided in due course.
12. The Competition shall consist of the Preliminary Round, the Semi-Finals and the Finals. Given the prevailing COVID-19 situation, the Preliminary Round and the Semi-Finals will be held online via Zoom. The finals will be held in person at the NUS Faculty of Law Wee Chong Jin Moot Court.
13. The Competition shall take the form of Mock Trials, the subject matter of which may be either civil or criminal. In each Mock Trial, two participants will compete either as Plaintiff / Prosecution or Defendant / Defence Counsel, and they shall make their respective witnesses available for cross examination by the opposing counsel.
14. The problem for the Preliminary Round will be uploaded no later than 12 March 2022 on the Competition Website. With regard to the problems for the Competition, no additional facts may be introduced into arguments (whether written or oral) unless they are a logical and necessary extension of the given facts or are publicly available facts. Any introduction of a fact that is not a logical and necessary extension of the

facts given in the Problem or is not a publicly available fact will be deemed to be in breach of the rules of the Competition and the judges retain the discretion to penalise the Participant accordingly.

15. Any clarifications regarding the problems shall be sent to the MDC no later than 3 clear days before the Preliminary Round, Semi-Finals or Finals, as the case may be.
16. Assuming that 50 or more participants register for the Competition, at least 8 participants from the Preliminary Rounds will proceed to the Semi-Finals. Drew & Napier LLC, together with MDC shall have the discretion to decide who will advance to the Semi-Finals. Participants with the top 4 scores from the Semi-Finals will advance to the Finals. In the event that less than 50 participants register for the Competition, Drew & Napier LLC, together with MDC shall have the discretion to determine the number of participants who will proceed to the Semi-Finals.
17. In the Preliminary Round, participants will be designated as Plaintiff / Prosecution or Defendant / Defence Counsel by MDC through a random ballot. As participants advance, a random ballot will determine the allocations of sides.
18. There will be two Mock Trial Problems used in this Competition, one for the Preliminary Round, and one for the Semi-Finals and the Finals.
19. The Preliminary Round and Semi-Finals are not open for viewing by other participants or members of the public. The Finals will be held in front of a live-audience, with the crowd capped at 50 people or such number in accordance with the prevailing regulations and guidelines.
20. Participants must not use any offensive language at any stage of the Competition. In particular, participants must not make offensive remarks pertaining to any race, religion, language or creed, any obscene or vulgar remarks, or any remarks that can cause offence or defame another's reputation.
21. Participants will be required to wear court attire for all rounds of the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, "court attire" shall mean an ordinary long-sleeved white shirt with a turn-down collar, a tie of a subdued colour, a dark jacket, dark trousers and black or plain coloured shoes for male participants. For female participants, "court attire" shall mean a long-sleeved white blouse high to the neck, dark jacket, dark skirt or dark trousers, and black or plain coloured shoes. Conspicuous jewellery or ornaments should not be worn by participants.

Part IV: Dates, Timings and Venues

18. The Kickstarter & Demonstration will take place on 7th March 2022 over Zoom and will commence at 1630hrs. Registration for the Kickstarter will open on 28th February 2022.
19. Registration for the Advocacy Cup 2022 will open on 6th March 2022, and close on 9th March 2022 at 2359hrs. MDC reserves the right to extend the registration deadline at its absolute discretion.
20. The Preliminary Round will take place on 19th March 2022 (Saturday) over Zoom. The First Round will start at 0900hrs.
21. The Semi-Final Round will take place on 24th March 2022 (Thursday) over Zoom. The First Semi-Final Trial will start at 1800hrs.
22. The Final Round will take place on 31st March 2022 (Thursday) at the Wee Chong Jin Moot Court of the NUS Law Faculty. The First Final Trial will start at 1830hrs.
23. MDC will notify all participants of the specific time and Zoom Rounds of their Mock Trials for each round by email at the email address provided by the participants or by posting a notice or by SMS or any other reasonable means.
24. MDC reserves the right to reschedule the time, rearrange the location or change the pairings of any Mock Trial if necessary.

Part V: Mock Trials

23. The format of the Preliminary Round is as follows:

Stage	Time limit (mins)
Cross-Examination of Plaintiff / Prosecution Witness	10
Re-Examination of Plaintiff / Prosecution Witness	2
Cross-Examination of Defence Witness	10
Re-Examination of Defence Witness	2
Closing Statement by Plaintiff Counsel	4
Closing Statement by Defence Counsel	4

The format for the Preliminary Round will not include the Examination-in-Chief and Opening Statement.

24. The format of the Semi-Finals and Finals is as follows:

Stage	Time limit (mins)
Opening Statement by Prosecution	5
Examination-in-Chief of Prosecution Witness	7
Cross-Examination of Prosecution Witness	10
Re-Examination of Prosecution Witness	2
Opening Statement by Defence Counsel	5
Examination-in-Chief of Defence Witness	7
Cross-Examination of Defence Witness	10
Re-Examination of Defence Witness	2
Closing Statement by Defence Counsel	4
Closing Statement by Prosecution	4

Participants will have a total of 12 minutes for their opening statement and examination-in-chief. They are free to allocate time between the two segments as they see fit.

Part VI: Prizes

25. The Champion will receive a cash prize of S\$2,000 and a trophy.
26. The 1st Runner-Up will receive a cash prize of S\$1000 and a trophy.
27. There will be two 2nd Runners-Up. Each 2nd Runner-Up will receive a cash prize of S\$500 and a trophy.
28. All Finalists and Semi-Finalists will also be invited to an internship with Drew & Napier LLC.

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