

# CENTRE FOR ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

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# CMR 1<sup>st</sup>NATIONAL MEDIATION COMPETITION 2022

JUNE 11 & 12, 2022

# ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The CMR First National Mediation Competition (CNMC) is a step taken by CMR University, School of Legal Studies - Centre for Alternate Dispute Resolution, Bengaluru towards acting as facilitator in increasing the ADR Culture among aspiring students. In the milieu of the backlog of cases reaching its saturation, alternative dispute resolution such as mediation, arbitration and negotiation provide an amicable way out.

The competition seeks to provide a prodigious experience that will amplify the interests of young minds in this niche practice of law. The competition will help students brainstorm probable solutions for a near to reality challenges while providing them with the comfort of choosing their roles as per their preferences. It, therefore, tries to break the monotony of theory-based learning and helps students in putting their knowledge and skills to use.

This competition will also provide an opportunity for the participants to develop the requisite lawyering and communication skills through various training sessions conducted by industry professionals. The appealing and ever-growing fields of Law will be selected for this competition to expose the participants to a situation where the interests of clients are multi-fold, often going beyond mere commercial interests. The participants are expected to take a multi-dimensional approach in reaching a settlement, showcasing the variety of fields that can be effectively be dealt with via mediation.

## **DEFINITIONS**

- Caucus refers to a separate meeting between the mediator and a team. The overall time will run during such a session.
- Clarifications refer to any clarification(s) and/or producedural order(s) issued by the organising committee.
- *Client* is a student of a team who plays the role of the client during the entirety of the competition.
- Competition means the CMR First National Mediation Competition, 2022
- Competition Rounds means the first preliminary rounds, the second preliminary round, the quarter final round, the semi-final round, and the final round.
- Counsel is the student of each negotiating team who plays the role of counsel in a session of the competition.
- Institution refers to CMR University, School of Legal Studies, Bengaluru.
- Mediating Pair refers to the client and counsel pair of the participating team

- *Mediator* refers to the third member of the mediating team who has applied and registered for the competition as participants
- *Judge* refers to a professional selected by the organizing committee to evaluate and score the team's performance.
- Organizing Committee refers to the collective body of student-faculty-staff or any other person appointed by the Institution for the administration and functioning of the competition.
- Participants includes only the bona-fide students of the University/College/Institute who have applied and registered for the competition by complying with the prescribed procedure.
- Requesting Party and Responding Party refer to the competing team which argues on behalf of the party requesting the mediation and the party responding to the request for mediation at any given point in the competition.
- Team refers to the mediating pair and the mediator representing their University/College/Institute.
- Team Code refers to the unique code allotted to the team which would be used to identify them throughout the competition.

### RULES OF PROCEDURE

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- The competition is open to students pursuing full-time law course (5-year and 3-year course) from any recognised university in India.
- The competition is not open to LLM students.
- Each University may nominate up to two teams to participate in the competition.

#### **TEAM COMPOSITION**

• Each team shall comprise 3 students - one mediator, one client and one counsel. The roles of the students shall remain the same throughout the rounds. Two teams per college are allowed to register for the same.

#### **REGISTRATION PROCEDURE**

- The organising committee has come up with a policy of early-bird registration. This early-bird registration will be open to first 5 teams who register on or before May 25, 2022 and complete the payment of registration fee within a period of 48 hours.
- The fee for early-bird registration with and without accommodation is Rs. 3500/- and Rs. 3000/- per team, respectively.
- The participants are required to complete the early-bird registration only through <a href="https://forms.gle/p5M6BV95SwJy29Lv9">https://forms.gle/p5M6BV95SwJy29Lv9</a>.

- The last date for registration is May 31, 2022.
- The fee for registration with and without accommodation is Rs. 4000/- and Rs. 3500/- per team, respectively.
- The google form link for final registration is <a href="https://forms.gle/Y3deePU3bsLbc5MBA">https://forms.gle/Y3deePU3bsLbc5MBA</a>.
- Upon registration, teams must complete the payment of registration fee within a period of 48 hours. The registration of the teams is considered to be successful after the payment of the registration fee within the stipulated time.
- 15 teams can register in total for the competition on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### **MODE**

- The competition will be conducted in offline mode.
- The venue for the competition is CMR University, School of Legal Studies.
- Address: 5, Chikka Banaswadi Rd, Bhuvanagiri, Lakshmamma Layout, Banaswadi, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560043

#### **COMPETITION STRUCTURE**

- The mediating pairs and co-mediators for each session and their roles shall be decided by draw of lots.
- Each round will have members from four different teams (four members of two teams forming two mediating pairs and two mediators from different teams). To avoid any conflicts, the mediators will not be assigned to those sessions in which the mediating pairs belong to the same institution as that of the mediator. To maintain this, the organizing committee shall regulate the same during the draw of lots.

#### **ROUNDS**

#### <u>PRELIMINARY</u> ROUNDS

• The competition will have two preliminary rounds for a period of 45 minutes each (exclusive of the preparation time provided for 15 minutes prior to the session) followed by a post analysis session with the judges during which the members of all the teams will receive feedback and comments from the judges regarding the session.

#### QUARTER FINALS

• Eight teams selected from the preliminary rounds on a cumulative basis, will qualify for the quarter finals which will be for a total period of 60 minutes (exclusive of the preparation time provided for 15 minutes prior to the session) followed by a post analysis session with the judges.

#### SEMI FINALS

• The four teams qualifying for semi-finals will be selected on a "knock-out" basis from the quarter finals rounds. The time limit of the semi-finals will be 60 minutes (exclusive of the preparation time provided for 15 minutes) followed by a post analysis session with the judges.

#### FINALS

• The teams selected for finals on a "knock-out" basis from the semi-final rounds will compete in the finals for a total time period of 90 minutes (exclusive of the preparation time of 20 minutes prior to the competition session) followed by a 10 minutes post analysis session.

Note: Preliminary rounds and quarter finals will be on June 11, 2022 & semi-final round and final round will be on June 12, 2022.

#### CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

- Each mediating pair will be provided separate confidential information 15 minutes before the start of each session which will be their preparation time, except for the final rounds where a team will be given 20 minutes preparation time. The mediator however will not be provided any confidential information.
- The mediating pairs and the mediators will not be permitted to have any contact or communication whatsoever with each other once the confidential information has been provided to the mediating pair.

#### **CAUCUS**

- The mediator may conduct a private session, (referred to as a "caucus") with each of the mediating pairs. A caucus may be called by either the mediating pair or the mediator. The mediating pair which is not part of the caucus will be required to leave the room during that time.
- A caucus may be for a maximum of 5 minutes. The mediator and the mediating pair, both, will be responsible for managing and adhering to their time limit. Failure will result in penalty at the discretion of Judges and the organising committee. This is inclusive of the time limit provided for the session.

#### BREAK(S)

- Each mediating pair and the mediator may request for a single 2-minute break during each session. The team requesting the break will be responsible for adhering to the time limit. Failure will result in a penalty, as deemed fit by the organizing committee.
- Where a mediating pair asks for a break, the members of the said mediating pair requesting the break will be required to leave the room.

#### **COMPETITION PROPOSITION**

- The proposition for the preliminary rounds and quarter finals will be sent to the registered email addresses of the partiticpants by June 2, 2022 and June 6, 2022, respectively.
- The problem for the other rounds will be provided after the pronouncement of the results of the previous rounds. The same will be sent to the registered email addresses of the participants.
- Clarifications to the general information Every effort will be made to ensure that the general information is clear. However, if a participating team has any questions or clarifications in relation to the same, then these can be submitted to the organizing committee.
- While the participating teams are not allowed to create new facts, the proposition is subject to reasonable interpretation and the participating teams may draw reasonable conclusions from them. Whether a participating team's interpretation is reasonable is a matter entirely within the discretion of the Judges.

#### INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

- All interpretations, as well as any waivers, consents or other decisions in the administration of the competition, are at the complete discretion of the host institution and the organizing committee.
- Any decision made by the host institution or the organizing committee shall be final and binding on all participating teams.

#### **LANGUAGE**

• The medium of the language used shall be English.

#### DRESS CODE

• The dress code for the competition will be business formals. All the participants are required to adhere to the dress code.

#### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Participants are to conduct themselves with the required etiquette during the span of the entire competition. Reckless or irresponsible behaviour by any of the team members of an institution may result in the disqualification of the entire team.
- All or any grievances are to be presented only to the organizing committee of the competition and the decision of the organizing committee will be final.
- Participants shall not reveal their personal identities or that of their University to any judge or participant during the course of the competition.
- Any attempt to obtain the confidential information shall render a team liable for immediate disqualification.
- Failure to adhere to any of the time limit will result in a penalty against whomsoever the delay is attributable to.

#### **RESULT**

• Throughout the competition, the mediating pairs and mediators will be evaluated separately and will proceed in the rounds independent of each other.

#### **AWARDS**

- Winning mediating pair Rs. 15,000
- Runner-up mediating pair Rs. 10,000
- Best mediator Rs. 7,500
- Runner-up mediator Rs. 5,000

#### JUDGING CRITERIA

MEDIATING PAIR	MEDIATOR
Statement of parties	Opening and closing statement of the mediator
Constructive approach	Identification of issues
Teamwork between counsel and client	Option generation
Effective utilization of the services of the mediators	Control over mediation
Judicious utilization of the time	Extraction and utilization of confidential information

Note: Payment can be made via NEFT -

Account Name: CMR University, School of Legal Studies

Account Number: 39431978708

Bank Name: State Bank of India, Lingarajapuram

Branch Address: St. Thomas Road, Lingarajapuram, Bangalore

RTGS/IFSC Code: SBIN0040283

# CONTACT DETAILS

For queries email us at: adr.sols@cmr.edu.in

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