



GD Goenka University  
School of Law

2<sup>nd</sup> GD Goenka  
International Virtual  
Client Counselling  
Competition 2021  
September 18-19, 2021

    /gdgoenkauniversity



**Registration fee**

INR 1500 per team

Early Bird @ INR 999 till Sep 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
for Indian Nationals; USD 20 per team  
for International Applicants

**Last date of Registration**

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Registration Link**

<https://forms.gle/yhXpGSdogyxvqwrR8>

**Exciting Rewards in Store**

Registration is on first come  
first serve basis

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# RULES & REGULATIONS

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## CHAPTER I

- 1. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT:** These rules may be called “2<sup>nd</sup> GDGU International Virtual Client Counselling Competition, 2021 or IVCCC,2021”
  - 1.1** They shall come in to force from the date of publication, on the official website of School of Law, GD Goenka University, Gurugram.
  - 1.2** The rules are reviewed annually and are subject to change. Reliance should be placed only on “IVCCC,2021” and not on any previously applicable rules.
- 2. DEFINITIONS:** In these rules, unless otherwise stated, a reference to a rule is reference to that rule in “IVCCC, 2021” and reference to a form is a reference to that form attached in the “IVCCC, 2021” as the case may be. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - 2.1.** “Bench” refers to the members duly invited by the institute, to adjudge any of the rounds, Virtually;
  - 2.2.** “Competition” means the 2<sup>nd</sup> GDGU International Virtual Client Counselling Competition, 2021;
  - 2.3.** “Governing Council” means the student-faculty-staff body appointed for the administration and smooth conduct of the competition, including all other members conferred with powers on ad-hoc basis by the “Ex-officio Chairperson' or Faculty In – charge” of the Core Committee, Client Counselling Committee of School of Law, GD Goenka University;
  - 2.4.** “Institution” means and includes “School of Law, GD Goenka University, Gurugram”;
  - 2.5.** “Office Memo” means a sheet of correspondence briefly describing the client(s) and/or his or her problem(s) for which the client seeks the services of a lawyer(s);
  - 2.6.** “Client Counselling” means the interviewing and advising the clients with regards to the problem provided by the committee in the competition;
  - 2.7.** “Client” – A person or organization, as assigned by the CCC, GD Goenka University in accordance with the office memo for a particular round, seeking and/or receiving the services of a lawyer(s).
  - 2.8.** “Country of residence” – For the sake of this Competition, any and every client’s country of residence shall be as mentioned in the office memo for a particular round.
  - 2.9.** “Observation Round” refers to the counselling session made by the teams virtually, either judges as per the requirements of the rounds for assessment;
  - 2.10.** “Team Code” means a unique code assigned by the institution to the applied and registered team;

**2.11.** “Team” means and includes only bona fide representatives of any University, may that be state, central or International or any other department recognized/authorized to impart law degrees, and who have applied and registered for the competition by complying with the procedure prescribed in these present rules;

**3. INTERPRETATION:** The Governing Council reserves the right to interpret the rules as it deems fit in order to ensure fairness and equality in the competition. Any such interpretation shall be conclusive and the decision of the Governing Council for the application of the rules shall be final and binding.

**3.1** The Governing Council may also amend, modify, change or repeal any rule from the same shall be communicated “IVCCC,2021” to the teams in due time. In case of any conflict, the decision of the Governing Council shall be final and binding.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

<b>Registration opening from</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> September, 2021
<b>Final date of Registration</b>	15 <sup>st</sup> September, 2021
<b>Competition Dates</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> September, 2021

## CHAPTER II

### **1. ELIGIBILITY:**

- 1.1 Students duly enrolled and pursuing full time 5 years or 3 years undergraduate law course from India or from a foreign university with law as major may apply to participate in 2<sup>nd</sup> GD Goenka International Virtual Client Counselling Competition, 2021.
- 1.2 Students enrolled and pursuing post-graduate diploma or short-term certificate courses in law is not eligible to apply.

### **2. TEAM COMPOSITION:**

- 2.1 A team shall consist of maximum two members that must include two Speakers (Multiple teams from an institute are allowed to participate).
- 2.2 Any team, intending to change the team composition of the team shall intimate the Governing Council by sending an e-mail at [clientcounselling@gdgu.org](mailto:clientcounselling@gdgu.org), the change will be allowed on discretion of the Governing Council.
- 2.3 Any person, other than the registered team members, is not eligible to join the video-conferencing or the audio-video recording of the consultation sessions, and non-compliance is a ground for disqualification.

### **3. REGISTRATION**

#### **3.1 General**

- 3.1.1 Each team shall register to 2<sup>nd</sup> GD Goenka International Virtual Client Counselling Competition, 2021 by filing registration form, in the prescribed manner by 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.
- 3.1.2 Registration form: <https://forms.gle/yhXpGSdogyxvqwrR8>.
- 3.1.3 On receipt of the duly filled registration form the institute shall respond to the participating team, acknowledging the receipt.
- 3.1.4 After the deadline for the registration expires, the Governing Council shall respond to each registered team, as specified under clause 3.1.1, with a unique team code, which shall be used to identify the teams during the competition.

#### **3.2 Registration Fee:**

**3.2.1** The registration fee for the competition is INR 1500/- for Indian Teams and 20\$ for International Teams. (Early Bird @ INR 999/- till 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021)

**3.2.2** The registration fee for the 2<sup>nd</sup> GD Goenka International Virtual Client Counselling Competition, 2021 is to be paid through NEFT transfer or UPI. No other payment method shall be accepted.

**3.2.3** Any additional charges incurred by the team while making the wire transfer are to be borne by the team.

**3.2.4** Payment Details

**Name of Beneficiary:** G.D. Goenka University

**Name of Bank:** HDFC Bank

**Address:** Site No. 2, OCF Pocket, Sector – C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi- 110070, India  
S.B A/c No.: 02731450000270

**RTGS/ IFS Code No.:** HDFC0000273

**Fax No.:** 0124-3315936

**MICR Code:** 110240034

**E Mail:** [accountsgdgu@gdgoenka.ac.in](mailto:accountsgdgu@gdgoenka.ac.in)

### **3.3 Completion of Registration Process:**

**3.3.1** All teams must upload a scanned copy of the receipt generated on completion of the NEFT transfer or UPI on the Registration Form. The receipt must contain the reference number after the completion of the wire transfer of the registration fees.

**3.3.2** Registration to 2<sup>nd</sup> GD Goenka International Virtual Client Counselling Competition, 2021 shall be deemed to be confirmed only on completion of all the formalities as specified under clause 3.3.1, any failure, may be treated as withdrawal from the competition and no claim of what so ever nature shall be entertained thereafter.

## **4. ANONYMITY OF TEAMS:**

**4.1** Teams shall not reveal their identity in any form during the Competition, except by the means of their Team Code allotted by the Governing Council.

**4.2** Teams must not reveal the name of their institution or names of the participants, anywhere in the course of the virtual consultation sessions, by any visual or audio means. Teams must

also not make use of or display in any manner whatsoever any logo, pins, badges etc. that indicates the university represented by them.

- 4.3** Any material presented to the Panel, should be devoid of any identification mark(s)/seal(s) of the Team. If any such mark(s)/seal(s) exist, it must be rendered unrecognizable before being presented to the judges.
- 4.4** Any violation of Rules 5.1- 5.3 shall attract severe penalty or disqualification as determined by the Governing Council. The decision of the Governing Council in this regard shall be final and binding; not subject to challenge.

### CHAPTER III

#### **1. NATURE OF THE COMPETITION:**

**1.1.** The Competition shall simulate a client's interview at a law office/chamber.

**1.2.** Each round shall be divided broadly into two segments, i.e.

**(a) Client-Consultation Session    (b) Post- Consultation Session.**

**1.2.1.** In the client-consultation session, Participants shall be expected to extract fact-information from the client, briefly analyse the issue(s) at hand, and make recommendations to the client in order to resolve his or her problem.

**1.2.2.** In the post-consultation session, the Participants shall be expected to legally analyse the interview and the various issues the matter (or case) presents and discuss a future course of action. They shall further be expected to discuss the recommendations made by them to the client and whether an alternative approach could be or have been adopted to attain a better outcome from the session.

The judges may, during this period, question the participants on their presentation.

**1.3.** It is clarified here that the Participants may tender legal advice to their client(s) with reference only to the laws prevailing to the country of his or her residence.

**1.4.** The discussion of fees is an integral part of any first consultation between a lawyer and a client. Students should be judged on how they approach this problem, but not on the monetary amount used. The participants may discuss fees at any appropriate point in the consultation. Fees may be waived or suitably reduced only in cases of financial hardship, either for persons of low income or for persons of ordinary income faced with very large fees.

**1.5.** Participants are advised to keep in mind professional rules of ethics and conduct, as are applicable to lawyers, and act in accordance with them during rounds. All participants, regardless of the country of their residence, shall be deemed subject to the rules and regulations as issued by the Bar Council of India under the Advocates Act, 1961 or any other regulatory body.



## CHAPTER IV

### **1. DRESS CODE:**

- a) The participants shall adhere to the following dress code while in the courtrooms:
  - a. Ladies: White shirt and black trousers or skirt along with a black blazer.
  - b. Gentlemen: White shirt, black trousers, a black tie, a black blazer and black shoes.

### **2. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION:**

#### **a) GENERAL:**

- 2.a.1. The formal commencement of the competition shall be on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- 2.a.2. The competition shall have one Preliminary Rounds, one Quarter Final Round, one Semi Final Round and the Final Round which will be followed by the valedictory ceremony.

#### **b) OBSERVATION ROUND:**

##### **I. PRELIMINARY ROUNDS-**

- a) The rounds will be conducted virtually on video conferencing platform. The teams are required to join the link of the observation rooms 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the rounds.
- b) Each team shall be provided with the Office memo, one hour prior to the Observation rounds on their respective mail ids. For the Preliminary rounds, the office memo will cover broad area of Matrimonial Laws (India).
- c) The Advocate(s) shall be allotted a total of 15 minutes, where; 10 minutes is for Client Counselling session and 5 minutes is for Post Counselling Session. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall not be allowed.
- d) A team shall be credited with a win, if its total marks in the respective session are higher than those of its opponent teams.
- e) In the case of a tie, the total marks of the team with the higher score will advance to the Quarter Finals, for which the following marks for comparison will be considered:
  - The aggregate points of problem analysis, followed by client's goals and expectations (in case the aggregate points in problem analysis are the same), followed by obtaining information (in case the aggregate points in client's goals and expectations are the same);

f) Kindly refer to Chapter V for more related rules.

## **II. QUARTER FINALS-**

- a) The Quarter Finals will be Knock-out round. The top 4 teams, with the highest total scores in these rounds shall qualify for the semi-final rounds.
- b) Each team shall be provided with the Office memo, one hour prior to the Observation rounds on their respective mail ids, for the Quarter rounds, the office memo will cover broad area of Succession Law (India).
- c) The rounds will be conducted virtually on video conferencing platform.
- d) Each team shall get a total time of 20 minutes, where; 15 minutes is for Client Counselling session and 5 minutes is for Post Counselling Session. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall not be allowed.
- e) The teams are required to join the observation rooms 10 minutes prior to the commencements of the rounds.
- f) Kindly refer to Chapter V for more related rules.

## **III. SEMI-FINALS-**

- a) The Semi-Finals will be a knock-out round. The top 2 teams, with the highest total scores in these rounds shall qualify for the Final round.
- b) Each team shall be provided with the Office memo, one hour prior to the Observation rounds on their respective mail ids, for the Semi Rounds, the office memo will cover broad area of International Law on Detention & Trial.
- c) Each team shall get a total of 25 minutes to present their case. where; 15 minutes is for Client Counselling session and 10 minutes is for Post Counselling Session. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall not be allowed.
- d) The teams are required to join the link of the observation rooms 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the rounds.
- e) Kindly refer to Chapter V for more related rules.

## **IV. FINALS-**

- a) The Final round will be held just after the Semi-Finals. A team will be credited with a win in the Final round if the total marks are higher than those of its opponent team.
- b) Each team shall be provided with the Office memo, one hour prior to the Observation rounds on their respective mail ids, for the Final round, the office memo will cover broad area of Intellectual Property Rights vis-a-vis International Law.
- c) Each team shall get a total of 30 minutes to present their case. where; 15 minutes is for Client Counselling session and 15 minutes is for Post Counselling Session. Any extension of time beyond the specified period shall not be allowed.
- d) The teams are required to join the Google Meet/Zoom link of the observation rooms 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the rounds.
- e) Kindly refer to Chapter V for more related rules.

### **3. ASSESSMENT CRITERION:**

Team performance of the Speakers shall be judged in all rounds out of 40 Marks on the basis of following criterion

#### **Observation Rounds:**

- a) Relevancy of information extracted, outlining the problem.
- b) Tactics used to make client comfortable to understand Client goals and expectations.
- c) Moral and Ethical Issues: Recognised, clarified and responded to any moral or ethical issues which may have arisen, without being prejudicial in judgments.
- d) Alternative Course of Action suggested (Legal/ non-Legal).
- e) Court Room Conduct and fees asked.

#### **Post Consultation Session:**

- f) Post Interview Reflection- explaining the strengths and limitations of their interviewing and counselling skills, their handling of the substantive aspects of the client's problems (legal and non-legal), provided for an effective follow-up.
- g) Problem Analysis and Effective Conclusion: Analyses of the client's problem with creativity and from both legal and non-legal perspectives, resulting in a clear and useful formulation of the problem.
- h) Effective answers to Judges.

Note for participants- To ensure uniformity in marking in each court room to do away with subjectivity to an extent, follow the points scheme given as under.

<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

#### **4. PENALTIES:**

##### **a) Scouting:**

No member of any team or any other person will be permitted to witness the arguments, or enter the live video conferencing in which that team is not one of the participating teams whilst that team is a part of the competition or the person is not part of any of the participating team. If this rule is violated, the Governing Council shall take strict actions, which may include but may not be limited to, the expulsion of the said team from the competition.

##### **b) Non – Disclosure of Identity:**

Teams shall not disclose their identity, i.e., the name of their institution, city, etc. or any other information which has the effect of disclosing their identity and affiliation with a particular university or institution. Such disclosure shall result in disqualification subject to the discretion of the Organizers.

##### **c) Copyright:**

The copyright with regard to the office memo for the participation in the Competition shall also vest completely and fully with the Organizers.

#### **5. CERTIFICATION, PRIZES AND AWARDS:**

- a) Online Certificates for participation will be given to all the participants under the current circumstances. The Online Certificates will be accessible only after the valedictory ceremony.

- b)** Participants will receive their Participation Certificates on given mail after they fill up the feedback form. Certificates for Quarter-Finalists, Semi-Finalists, Runners-up, Winners and Best Speakers will also be provided after they fill up an additional form for their prizes.
- c)** Certification response will be limited to one only. Participants are requested to fill the details (Name and Name of the Institution) correctly with no room for errors. The certificates will not be issued again.
- d)** Cash awards will be sent after getting details of winners such as Institution ID card, Pan Card & Bank Accounts details for which they will be contacted via email by the Client Counselling Committee.
- e)** After the competition is over the cash prize will be sent after the submission of due documents as required by the committee and it will be processed after the due process is followed at the University level.
- f)** It is the responsibility of teams to distribute cash prize among themselves.
- g)** Prizes and Rewards-
  - Cash Prize-
  - Winner- Rs 15,000/-
  - Runner Up- Rs 10,000/-
  - Best Advocate Male- Rs 5,000/-
  - Best Advocate Female- Rs 5,000/-

## CHAPTER V

### 1. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:

- (i) No team shall indulge in any act of misconduct in during audio-visual recording or virtual conferencing, undermining the credibility of judges or that of the competition. Any act to the contrary may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.
- (ii) All the teams shall be bound to follow the code of conduct and the rules laid down by School of Law, GD Goenka University.
- (iii) Any behaviour of indiscipline with the Governing Council or any other staff member or student volunteer shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.
- (iv) No team shall ask for feedback immediately on completion of any round. However, at the end of all the rounds the participants may talk to the judges, with minimum inconvenience caused to them.
- (v) Any attempt to approach the framer of the office memo or the panel of judges of the competition, prior to the competition shall be dealt with strictly and may lead to immediate disqualification from the competition without scope of appeal.
- (vi) The organising committee reserves the right to amend, modify or repeal any of the rules if so required and as they deem appropriate. Participating teams shall receive adequate notice of any/all such amendments or modifications to the rules.
- (vii) If anything, not covered by rules the decision of organising committee will be binding.
- (viii) During the live rounds, the microphones of all the persons not speaking shall be on mute, any kind of disturbance created by the team members, or the team member of opponent team if found, then the team making the disturbance shall be warned, continuance of disturbance may lead to disqualification from the competition on the discretion of Judges.
- (ix) No team is allowed to use mobile phones during any of the observation rounds, for the purposes of research, phone call, texting, or any other purposes.
- (x) The organizer shall not be responsible for any loss of connectivity or slow internet connection during the competition, the participants are requested to have sound internet connections and working laptop/pc. **No use of mobile phones/ tablets will we allowed other than in case of joining the observation room.**

- (xi) The platform will be informed beforehand; therefore, the teams must have knowledge of using the platform. Also, all the queries regarding anything related to use of app, or any other issues related to the platform being used shall be notified.
- (xii) If any member 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, however the communication will be made to all but to the possible extent. Also, the individual is responsible to communicate the information with the team.
- (xiii) The Advocate(s) shall at all times during the rounds must have their cameras on, if in case of connectivity issues, a frame of 5 minutes will be provided to re-join. In case the problem persists, the Advocate(s) will lose their chance, or will be subjected to disqualification. Therefore, it is advisable to check the working of Camera and Internet connectivity beforehand.

## **2. FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT:**

Regarding the rules of the competition or any other queries, send your queries at [clientcounselling@gdgu.org](mailto:clientcounselling@gdgu.org) with subject line “Competition Problem-Queries”. You can also contact any of the following members of the Organizing Committee between 10 am to 4:00 pm (IST).

### **FACULTY CO-ORDINATORS:**

- Ms. Sanya Kapur Wadhwa: +91 7289961445
- Dr. Aditi Mukherjee Chakravorty: +91 7380840267

### **STUDENT CO-ORDINATORS:**

- Ayush Gupta: +91 7017183604
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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/schooloflawgdgu/>

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