

MAHARAJA AGRASEN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

presents

rd JUSTICE J.S. VERMA MEMORIAL NATIONAL ADRCC COMPETITION



NAVITAS NATIONAL LAW FEST

22 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2023



Our Special Collaborator FOUNDATION FOR SUSTAINABLE RULE OF LAW INITIATIVES

MEDIATION COMPETITION

1. Date and Venue of the Competition

DATE	ROUNDS	MODE	VENUE
23 March 2023	Preliminary & Quarters	Online	Gmeet/Zoom
24 March 2023	Semi-Finals	Online	Gmeet/Zoom
1 April 2023	Finals	Offline	College Campus

2. Eligibility

The Competition is open to all students pursuing undergraduate degrees (three-year or five year law courses) in recognized Law Schools/Colleges/ Institutions/ Universities.

3. Definitions

In these rules, unless otherwise stated, a reference to a rule is reference to that rule in "MAIMS 3rd JUSTICE J.S. VERMA MEMORIAL NATIONAL ADRCC COMPETITION 2023" as the case may be. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

a. "**Competition**" means the MAIMS 3rd Justice J.S. Verma Memorial National ADRCC Competition.

b. "**Caucus**" shall refer to a private meeting between the Mediators and a Team. During the Caucus, the overall time of the Mediation Session continues to run.

c. "Competition Rules" means the rules and guidelines mentioned herein.

d. "**Confidential Information**" means factual information, given exclusively to one Negotiating team, in accordance with the rules of the competition. e. "**Cross-Caucus**" refers to a separate meeting between the Mediator and both Counsels or a separate meeting between the Mediator and both Clients.

f. "General Information" is the factual information provided to all the registered participants.

g. "**Judge**" means a lawyer or an academician nominated and/or selected by the Organising Committee who evaluates and scores the performance of the Participating Team during a Mediation Session in accordance with the Competition Rules.

h. "**Mediating Pair**" refers to two participants out of a team of three, acting as client and counsel for the purposes of the competition.

g. "**Mediator**" refers to a member of a team of three who shall be acting individually as a mediator for the purposes of the competition.

h. "**Mediation Room**" refers to the virtual/physical mediation table set-up where the competition shall take place.

i. "**Offline Rounds**" refer to the Final Rounds that will be conducted physically at the MAIMS campus.

j. "**Virtual Rounds**" refer to the Preliminary, Quarter-final, and Semi-final Rounds that will be conducted virtually on the 23rd and 24th of March 2023.

k. **"Participating Team**" refers to a team whose registration has been approved by the Organising Committee.

l. "**Requesting Party**" stands for the party, in the proposition, at whose behest the option of mediation was exercised.

m. "**Responding Party**" stands for the party other than the requesting party in the mediation proceedings.

n. "**Preparation Time**" refers to the time given to the teams after providing them with confidential information.

4. Team Composition

- Each team shall comprise of three students consisting of one Mediator and two team members acting as the Client-Counsel pair (referred to as the "Mediating pair").
- One member of the team will be designated as Mediator, whose role shall remain unchanged throughout the Competition. The other two members of the team will form the Mediating pair, representing a Client and his/her Counsel. The respective roles are not interchangeable.
- The two mediators in one competition session (from different teams) for all purposes will be referred to as Mediator 1 (M1) and Mediator 2 (M2) as designated in the match-ups.

5. Competition Structure

- The competition will be conducted online via Zoom or Google Meets and the information regarding the same shall be sent well in advance before the competition.
- Two Teams (Two Mediating Pair) will be the Requesting and Responding Parties respectively. The Mediating pairs and 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.
- Quarter Final, Semi-Final, and Final Rounds shall be knock-out rounds. However, teams will proceed to quarter-final rounds on the basis of merit scored in both preliminary rounds 1 and 2, cumulatively.

6. DURATION OF ROUNDS

A. DURATION FOR THE PRELIMINARY ROUNDS, QUARTER-FINALS, AND SEMI-FINAL ROUNDS

- Total Time 100 minutes
- Preparation Time 30 minutes
- Mediation Session 60 minutes
- Assessors Feedback 10 minutes

B. DURATION FOR THE FINAL ROUNDS

- Total Time 130 minutes
- Preparation Time 30 minutes
- Mediation Session 90 minutes
- Assessors Feedback 10 minutes

Note:

- There will be 2 Preliminary Rounds.
- Accommodation will be provided by the Organizing Committee.

7. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

- Each Mediating Pair will be provided with separate Confidential Information 30 minutes before the start of each session. 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.

8. LANGUAGE

The official language of the competition is strictly English. Communication in any other national or regional language during the competition rounds shall not be allowed.

9. DRESS CODE

Participants shall be appropriately attired for the rounds of the Competition.

- For Gentlemen White Formal Shirt with Formal Black Pants and a Black Blazer with a Black tie; and
- For Ladies White Formal Shirt with Black Formal Pants/Skirt and a Black Blazer.

10. COMPETITION PROPOSITION

- The Organizing Committee will be releasing the proposition of all the rounds of the competition on 18th March 2023. In case of any changes in the schedule, the same shall be notified.
- The proposition shall be on commercial laws applicable to the Indian legal system.
- Clarifications to the General Information– 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.

11. CAUCUS

- During the Mediation session, the Mediator or any of the mediating teams may call for a Caucus, in accordance with the following provisions:
- 1. Each caucus may not last longer than 5 minutes.

2. No one is allowed to leave the meeting room, except for the mediating team which the mediator escorts out, while he/she engages in a private session with the other mediating team.

- During a caucus, the mediator(s) can engage in dialogue with one mediating team – the client and counsel or there can be a caucus between the mediator(s) and both the competing clients (without their lawyers) or between the mediator(s) and both the competing lawyers (without their clients) – this is called a cross-caucus.
- The Mediating Pair can call only one Caucus in one Round. However, Mediators have the power to call for more than one Caucus. Similarly, it is not mandatory to call for a caucus. It is up to the discretion of the Mediating pair and mediators to call for a Caucus. They will be assessed on the timing, reason, and productivity of the caucus, if called for.

12. DISCUSSION BREAK/ BACKROOM

- Each Mediating pair and the Mediator may request for a single 5-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.
- If a Mediating pair asks for the Break, the members of the said Mediating pair are requested to leave.

13. CODE OF CONDUCT

- Participants are to conduct themselves with the required etiquette during the span of the entire competition. Reckless or irresponsible behavior 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 limits will result in a penalty against whomsoever the delay is attributable.

14. JUDGING CRITERIA

FOR MEDIATING PAIR:

- Statement of parties
- Constructive Approach
- Teamwork between Advocate and Client
- Effective utilization of the services of the Mediators
- Judicious utilization of the time

FOR MEDIATOR

- Opening and Closing Statement of the mediator
- Identification of Issues
- Option Generation
- Time Management

15. RESULT

- Throughout the Competition, the Mediating pairs and Mediators will be evaluated separately and will proceed in the rounds independently of each other. However, the Best Team will be based on the scores of Preliminary Rounds by cumulating the score of the Mediator and the Mediating Pair.
- The timings and meeting links for the announcement of results for every round will be emailed to all the teams in advance. All participants are requested to join the same 10 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

16. INTERPRETATION

• Any question regarding the interpretation of any provision of this rule shall be subject to the decision of the Organizing Committee and any decision made by them thereon shall be final.

- Mediating teams will be ranked and selected for the knock-out rounds in order of the following criteria:
- a. Total number of overall points.
- b. Total number of score sheets designating 'wins'.
- c. Greatest number of points scored during joint session.

17. WALKOVER POLICY

- All participants must have an internet connection sufficient to smoothly run Zoom or Google Meets. In case of the team not being present at the allotted time or bad connectivity which results in an undue delay in the round, or results in difficulty in conducting the round, a walkover will be given to the opposing team. We highly recommended that you have an internet connection with a minimum of 20 MBPS.
- In case device stops working or disconnects, the respective participant will be given a total time of 5 minutes to re-join the platform and continue with the competition. During this time, the competition time will be stopped.
 Further, if the participant is unable to join within the said 5 minutes, then that team will be marked accordingly. It is the responsibility of the teams to ensure a good and stable internet connection.

18. AWARDS

Following is a list of the awards that will be presented to the teams:

- Best Mediating pair Rs. 15,000/-
- Runner up Mediating pair 12,000/-
- Best Team Rs. 8,000/-
- Best Mediator Rs. 5,000/-

Certificates of merit shall be given to Rank holders.

E-Certificate of participation shall be given to all the participating teams.

19. TIE-BREAKER

1. In case of a tie between mediating pair in any rounds, the team which secures maximum wins in the score sheet and the highest number of points secured in use of the caucus shall be considered decisively.

2. In case of a tie between mediators in any round, the highest score in the caucus and in the opening and closing statements shall be decisive.

20. REGISTRATION DETAILS

- Last Date for Registration: 17th March, 2023
- Registration fee for this event: Rs. 2500/-
- Registration Link- <u>https://forms.gle/TW8AN5UrJRwjB74D6</u>

21. PAYMENT DETAILS

- Bank Name: Union Bank of India
- Account No: 604202050000047
- Beneficiary Name: Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Management Studies
- IFSC Code : UBIN0560421
- Branch: Sector 22, Rohini, Delhi -110086

22. TRAINING SESSION FOR PARTICIPANTS

A workshop to be held prior to the competition by **Ms. Jennifer L. Brandt**, experienced Attorney, Arbitrator and Mediator for all the registered participants. She has served as a Judge and Mediator at ABA and ICC Commercial Mediation Competitions. She has participated in international dispute-resolution efforts around the globe. The workshop will discuss on basics of Mediation, its relevance, and future careers in it. Details of the same will be emailed to registered participants.

23. IMPORTANT NOTE:

- Organizing Committee's Power to take Additional Measures: The organizing committee may take such other measures as are required for the orderly conduct of the competition.
- Interpretation of Rules: The organizing committee's interpretation of the implementation of the rules shall be final and conclusive.
- Final rounds in offline mode are subject to COVID Restrictions.

24. CONTACT

For any further queries and clarifications, please write to:

- AYUSHI THAKRAL (EVENT CONVENOR): +91 89208 91648 Email- <u>ayushithakral.ms30131@maims.ac.in</u>
- ANSHUMITA TAPARIA (EVENT CONVENOR): +91 89208 91648
 Email- <u>anshumitataparia.c034040077@maims.ac.in</u>

Kindly mention the subject of the mail as "Query for Mediation Competition"

