

# Mediation and Client Counseling Competition 2021

22 to 24 October 2021



# Mediation Competition 2021

## GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Event will begin with registrations followed by briefing on 8th October 2021 wherein participants will be briefed about the details of the event and are welcome to seek clarifications. The Competition Sessions will be held from 22nd to 24th October 2021 (Detailed program schedule will be provided at the time of registration).

## ELIGIBILITY

- ✎ Only Law Colleges/Universities recognized by the Bar Council of India are eligible to participate.
- ✎ Only Bonafide students pursuing LL.B. Three Year/Five Year Degree programmes in aforementioned institutions, during the current academic year are eligible to participate.

## COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

- ✎ Each team shall comprise THREE Participants: 1 Mediator and 1 Client & Counsel Team
- ✎ One Member of the Team will be designated as Mediator, and the role will remain unchanged throughout the Competition. The other two members of the team will be the designated Client & Counsels, representing a client and his/her Counsel, during the Mediation round. Each participant of the Client & Counsel team must play the role of both the Client and the Counsel in the Preliminary Rounds.

- ✎ The Client & Counsel Teams may decide their roles for the Semi-Final and Final rounds.

## REGISTRATION

- ✎ All the registered teams are required to be present in person on the platform suggested through the email link at 9:00 AM on Friday, 22nd October 2021 through the link provided with official email address at the time of the registration, for confirmation of their participation.
- ✎ The Platform and the Chamber Links will be shared well in advance.
- ✎ Participants are advised to keep the e-copy of all duly filled forms that have been submitted to the organizers and original forms, if the same have not been submitted along with the payment receipts.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

- ✎ All the participants must be dressed in a dignified manner befitting the legal profession for the competition.
- ✎ Friendly and healthy interaction among the participating teams and with the students of the host college is encouraged and expected.
- ✎ Use of any electronic gadgets including mobile phones and laptops and smart watches etc. is strictly prohibited during the competition, as the platform being virtual the participants shall not use any other browser or extended screen option to search or to refer.
- ✎ Participants shall not reveal the identity of his/her college/university at any

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point of time during the competition.

- ✎ Scouting or any other unethical/unprofessional conduct is strictly prohibited
- ✎ As the platform is virtual, the participants are supposed to keep their webcams on at all times.
- ✎ The participants shall make themselves aware of all the technicalities involved with the platform, and make a test run before the day of the competition. In case they suffer with connectivity issues, the organizers will try to reach the team for five minutes and if no communication is established the team shall be disqualified.
- ✎ The participants should also use good quality of head phones so that their voice is clear at all times.
- ✎ To move from any kind of distraction, it is advised that the participants isolate themselves and keep their surroundings clear from any kind of intervention.

## TEAM CODE

- ✎ Each team will be allotted a Unique Team Code. Only the team codes should be quoted for future references/ correspondence and at the time of communicating with organizers / judges. The identity and the college of the members of the team should not be revealed at any point during the competition, if so, the team will be disqualified.

## COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

### COMPETITION SESSIONS

#### Format

**All Competition Sessions will be conducted in English.**

- ✎ Four teams will participate in one Competition Session:
- ✎ Two teams (Client & Counsel Teams) will be the Requesting and Responding Parties respectively/ negotiating parties. The third and fourth teams will be Mediators for the Session.
- ✎ The Organizing Committee will assign the Client & Counsel Teams and Mediator for each Session and decide the roles of the Client & Counsels Teams (Requesting/Responding Party or negotiating parties) by a draw of lots. To avoid any conflicts, the Mediators will not be assigned to sessions in which a Client & Counsel Team belongs to the same Institution as that of the Mediator.
- ✎ Maximum duration of each mediation session shall be of 30 minutes. It's up to the mediators of the session to manage the time as well as the time split. An additional 10 minutes will be reserved for scoring and feedback at the end of each session.

### COMPETITION ROUNDS

- ✎ This event shall be conducted in 'Three Rounds' namely, Preliminary Round,

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Semi Final Round and Final Round.

- ✎ Preliminary Rounds will have two Rounds.
- ✎ Top 4 teams shall go to the Semi-final round on the basis of the average team score of both the preliminary rounds.
- ✎ In case of a tie for the 4th place, scores of point 11.2.6 for the client counsel pair and scores of point 11.3.4 for the mediators would be considered.
- ✎ Two teams from the Knock-out rounds shall go to the Finals.

## ADJUDICATORS

- ✎ Expert Adjudicators will be selected by the Organizing Committee to score the performance and provide feedback to the students to help them move through the Competition rounds.

## CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND PREPARATION TIME

- ✎ Each Client & Counsel Team will be provided separate Confidential Information 20 minutes before the start of each Session which will be their preparation time. The Mediator will not be provided with any Confidential Information.
- ✎ The Client & Counsels are not permitted to have any contact or communication whatsoever with any person including, the Mediator and the Observers once the Confidential Information has been provided.

## CAUCUS

- ✎ The Mediator may conduct a private

session, a Caucus, with each of the Client & Counsel Teams. In case the team wants to go for the caucus, the organizers will provide a separate meeting link which shall be moderated by the organizers, the team shall not disconnect the session, they are allowed to mute for a while. A Caucus may be called by a Client & Counsel Team or the Mediator. The other team shall remain on the session while the other team is in CAUCUS. Only one caucus may be conducted with each of the parties.

- ✎ A Caucus may be for a maximum of 5 minutes. The Mediator and the Client & Counsel Team, both, will be responsible for managing their and adhering to the time limit. Failure to adhere to the time limit will result in a penalty against whomsoever the delay is attributable to the penalty will be decided by the Expert Assessors assessing the Round

## TIMEKEEPING

- ✎ A Mediation Session Supervisor will be appointed by the Organizing Committee during the Mediation Sessions. The Mediation Session Supervisor's decision on timekeeping is final.
- ✎ The Client & Counsel Teams and the Mediator are, however, responsible for managing their time and adhering to their time limit according to the rules of

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the Competition.

## OUTSIDE MATERIAL AND ASSISTANCE

- ✎ Teams are permitted to contact the organizers with the chat box function and shall only use their team code for any of the communications. In case they need any technical help during the session, they should contact the organizers well in advance.
- ✎ Electronic gadgets are not permitted.

## SEMI-FINAL ROUND

- ✎ The 4 highest scoring Client & Counsel Teams and the 4 highest scoring Mediators of the preliminary rounds will proceed to the Semi-Final Round
- ✎ The Semi-Final Round is a Knock-Out Round.
- ✎ The roles of the Client & Counsel Teams (as Requesting and Responding Party/ negotiating parties) and match-ups will be decided by a draw of lots.
- ✎ The duration of the Semi-Final Round will be 30 Minutes, including the Caucuses. An additional 10 minutes will be reserved for scoring and feedback at the end of each session.

## FINAL ROUND

- ✎ The Highest scoring Client & Counsel teams from each chamber of the Semi-Final Round will advance to the Final Round.
- ✎ The Roles (as Responding Party and Requesting Party/ Negotiating parties) of the two Client& Counsel Teams will

be decided by a draw of lots.

- ✎ The Final Round will be mediated by the highest scoring Mediators from each session of the Semi-final round.

## COMPETITION PROBLEM

- ✎ The Competition will have 4 separate problems: One Problem for the 1st Preliminary Round, one problem for the 2nd Preliminary Round, one problem for the Semi Final Round and one for the Final Round.
- ✎ The teams must rely on the facts mentioned in the problem. Neither the Client & Counsels nor the Mediators are empowered to create any new facts. They may make arguments or statements that can be reasonably inferred from the facts mentioned in the problem and may substantiate their claims with general background information.

## SCORING CRITERIA

- ✎ Throughout the Competition, the Client & Counsel Teams and Mediators will be evaluated and scored separately and will advance independently of each other.
- ✎ The Client Counsel pair may be judged on (but not limited to) the following criteria
  - ✎ Opening Statement of the parties
  - ✎ Advancing their interests
  - ✎ Team work
  - ✎ Information gathering and

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- ascertaining other party's interests
- ✎ Willingness to collaborate with the other party
- ✎ Generation of options and making offers
- ✎ Making good use of mediator
- ✎ Closing Statement
- ✎ The Mediators may be judged on (but not limited to) the following criteria
  - ✎ Opening Statement of Mediator
  - ✎ Establishing professional relationships between parties
  - ✎ Co-operation between mediators
  - ✎ Steering the mediation sessions
  - ✎ Qualities of the mediator
  - ✎ Identifying key issues of the dispute
  - ✎ Understanding the needs and interests of both the parties
  - ✎ Closing Statement
- ✎ The scores shall not be revealed to the participants but will be handed over directly to the Scoring Committee. All Announcements will be made at the end of the Rounds for the Day through email correspondence.

## AWARDS

- ✎ The Client Counsel pair may be judged on (but not limited to) the following criteria
  - ✎ 1st Place Client & Counsel Team
  - ✎ 2nd Place Client & Counsel Team
  - ✎ 1st Place Mediator

✎ 2nd Place Mediator

- ✎ All Awards and Participation E-Certificates will be announced at the Valedictory.

## WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

- ✎ No written submissions are needed to be made for the mediation rounds.

## DRESS CODE

- ✎ Dress code for the Competition is Business Formals.

## PHOTOGRAPHY/FILMING

- ✎ Participants are deemed to have agreed to the use of photography or videotaping by the Organizing Committee, during the competition sessions and other official events.

## THE RESIDUAL

- ✎ The above rules are not exhaustive and are subject to change/ modification as decided by the Organizing Committee. All measures will be undertaken for fair and orderly conduct. The decision of the Organizing Committee in all matters regarding the Competition is final.
- ✎ The rules shall be strictly adhered to. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to disqualify any team in case of violation of rules.
- ✎ Time and deadlines will follow Indian Standard Time.

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## RULES AND REGULATIONS

8th-10th OCTOBER 2021

### GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

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### ELIGIBILITY

- ✎ Only Law Colleges/Universities recognized by the Bar Council of India are eligible to participate.
- ✎ Only Bonafide students pursuing LL.B. Three Year/Five Year Degree programmes in aforementioned institutions, during the current academic year are eligible to participate.

### COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

- ✎ Each Team shall consist of TWO participants (as counsels).

### REGISTRATION

- ✎ All the registered teams are required to be present virtually through the platform and the link provided at 10:45 AM on Friday, 22nd October, 2021 through the link provided with official email address at the time of registration, for confirmation of their participation.
- ✎ Participants are advised to keep the e-copy of all duly filled forms that have been submitted to the organizers and original forms, if the same have not been submitted along with the payment receipts.

### CODE OF CONDUCT

- ✎ All the participants must be dressed in a dignified manner befitting the legal

profession for the competition.

- ✎ Friendly and healthy interaction among the participating teams and with the students of the host college is encouraged and expected.
- ✎ Use of any electronic gadgets including mobile phones and laptops and smart watches etc. is strictly prohibited during the competition, as the platform being virtual the participants shall not use any other browser or extended screen option to search or to refer.
- ✎ Participants shall not reveal the identity of his/her college/university at any point of time during the competition.
- ✎ Scouting or any other unethical/unprofessional conduct is strictly prohibited.
- ✎ As the platform is virtual, the participants are supposed to keep their webcams on at all times.
- ✎ The participants shall make themselves aware of all the technicalities involved with the platform, and make a test run before the day of the competition. In case they suffer with connectivity issues, the organizers will try to reach the team for five minutes and if no communication is established the team shall be disqualified.
- ✎ The participants should also use good quality of headphones so that their voice is clear at all times.
- ✎ To move from any kind of distraction, it is advised that the participants isolate themselves and keep their surroundings clear from any kind of intervention.

### TEAM CODE

- ✎ Each team will be allotted a Unique Team Code. Only the team codes should be quoted for future references/

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correspondence and at the time of communicating with organizers / judges. The identity and the college of the members of the team should not be revealed at any point during the competition, if so the team will be disqualified.

## COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

### COMPETITION ROUNDS

- ✎ This event shall be conducted in 'Three Rounds' namely, Preliminary Round, Semi Final Round and Final Round.
- ✎ One Preliminary Round.
- ✎ Top 4 teams shall go to the Semi-final round on the basis of highest team scores.
- ✎ In case of a tie for the 4th place, scores of point 4.1.6 of judging criteria would be considered.
- ✎ Top two teams from the Semi-final rounds shall go to the Finals on the basis of team scores.
- ✎ In case of a tie for the 2nd place scores of point 4.1.6 of judging criteria would be considered.
- ✎ The problems for the competition will be set in the area of Tort and Consumer Law, Family Law, Property Law, Contract Law and any allied ancillary or procedural laws. The organizers will select the clients to play the role as required.

### COMPETITION PROCEDURE

- ✎ The teams will have a maximum of 40 minutes, 30 minutes will be for client interviewing and counseling followed by 5 minutes which shall be for discussing among themselves (team) and summarizing as to how they will go about with the case [post interview/

consultation period]. The judges may/may not use the final 5 minutes for questioning the teams for any further clarification.

- ✎ During the post interview period of 5 minutes when the client will not be there, the team will have to summarize the interview, analyze the problem and indicate the course of action to be undertaken. If the team exceeds the time allocated there will be negative marking. During this time the judges may also seek clarifications from the teams regarding their approach and analysis of the issues.
- ✎ There should be good coordination between the two team members throughout the 30 minutes period.
- ✎ During this period of 30 minutes if necessary, the competing teams may carry any books to use as props for the set up however none of those can be used for any research or reference.
- ✎ Duration of Final round would be of 40 minutes, 30 minutes of consultation and 5 minutes of post consultation session. The judges may/may not use the final 5 minutes for questioning the teams for any further clarification

### JUDGES

- ✎ Expert Adjudicators will be selected by the Organizing Committee to score the performance and provide feedback to the students to help them move through the Competition rounds.

### JUDGING CRITERIA

- ✎ 4.1. The competition shall be judged on the basis of (but is not limited to) following criteria:
  - ✎ Establishing the working atmosphere and professional approach.



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- ✎ Eliciting the problem of the client.
- ✎ Clients' goals, expectations and needs.
- ✎ Analysis and formulation of the problem with precision.
- ✎ Suggesting alternatives.
- ✎ Allowing the client to have informed choice. [Knowledge of law]
- ✎ Effective conclusion of the counselling session.
- ✎ Team work.
- ✎ Management of ethical and professional relations with the client dealing with emotional and legal needs of the client.
- ✎ Post interview session interaction with the judges/among themselves.
- ✎ The scores shall not be revealed to the participants but will be handed over directly to the Scoring Committee. All Announcements will be made at the end of the Rounds for the Day.

## TIMEKEEPING

- ✎ A Client Counselling Session Supervisor will be appointed by the Organizing Committee during the Client Counselling Sessions. The Client Counselling Session Supervisor's decision on timekeeping is final.
- ✎ The teams are, however, responsible for managing their time and adhering to their time limit according to the rules of the Competition.

## OUTSIDE MATERIAL AND ASSISTANCE

- ✎ Teams are permitted to contact the organizers with the chat box function and shall only use their team code for any of the communications. In case they need any technical help during the session, they should contact the organizers well in

advance.

- ✎ Electronic gadgets are not permitted.

## COMPETITION PROBLEM

- ✎ The Competition will have 3 separate problems
- ✎ One Problem for the Preliminary Round, one for the Semi Final Round and one for the Final Round.

## DRESS CODE

- ✎ Dress code for the Competition is Business Formals.

## PHOTOGRAPHY/FILMING

- ✎ Participants are deemed to have agreed to the use of photography or videotaping by the Organizing Committee, during the competition sessions and other official events.

## AWARDS

- ✎ 1st Place Client counselling team
- ✎ 2nd Place - Client counselling team
- ✎ All Awards and Participation E-Certificates will be announced at the valedictory.

## THE RESIDUAL

- ✎ The above rules are not exhaustive and are subject to change/ modification as decided by the Organizing Committee. All measures will be undertaken for fair and orderly conduct. The decision of the Organizing Committee in all matters regarding the Competition is final.
- ✎ The rules shall be strictly adhered to. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to disqualify any team in case of violation of rules.
- ✎ Time and deadlines will follow Indian Standard Time (IST)



## PAYMENT DETAILS

Account No : 020201007037  
Type of Account : Current Account  
Name of the Account : IFHE - Seminars & Workshops A/c  
Name of the Bank : ICICI Bank  
Bank Address : Nerella House, No.4, Nagarjuna Hills,  
Punjagutta, Hyderabad - 500082.  
RTGS/NEFT IFSC Code: ICIC0000202  
Branch Code: 202

### Contact Details:

**Prof. A V Narsimha Rao**  
Director,  
ICFAI Law School  
IFHE, Hyderabad

**Dr. A. Sreelatha**  
Assistant Professor & Coordinator  
[annamanenisreelatha@ifheindia.org](mailto:annamanenisreelatha@ifheindia.org)  
7396664802

