

3RD NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ARBITRATION MOOT
1 - 3 April, 2016



RULES

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 'Advanced Round' means the Quarter-Final Round, Semi-Final Round and the Final Round, of the Competition.

1.2 'Claimant' means the side which argues on behalf of the Claimant.

1.3 'Competition' means the 3rd National Law University Odisha International Maritime Arbitration Moot, 2016.

1.4 'Core-Committee' means the Moot Society of National Law University Odisha and the members therein, and any person/persons so appointed or included by the Moot Society to administer the Competition.

1.5 'Memorial' means the written submissions of each team, submitted in accordance with the prescribed Rules.

1.6 'Moot Proposition' means the Proposition of the Competition as released by The Moot Society, National Law University Odisha.

1.7 'Respondent' means the side which argues on behalf of the Respondent.

2. INTERPRETATION

The interpretation placed upon these Rules by the Core-Committee shall be conclusive. The decision of the Core-Committee regarding the application of these Rules shall be final and binding on all the participating teams of the Competition.



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3. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

3.1 All law schools, faculties of law and other institutions offering a law-related degree program are eligible to participate in the Competition. Each participating institution may send only one Team to the Competition. All participants must be students of the LL.B. (or equivalent) program. Students pursuing their Master's degree in law or any post-graduation degree in law are not eligible to participate in the Competition.

3.2 Team members must be *bona fide* students of the institution they are representing.

3.3 A Team can have a minimum of two members and a maximum of three members.

3.4 The team must have two designated Speakers and one Researcher in case of a team of three members. For a team of two members, both the members would be the designated speakers.

3.5 Only those members designated as Speakers will be permitted to put forth oral arguments in the Competition. In case a Speaker is unable to argue in the Oral Rounds because of any reason, the Core-Committee may, at their discretion, allow a Team Member who is not a designated Speaker to argue in the Oral Rounds.

3.6 Once registered, a Team will not be permitted to vary the composition of the team in any manner. Changes, if any, may only be made with the prior approval of the Core-Committee (at their discretion), if due reason is shown for the same.

3.7 The Core-Committee may impose a cap on the number of participating teams. The Core-Committee also reserves the right to debar any team from participating.

4. REGISTRATION

4.1 PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION

Institutions are required to register themselves provisionally by **January 31, 2016** by sending a e-mail to imam@nluo.ac.in.

4.2 TEAM REGISTRATION

Institutions are required to confirm the team details of the participating team by sending the scanned copy of the Registration Form along with the scanned copy of the Demand Draft and courier receipt by **February 10, 2016** to imam@nluo.ac.in.



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Hard copy of the Registration Form, along with the DD, should reach the Organizers at the following address by **February 20, 2016**.

The Teams are required to send a Demand Draft of Rs. 3000/- (Rupees Three Thousand only) drawn in favour of **REGISTRAR, NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA** payable at **CUTTACK, ODISHA**.

The Demand Draft is required to be sent to the following address:

THE CONVENOR
THE MOOT SOCIETY,
NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY ODISHA,
BRAJBIHARIPUR, NEAR NARAJ BARRAGE,
SECTOR 13, CDA,
CUTTACK – 753015

The teams shall send the travel details, along with the hard copy of the Registration Form and DD by **February 20, 2016** to the aforementioned address.

5. CLARIFICATIONS TO THE PROBLEM

All requests for clarifications to the Problem must be e-mailed to imam@nluo.ac.in, by **February 14, 2016**. The Clarifications, if any, will be issued by **February 22, 2016**.

No requests for clarification shall be made directly to the drafters of the problem for the Competition. Any attempt made to approach the drafters of the problem, for any reason whatsoever, shall lead to immediate disqualification.

6. ANONYMITY OF TEAMS

Teams shall not reveal their University or names of the participants anywhere in the Memorial or in the course of the Oral arguments including any logo, pins etc. In the Memorials and during the course of the oral arguments, a Team must be identified only by the Team Number that will be allotted to each team after registration. *Non-compliance of this Rule will entail penalties which may extend to disqualification of the participating team.*



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7. MEMORIALS

7.1 Each participating Team must prepare one Memorial for the Claimant and one Memorial for the Respondent.

7.2 The Memorial must be in English, and must be printed single side on A4 size sheets, in black ink. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 2 marks.*

7.3 The Memorial must maintain an equal margin of 1 inch on all sides. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 1 mark per page.*

7.4 The text font should be Times New Roman, size 12 and must be in 1.5 line spacing. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 1 mark per page.*

7.5 The footnotes must be in font Times New Roman, size 10 and singly spaced. The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (19th Edition) should be followed in the memorial throughout. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 1 mark per page.*

7.6 The font used for the header/footer, if any, shall be Times New Roman, size 12, 1.5 spacing. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 1 mark per page.*

7.7 The Memorial must contain all of the following sections:

- a) Cover page;
- b) Table of Contents;
- c) Table of Abbreviations;
- d) Index of Authorities;
- e) Statement of Jurisdiction;
- f) Statement of Facts;
- g) Issues Raised;
- h) Summary of Arguments;
- i) Arguments Advanced/ Pleadings;
- j) Prayer.



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Non-compliance with respect to sections (a) to (h) and (j) will result in a penalty of 2 marks for each missing section. Non-compliance with respect to section (i) will result in the Memorial not being considered for evaluation at all.

7.8 The Cover Page of the Memorial for the Claimant must be Blue and the Respondent must be Red. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 2 marks for each violation.*

The Cover Page of each memorial must contain the following information:

a) The Team Registration code in the upper right-hand corner, followed by an “A” for the Memorial for the Claimant, and an “R” for the Memorial for the Respondent.

For example, Team 555 would put the code “555A” in the upper right-hand corner of its Claimant Memorial;

b) The name of the forum before which the proceedings are being conducted;

c) The year of the Competition;

d) The name of the case;

e) The Title of the Memorial (either “Memorial for Claimant” or “Memorial for Respondent”).

Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 2 marks for each deviation.

7.9 The Index of Authorities must list all the authorities cited in the Memorial. The Index must indicate the page number(s) and/or the paragraph number(s) of the Memorial in which the authority is cited.

7.10 The Statement of Facts must contain a concise statement of the relevant facts of the dispute. As far as may be, the Statement of Facts should be limited to the stipulated facts and legitimate inferences which can be drawn from those facts. Statement of Facts shall not exceed 2 pages.

Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 2 marks for each exceeded page.

7.11 The Summary of Pleadings should contain a summary of the substance of the arguments, and should not merely be a reproduction of the various headings and sub-headings of arguments. The Summary of Pleadings should not exceed 2 pages. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 2 marks for each exceeded page.*



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7.12 All legal arguments must be limited to the Pleadings/Arguments Advanced section of the Memorial. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 4 marks.*

7.13 The Pleadings/Arguments Advanced and Prayer must not exceed 25 pages. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 2 marks per exceeded page.*

7.14 Substantive/Speaking footnotes are strictly prohibited. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 2 marks per substantive citation.*

7.15 The memorials must be e-mailed in MS Word format (doc. or docx.) **and** PDF format to imam@nluo.ac.in. *Non-compliance of either will result in a penalty of 2 marks.*

7.16 LATE SUBMISSIONS:

The soft copy of the memorials must be submitted by **23:59 hrs on March 18th, 2016**. No memorials will be accepted after **March 21st, 2015**. *Non-compliance with the aforesaid will result in a penalty of 5 marks per day.*

7.17 Teams are required to submit 5 (five) hard copies of the memorial for each side during the registration on **April 1, 2016**. *Non-compliance will result in a penalty of 5 marks per copy not submitted.*

7.18 The aforementioned penalties for deviations from the said Rules shall be deducted from the score of *each* of the Memorial Judges.

8. ORAL ARGUMENTS

8.1 Each Preliminary Round shall, subject to the discretion of the Judges, consist of sixty (60) minutes of argument, which shall be presented in English. The Claimant and the Respondent shall be allotted thirty (30) minutes each, subject to the discretion of the Judges. Both members designated as Speakers from each Team shall make oral presentations in each round.

8.2 Each team may allocate its thirty (30) minutes between the 2 speakers and the rebuttal/sur-rebuttal at their own discretion. Each Speaker must be allocated a minimum of ten minutes (10), not including the time for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal. The rebuttal/sur-rebuttal must be presented by one speaker only and it shall not be divided between the two speakers.

8.3 In the Advanced Rounds, the total time permitted to each team for presenting arguments may be extended to forty-five (45) minutes at the discretion of the judges, with corresponding



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changes in the minimum time prescribed for each speaker. Each Speaker must be allocated a minimum of eighteen minutes (18), not including the time for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal.

8.4 Each Preliminary Round shall be judged by a bench of three judges. The Advanced Rounds may be judged by a bench of three or more judges.

8.5 The Dress Code for Oral Rounds shall be strictly formals.

9. COMPETITION FORMAT & PROCEDURE

9.1 The Competition shall consist of Preliminary Rounds and Advanced Rounds.

(a) Each team shall argue in 2 Preliminary Rounds – once as Claimant and once as Respondent. The fixtures for the Preliminary Rounds shall be decided by draw of lots. In case, a team does not appear for 10 minutes after the scheduled commencement of round, the other team shall make ex-parte submissions.

(b) The Advanced Rounds shall, under normal circumstances, consist of three knock-out rounds – the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and the Final. In case, a team does not appear for 10 minutes after the scheduled commencement of round, the other team shall proceed to the next round.

9.2 The scoring and tabulation for the competition shall be based on a Round Points (“RP”) system. The team with the higher number of Round Points wins the round.

9.3 Each preliminary round will be decided on a scale of 6 Round Points, with 3 Round Points allocated to the oral rounds, and 3 Round Points allocated to the memorial scores.

a) Memorials of each team will be marked by 3 judges with each judge giving a score out of 100. Therefore each team’s memorial will have 3 scores: a highest score, a middle score and a lowest score.

(b) In each round, the highest score of the Claimant’s Memorial will be compared with the highest score of the Respondent’s Memorial; the middle score of the Claimant’s Memorial will be compared with the middle score of the Respondent’s Memorial and the lowest score of the Claimant’s Memorial will be compared with the lowest score of the Respondent’s Memorial. If scores being compared are the same, then each team will be awarded 0.5 points for each comparison.



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(c) For scoring higher in each of the above comparisons made, a team will get 1 Round Point. Therefore, in a round between Team 1 and Team 5, if Team 1 scores more than Team 5 in all the three comparisons, then Team 1 gets 3 Round points with Team 5 getting zero Round points. If Team 1 scores higher than Team 5 only in two comparisons then Team 1 gets 2 Round Points and Team 5 gets 1 Round Point. Therefore, a total of 3 Round Points can be won for the Memorials in each round.

(d) In the Oral Pleadings each of the 3 judges' scores out of 200 for the two teams will be compared. If Judge 1 in a round between Team 10 and Team 20 gives a higher number of points to Team 10 – then Team 10 will get 1 Round Point. A similar comparison will be carried out for Judges 2 and 3. Therefore, a total of 3 Round Points can be won in the Oral Pleadings in each round.

9.4 For the purpose of the advanced rounds, the memorial points will not be taken into consideration. Each Advanced Round will be judged by three (3) Orals Judges, each of whom shall award a maximum of 2 Round Points. The team with the higher total marks on a particular Judge's score-sheet will be the winner on that Judge's score-sheet. The winning team on a particular judge's score sheet shall be awarded 2 Round Points for that judge. In case of a tie between the two Teams, each team shall be awarded 1 Round Point for the concerned Judge. Thus, every Advanced Round will have 6 Round Points allotted to the orals.

9.5 The round winner will be determined on the basis of the Total Round Points (out of 12 points). The top eight (8) ranking teams after considering the Preliminary Rounds will qualify for the Advanced Rounds. Teams shall be ranked according to the following criteria:

- a) First, on the basis of Total Round Points scored in the Preliminary Rounds;
- b) Two or more teams tied on the Total Round Points shall be separated on the basis of the win-loss record in the Preliminary Rounds;
- c) If the round points and win-loss record is identical, the cumulative scores awarded for the oral rounds shall be used to break the tie.
- d) If the teams have the same cumulative points, the same number of wins, and also the same cumulative oral rounds marks, then the team with the higher net memorial score, i.e., the score of the memorials after deducting penalties, shall be ranked higher.



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10. MISCELLANEOUS

10.1 Teams, their members, or any person associated with a team, are not permitted to be present at, or hear, a round in which that team is not participating. This rule will not apply to those teams or persons whose teams have been eliminated from the competition, and who are desirous of attending any of the Advanced Rounds thereafter. Scouting in any form in contravention of this rule shall entail disqualification of the team.

10.2. No audio or videotaping of oral pleadings is permitted without the permission of the Core-Committee, the Panel before which the team is scheduled to present and the opposing team. The Core-Committee reserves all rights of audio and videotaping, or any other form of audio or visual reproduction, of any oral round or part thereof.

10.3. All Participants are expected to maintain decorum in the Court during the Competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession. The Core-Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and immoral conduct.

10.4. The decision of the Core-Committee as regards the interpretation of rules or any other matter related to the Competition, whether contemplated by the Rules or not, shall be final and binding.

10.5. The Core-Committee reserves the right to vary, alter, modify, or repeal any of the above rules without any prior notification, if so required and as they may deem appropriate.

11. AWARDS

- The winner of the Final Round will be declared the “**Best Team,**” while the other finalist will be declared the “**Second Best Team.**” The Winning team shall be awarded a trophy and cash prize of ₹25,000/-, while the Runner-up team shall be awarded a trophy and cash prize of ₹15,000/-.
- The Team with the highest combined memorial score will be awarded the “**Best Memorial**” Award. The Best Memorial shall be awarded a trophy and cash prize of ₹7,500/-



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- The “**Best Oralist**” Award shall be determined on the basis of the cumulative points secured by a Speaker in the Preliminary Rounds. To be eligible for the said Award, a Speaker must have argued in both the Preliminary Rounds. The Best Advocate shall be awarded a trophy and cash prize of ₹5,000/-.

12. SCHEDULE

20 th January, 2016	Release of Moot Proposition
31 st January, 2016	Last Date for Provisional Registration
10 th February, 2016	Last Date for Team Registration by sending scanned copy of Registration Form and Demand Draft
14 th February, 2016	Last Date to send request for Clarifications
20 th February, 2016	Last Date for hard copy of Registration Form, Demand Draft & Travel Details
22 nd February, 2016	Release of Clarifications
18 th March, 2016	Last Date for Submission of Soft Copy of Memorials
1 st – 3 rd April, 2016	Dates of 3 rd NLUO IMAM, 2016

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