

B.A. MALLAL MOOT 2017**COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS****A. Introduction**

1. **Goals.** The B.A. Mallal Moot 2017 (the “**Competition**”) is intended to stimulate interest in mooting, and to create awareness of this mode of dispute resolution. The Competition is designed to be educational, with a parallel objective of promoting oral advocacy skills.
2. **Organiser and Sponsor.** The Competition is organised by the National University of Singapore (“**NUS**”) Mooting and Debating Club (the “**MDC**”), and sponsored by Allen & Gledhill LLP (“**A&G**”).
3. **Eligibility.** The Competition is only open to all law students who have not graduated with a L.L.B. or its equivalent.

B. General Provisions

4. **Language.** The Competition shall be conducted only in the English language.
5. **Venue.** The oral hearings of the Competition will be held at the Faculty of Law, NUS, and the law offices of A&G. Details on the conduct of the oral hearings are set out in Section D below.
6. **Interpretation of Rules.** MDC's and A&G's decision(s) as regards the interpretation of rules shall be final. MDC's and A&G's decision(s) on any matter relating to the conduct of the Competition which is not expressly provided for in the Rules shall be final as well.
7. **Amendments to Rules.** MDC and A&G reserve the right to modify, amend or change any of the Rule(s), at any time, without prior notice to any party, as may be deemed expedient by them for the conduct of the Competition. Any modification, amendment or change of any Rule(s) will be communicated to each Participant by MDC via email.
8. **Penalties**
 - 8.1 MDC and A&G reserve the right to take any action that they deem appropriate for the breach of any of the Rule(s) by any Participant. MDC and A&G also reserve the right to take any action that they deem appropriate against any Participant who has been found by MDC and A&G to have committed any unethical and

unprofessional conduct in the course of the Competition.

- 8.2** Registration for the Competition will close on **7 September 2017, 2359**. Subsequently, any participant who wishes to withdraw must provide good reasons for their withdrawal which A&G will be notified of. A&G retains the sole discretion to decide if a participant may be permitted to withdraw. MDC also reserves the discretion to blacklist any participant who is unable to provide satisfactory reasons for withdrawal. Participants on the blacklist will not be allowed to participate in any future MDC-organized moots or advocacy competitions.
- 9. The Problem.** The Competition involves a legal problem based on a hypothetical situation. All relevant facts are given in the Problem and any clarifications thereto will be issued further to paragraph 10 below. No additional facts may be introduced into arguments (whether written or oral) unless they are a logical and necessary extension of the given facts or are publicly available facts. Any introduction of a fact that is not a logical and necessary extension of the facts given in the Problem or is not a publicly available fact will be deemed to be a breach of the rules of the Competition and the Judges retain the discretion to penalise the Participant accordingly.
- 10. Clarifications.** Any request for clarifications must be sent by email to the following email address: mallal@nusmooting.com, and be received by **12.00pm, 11 September 2017**. Answers to request for clarifications (if any) will be distributed to all Participants by **6.00 pm, 12 September 2017**. A&G retains the sole discretion to decide whether to provide answers to any requests for clarifications. No further requests for clarification in respect of the aforesaid answers will be entertained in any event.

C. Written Memorandum

- 11.** Each Participant must submit a memorandum setting out their arguments in support of the side they have been assigned to by **3.00 pm, 13 September 2017** via email to their respective opponents and the following email address: mallal@nusmooting.com Participants who fail to submit the required memorandum on time will be penalized according to the discretion of MDC and/or A&G and may be disqualified from taking part further in the Competition. More information regarding the exchange of memorandum can be found in clause **21**.
- 12. Word limit.** Each memorandum must not exceed 1,500 words. The table of contents and all citations are included in the word count. The cover page may be excluded. Any memorandum which exceeds this word limit may be penalised accordingly at the Judges' discretion.
- 13. Format.** The memorandum must be typed with a minimum font-size of 12 point and with double line spacing. All margins must be at least one inch or 2.5 cm. Any

memorandum that does not comply with these formatting rules may be penalised accordingly at the Judges' discretion. Each memorandum should contain a cover page which must identify prominently the name of the Participant and the relevant side which the Participant is representing.

14. **Style.** The memorandum is intended to aid the Judges in deciding the dispute. It is not intended for academic dissertations; the use of lengthy citations or reproduction of substantial portions of court judgments is not encouraged. Footnotes and endnotes are strongly discouraged and should be used only where absolutely necessary.
15. **Judging Criteria.** The memorandum will be evaluated on the basis of the quality of the analysis, persuasiveness and coherence of the argument, thoroughness of research, clarity and cogency of writing, and adherence to the formatting and style requirements set out above. Participants are reminded that the inclusion of any statement of fact that is not a logical and necessary extension of the facts given in the Problem or is not a publicly available fact in the memorandum will be penalised accordingly at the Judges' discretion.
16. **Memorandum Revision.** A memorandum may not be revised, changed, altered or modified in any manner, once it has been submitted to MDC, including for typographical or grammatical errors, missing pages or for problems caused by faulty computer software.

D. Oral Hearings

17. **Venue.** The preliminary rounds of the oral hearings will be held at the offices of A&G on **16 September 2017**. The semi-final and the final rounds of the oral hearings will be held at the Moot Court of the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore on **4 October 2017** and **13 October 2017**, respectively. MDC will advise all Participants of the timing of each round in due course.
18. **Duration of Oral Arguments.** The duration of oral arguments differs for each round, as set out below. The time permitted for presentation of oral arguments includes time for any rebuttal or surrebuttal as well as questioning by the Judges. Any extension of time is solely at the discretion of the Judges. Participants who exceed the time limit will be penalised accordingly unless the Judges have expressly permitted an extension of time.

Preliminary rounds.

19. **Duration.** Each Participant is given **12 minutes** in the preliminary rounds to present his/her oral arguments to the Judges.

20. **Pairing of Counsel.** Participants will present oral arguments for the side which they have been assigned. However, participants who proceed to subsequent rounds may be required to represent a different side for those rounds. The pairing of counsel for the Preliminary Rounds will be determined by MDC.
21. **Exchange of memorandum.** Participants are required to exchange their memorandum with their opponents latest by **3.00pm, 13 September 2017**. Participants are also required to carbon copy mallal@nusmooting.com in the email. For example, if Participant A is representing the appellant and Participant B is representing the respondent, A must provide his/her memorandum for the appellant to B and must likewise provide his/her memorandum for the respondent to A. Participants who do not receive their opponents' memorandum by the stipulated deadline should contact the MDC via email. Participants who fail to comply will be penalized accordingly by the Judges.
22. **Use of new authorities.** Participants are required to inform his/her opponent (and carbon copy mallal@nusmooting.com) of any new authorities which he/she intends to rely on that have not been cited in the memorandum latest by **9.30 am, 14 September 2017**. Participants who fail to comply will be penalised accordingly by the Judges.
23. **Results.** The results for the preliminary rounds will be released on **18 September 2017** or such later time as may be determined by MDC / A&G in their sole discretion.
24. **Scope of arguments.** Participants are not limited to their memorandum at the oral hearing but are **strongly advised** not to deviate too far from their Skeletal Arguments. Participants may be penalised depending on the extent to which they deviate from their memorandum at the oral hearing. This rule does not apply to a Participant's response to the Judges' questioning or the logical and necessary extension thereof.
25. **Rebuttals.** The scope of the claimant's rebuttal is limited to responses to the respondent's oral arguments, and the scope of the respondent's surrebuttal is limited to responding to the claimant's rebuttal. If the claimant waives rebuttal, the respondent may not appear for surrebuttal. No legal issues which were not raised in the substantive oral arguments may be raised in the rebuttal or surrebuttal.
26. **Exhibits.** No exhibits that are not part of the given Problem or any additional material may be used during the oral hearings, unless the express permission of the Judges **and** the agreement of opposing counsel have been obtained.
27. **Judging criteria.** Participants will be evaluated on the basis of the quality and coherence of their oral arguments, their presentation style (which includes

persuasiveness, clarity and structure), and the ability to respond substantively to the Judges' questions. Participants are reminded that the inclusion of any statement of fact that is not a logical and necessary extension of the facts given in the Problem or is not a publicly available fact in their oral arguments will be penalised.

Subsequent rounds.

- 28. Semi-Finals.** The top eight participants with the highest scores in the preliminary rounds will advance to the Semi-Finals. Each Semi-Finalist is permitted **15 minutes** to present his/her oral arguments to the Judges.
- 29. Finals.** The top four Semi Finalists will advance to the Finals. Each Finalist is given **18 minutes** to present his/her oral arguments to the Judges.
- 30. Pairing of Counsel.** For the semi-final and final rounds, participants may be assigned a different side from which they represented in the preliminary round. The pairing of counsel will be determined by a draw of lots.
- 31. Skeletal Arguments.** Participants are required to prepare a one page (minimum font size of 12 point) skeletal submission setting out in point form their intended points of argument and authorities relied on. These skeletal submissions are intended solely to assist the Judges during the oral hearing and will **not** be scored, i.e. Participants will **not** be evaluated on the quality of their skeletal submissions. Participants are required to: (i) submit their skeletal submissions via email to the following email address: mallal@nusmooting.com; and (ii) exchange their respective skeletal submissions with their opponents at least **48 hours** before the scheduled hearing. Participants who do not receive their opponents' skeletal submissions by the stipulated deadline should contact the MDC via email.
- 32. Scope of arguments/Rebuttals.** Rules 24 and 25 are repeated here.
- 33. Exhibits.** Rule 26 is repeated here.
- 34. Judging criteria.** Rule 27 is repeated here.

E. Awards

- 35. Memorandum competition.** The Participant with the highest score for the written memorandum will receive \$250 worth of sponsorships.
- 36. Oral competition.** The winner of the Finals of the oral competition will receive \$1,500 in prize money. The 1st runner-up will receive \$750, with the joint 2nd runners-up receiving \$250 each. All semi-finalists will also be offered an internship

Allen & Gledhill LLP

NUS Mooting and Debating Club

at Allen & Gledhill LLP.